

**Southern University and A&M College System**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

Smith-Brown Memorial Union  
Cotillion Ballroom  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
Friday, October 23 2020  
**9:00 a.m.**

**MINUTES**

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by Board Chairman Atty. Domoine Rutledge.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Miss Brooklyn Alexis Chisley, a student at Southern University Laboratory School.

**The Invocation** was given by Rev. Samuel Tolbert

**Roll Call by Dr. Ray L. Belton**

**PRESENT**

Atty. Domoine Rutledge – Chairman  
Dr. Samuel C. Tolbert, Jr. – Vice Chairman  
Atty Jody Amedee  
Mr. John Barthelemy  
Dr. Leroy Davis  
Mr. Raymond Fondel  
Dr. Curman Gaines  
Mr. Bakari Garvey  
Mr. Sam Gilliam  
Mr. Richard Hilliard  
Atty. Patrick Magee  
Atty Edwin Shorty  
Mrs. Ann A. Smith  
Dr. Leon R. Tarver II  
Mrs. Arlanda Williams

**ABSENT**

Dr. Rani Whitfield

**UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING**

System President, Ray Belton

Interim Executive Vice President/Executive Vice Chancellor Bijoy Sahoo (SUBR)  
Systems Vice Presidents Flandus McClinton (Finance and Business Affairs), Vladimir Appearing (Strategic Planning, Policy and Institutional Effectiveness), and Robyn Merrick (External Affairs)  
Chancellors Dr. James Ammons (SUNO), Dr. Orlando F. McMeans (SUAREC), Dr. Rodney Ellis (SUSLA), and Atty. John Pierre (SULC).

## **BOARD COUNSEL**

Attys. Brandon DeCuir, Corrine Blache, and Jeremy Gathe

***Chairman, Atty Domoine Rutledge announced the convening of the Academic Affairs Committee. Chair Curman Gaines called the committee meeting to order.***

## **Roll Call by Dr. Ray L. Belton**

### **PRESENT**

Dr. Curman Gaines - Chair  
Dr. Leon Tarver II – Vice-Chair  
Mr. John Barthelemy  
Dr. Leroy Davis  
Mr. Sam Gilliam  
Rev Samuel C. Tolbert  
Atty. Domoine D. Rutledge-- Ex Officio

### **ABSENT**

None

## **AGENDA ITEM 4: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon the motion by Rev. Samuel Tolbert and second by Atty Domoine Rutledge, the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed.

## **AGENDA ITEM 5: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Name: Mostafa Elaasar

Email Address: [melaasar@suno.edu](mailto:melaasar@suno.edu)

Department: Natural Sciences

Summary of Public Comment: We don't have the trained IT staff to support the faculty effort. Online degrees are important, but we need the trained IT staff.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: ACTION ITEM(S):**

- A. Consideration of Appeal for Denial of Tenure- Dr. Keytunda Ogunkoya (SUBR)\*\* (*\*\*denotes executive session may be required*)

Dr. Belton introduced SU General Counsel, Attorney Corinne Blache who will give summary and overview of the Appeal for Denial of Tenure and she will also facilitate the discussion.

Atty Blache explained the process of appeal and allowed Dr. Keytunda Ogunkoya's attorney to present the appeal to the Board. Atty Chris Shows made his presentation and provided a packet of information that supported his contention that Dr. Ogunkoya's appeal should be granted.

Before any questions, Atty Blache mentioned the appeal of denial is before the Board and Dr. Ogunkoya must prove that the denial was arbitrary and capricious, meaning there was no reasonable basis for denial."

Dr. Leon Tarver had several questions regarding whether Dr. Ogunkoya's tenure application would have met the requisite amount of points without the inclusion of the lab manual and if the inclusion of the lab manual was inappropriate why no reprimand was there.

Dr. Sahoo was asked to give his response to Dr. Tarver. Dr. Tarver thanked Dr. Sahoo for his response.

Sam Gilliam asked question regarding due process

Based on the Expectation and obligation – peer review model – nothing arbitrary and capricious and he made a motion to deny the appeal – motion was seconded by Mr. John Barthelemy and Rev. Samuel Tolbert.

Mr. Raymond Fondel questioned what was Dr. Ogunkoya's intent? Dr. Sahoo said Dr. Ogunkoya intended to have the manual considered as her publication because it was listed in her dossier.

Mr. Shows spoke to the matter of her having no intent to deceive. He indicated that she was requested to include the manual. Atty Blache clarified that at no point would Southern have requested that Dr. Ogunkoya include a document in her dossier that she had not authored and if it was provided, one can only assume she wanted it considered in the determination.

Point of order – Mr. Sam Gilliam –There is a Motion and second on floor

Dr. Sahoo stated “the importance of faculty input; to build up solid base. The question is not for or against Dr. Ogunkoya, but policies must be enforced, and the Board should not substitute its decision for what the faculty did.”

Chairman Atty Rutledge asked to make a statement and comment – he gave his response and comments on the appeal and tenure.

“He is uncomfortable with this matter being before the Board when there was the peer review process. He recognized a conflict in policy and the need for clarity.”

“Ask that we Vote – Dr. Belton called the roll, and everyone said yes to the motion.

Motion Passed.

## **AGENDA ITEM 7: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(S):**

Chairman Rutledge asked Dr. Belton to discuss the update on online learning degree program. Dr. Belton mentioned that each campus is ready to speak on behalf of their respective campus.

### **A. Update on Online Learning Degree Programs**

1. **Southern University at Baton Rouge** – Ms. Tracy Barley made presentation. (if requested, she will provide presentation)

Mr. Bakari Garvey asked question about budget and marketing for targeting students – faculty needed? Is there one?

Ms. Barley responded, “Yes, there is a budget – first year cost is higher. After which it will decrease. She has discussed the marketing plan with everyone. Spoke on other universities nationally and what they are doing. – significant cost.

Mr. Bakari Garvey questioned in state vs out of state. Ms. Tracy responded and discussed in state cost vs out of state.

Atty Jody Amedee – asked question about 500 students – is it a goal?

Ms. Barley responded.

Atty Amedee discussed the need to attack the enrollment now. He thanked her for her work.

Chairman Atty Rutledge commented – He thanked Ms. Barley for her presentation. He asked her to give him information about the program the last three years. He mentioned the need for investment. He asked if the Personnel was in alignment with student population? What is the Difference in delivery online vs virtual?

Attorney Barley explained the difference. She discussed outsourcing.

Chairman Rutledge apologize for his passion – he wants her to be successful in program – want to give her the tools to be successful. He Don’t feel she has all the tools to be successful. She agreed.

Chairman Rutledge had a Question for Dr. Belton –as it relates to priority?

Asking him to apply financial resource to show this program is a priority. – he

asks him to apply the remaining CARES ACT to appropriate to this program. Empower them to be successful.

Dr. Belton thanked Ms. Tracy Barley.

2. **Southern University at New Orleans** – Dr. Ammons made presentation(if requested, he will provide presentation).

Dr. Gaines thanked him. Asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Bakari Garvey – 2022 – master programs? How did you get to those programs?

Dr. Ammons mentioned “he talked to faculty. They also saw in the market and the enrollment pattern – global programs – those programs are popular. There was a Demand – he believes it will be successful.”

Mr. Bakari Garvey - spoke about the dynamics of moodle and blackboard – he feels blackboard is better. As for training for faculty – how do you mandate that the faculty are proficient in the platforms?

Dr. Ammons responded, Quality matters – there’s a gold standard for certification. (competency) Have given incentives. Will use adjuncts with skill if necessary.

Ms. Tracy Barley commented on the training as well. And online competency. Funding is important.

Mr. Bakari Garvey thanked them.

Atty Rutledge commented on how Great the presentation was– thanked Dr. Ammons for including the budget.

Chairman Rutledge and Atty Amedee – asked if we benefit from the centralization from this effort. Can All campuses benefit from effort?

Dr. Ammons – said yes – he discussed with President Belton – they have talked about it.

Dr. Belton responded – there are opportunities for the learning management system. All campuses can utilize the system.

Dr. Belton gave insight on discussions with Dr. Ammons and Chairman Rutledge. Agree there must be an investment – Ensured the board – “we will do so – we will diligently make this happen.”

3. **Southern University at Shreveport** – Dr. Veronica McEachin made presentation

Atty Rutledge asked How many people working?

Dr. McEachin Response – there are two of them.

Mr. Sam Gilliam – gave background on Dr. McEachin. He commented that they Overperformed with those two employees – but they need additional resources

Atty Jody Amedee – asked how many students – her response - 84 students – 578 all online – 923 one online

How do you recruit? Response - They are their own recruiter. She mentioned they Need assistance for the campus.

Atty Amedee commented to president on how to reach students in these times.

Dr. Belton commented on how he plans to construct this with all campuses. He said it will get done.

Mr. Raymond Fondel inquired about SUSLA connect. Dr. McEachin explained how the SUSLA connect students get acclimated to the system.

Dr. Gaines thanked her for the report

**4. Southern University Law Center** - Chancellor Pierre made presentation.

Atty Amedee asked Chancellor to explain the cost. Chancellor Pierre mentioned it was \$3million dollars over three years.

Dr. Gaines thanked Chancellor Pierre.

**B. Update on Executive Ph.D. Program in Public Policy** – Dr Sahoo

introduced Dean Ejigiri – he gave a few commented on program before inviting him to the mic to make brief presentation.

Dean Ejigiri gave presentation on program. How it will advance mission of SU – Jaguar nation. Thanked SU Board and Board of Regents for allowing this program. He mentioned June 12, 2020 the program was approved by SU Board. Dr. Robyn Merrick campaigned aggressively –the program received over 45 applications in one month.

The program operates under the cohort model – accept certain number of students each time. First cohort began in August 2020 started and will graduate August 2022. The market is promising for program.

Gave history of program. Extension of traditional program with same content but will meet only on weekends. PhD weekend.

Strong weekend – gave handout – strong foundation to build upon.

As of today, each graduate has a great background.

Dean Ejigiri mentioned he will come back and give an update throughout the program.

He mentioned he provided the board members with a handout and ask that they read it. There are benefits.

Dr. Ejigiri thanked Atty Rutledge who was a strong recruiter.

In closing he extend thanks to Dr. Belton for supporting the program and his leadership and thanked Mr. Ben Pugh and Dr. Katara Williams for all their assistance. Thanked everyone for opportunity. He asked if there were any questions.

Dr. Leon Tarver commented on Dean Ejigiri presentation – stressed on significant on market for future. Complimented him and his staff for all that he does. He thanked him for his leadership.

Dr. Belton – thanked Dean Ejigiri. Several board members thanked Dean Ejigiri for all his work.

Mr. John Barthelemy thanked Dean Ejigiri.

Dr. Leroy Davis congratulated Dean Ejigiri and President Belton.

Mr. Bakari Garvey thanked Dean Ejigiri and he spoke on faculty. He wants to see the program grow. Thanked Dean and Chancellor Pierre for all the great opportunities.

Mr. Sam Gilliam thanked Dean Ejigiri for all work.

**AGENDA ITEM 8: OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 9: ADJOURNMENT:**

Upon the motion by Chairman Atty Rutledge and seconded by Rev. Samuel Tolbert the meeting was adjourned.

Motion Passed

## **FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

*(following the Academic Affairs Committee)*

Friday, October 23, 2020  
Smith-Brown Student Union  
Cotillion Ball Room  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

### **AGENDA**

Board Chair Atty. Domoine Rutledge announced the convening of the Facilities and Property Committee. Facilities and Property Committee Vice Chair Mrs. Ann Smith called the committee meeting to order.

Present: Mrs. Ann Smith, Atty Jody Amedee, Mr. John Barthelemy, Dr. Leroy Davis, Mr. Richard Hilliard, and Atty. Domoine Rutledge

Absent: Dr. Rani Whitfield

#### **AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon the motion by Chairman Atty Domoine Rutledge and seconded by Dr. Leroy Davis the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed.

#### **AGENDA ITEMS 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

NONE

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEMS**

- A. Request Approval of the Southern University System Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan (SUS)

Mr. McClinton gave information for 2021-2022.

Upon the motion by Chairman Atty Rutledge and seconded by Dr. Leroy Davis the SUS Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan was recommended for approval.

Motion Approved.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

A. Facilities Planning Project Updates

Mr. McClinton provided information on behalf of Mr. Eli Guillory, System Director of Facilities who had a written report that was included in the packet. Reviewed the status of projects at each campus. Progress on each campus is positive and are on schedule.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 8: ADJOURNMENT**

Upon the motion by Chairman Atty Rutledge and seconded by Mr. Richard Hilliard the meeting was adjourned.

Motion Passed

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

*(following the Facilities and Property Committee)*

Friday, October 23, 2020  
Smith-Brown Student Union  
Cotillion Ball Room  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

### **AGENDA**

Board Chair Atty. Domoine Rutledge announced the convening of the Finance Committee. Finance Committee Chair Atty Edwin Shorty called the committee meeting to order.

Present: Atty Edwin Shorty, Mr. Richard Hilliard, Dr. Curman Gaines, Dr. Leon Tarver, Mr. Sam Gilliam, Ms. Arlanda Williams, and Atty. Domoine Rutledge

Absent: None

#### **AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon the motion by Chairman Atty Domoine Rutledge and seconded by Mr. Richard Hilliard the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed.

#### **AGENDA ITEMS 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

NONE

#### **AGENDA ITEMS 5: ACTION ITEM(S):**

**Upon the motion by Chairman Atty Rutledge and seconded by Ms. Arlanda Williams, Agenda Items 5A (1-6) was recommended for global approval.**

#### **Motion passed**

- A. Request approval for FY 2021-2022 Budget Requests and Addenda
  1. Southern University Board and System Administration (SUS)
  2. Southern University and A&M College (SUBR)
  3. Southern University Law Center (SULC)
  4. Southern University New Orleans Campus (SUNO)
  5. Southern University Shreveport Campus (SUSLA)
  6. Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center (SUAREC)

**AGENDA ITEMS 6: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(S):**

**A. Interim Financial Report**

The Interim Financial Report was given by Mr. McClinton. He informed the board that the detailed campus report was included in the board packet. Mr. McClinton mentioned SUBR and SULC exceeded their budget; SUNO and SUSLA both had shortfalls which they had anticipated. The CFOs and Chancellors had planned for the shortfall and have a plan and have funds set aside. He asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Sam Gilliam asked Mr. Clinton “if the CARES Act Funds been rolled over yet and included in the financial report?” Mr. Clinton said, “no, the funds were restricted and will be rolled over later.” He also mentioned that expenditures had been cut to handle shortfalls and the campuses will need to bring in additional funds.”

Ms. Arlanda Williams did not have a question but commented on the FTE’s and the AI. She mentioned the use of AI will assist the campus.

**AGENDA ITEMS 7: OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**AGENDA ITEMS 8: ADJOURMENT**

Upon the motion by Dr. Leon Tarver and seconded by Mr. Sam Gilliam the meeting was adjourned.

Motion Passed

## **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

*(following the Finance Committee)*

Friday, October 23, 2020

Smith-Brown Student Union

Cotillion Ball Room

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

### **AGENDA**

Board Chair Atty. Domoine Rutledge announced the convening of the Governance Committee. Governance Committee Chair Sam Gilliam called the committee meeting to order.

Present: Mr. Sam Gilliam, Dr. Leon Tarver, Atty Jody Amedee, Dr. Curman Gaines, Atty Patrick Magee, Rev. Samuel Tolbert, and Atty. Domoine Rutledge

Absent: None

#### **AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon the motion by Atty Jody Amedee and seconded by Atty Pat Magee the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed.

#### **AGENDA ITEMS 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

NONE

#### **AGENDA ITEMS 5: ACTION ITEM(S):**

- A. Request Approval to Extend COVID-19 Special Grading Policy to 2020-2021 Academic Year (SUS)
- B. Approval of Southern University System Drug-Free Policy (SUS)

**Upon the motion by Atty Jody Amedee and seconded by Atty Pat Magee, Agenda Items 5A– 5B was recommended for global approval.**

**Motion Approved**

#### **AGENDA ITEMS 6: OTHER BUSINESS**

NONE

#### **AGENDA ITEMS 7: ADJOURNMENT**

Upon the motion by Atty Pat Magee and seconded by Atty Jody Amedee the meeting was adjourned. Motion Passed

## PERSONNEL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

*(Following Governance Committee)*

Friday, October 23, 2020

Smith-Brown Student Union

Cotillion Ball Room

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

### AGENDA

Board Chair Atty. Domoine Rutledge announced the convening of the Personnel Affairs Committee. Personnel Affairs Committee Chair Atty Patrick Magee called the committee meeting to order.

Present: Atty Patrick Magee, Mr. John Barthelemy, Dr. Curman Gaines, Mr. Sam Gilliam, Dr. Leon Tarver, Ms. Arlanda Williams, and Atty. Domoine Rutledge

Absent: None

#### AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Before adopting the agenda, Chairman Atty Rutledge announced an amendment to the agenda item 5A (1). There is an increase in the salary from \$66,000 to \$75,000. Upon the motion by Dr. Curman Gaines and seconded by Mr. Sam Gilliam the agenda was recommended for adoption with the amendment.

Motion passed.

#### AGENDA ITEMS 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

#### AGENDA ITEMS 5: ACTION ITEM(S):

- A. Request Approval of Personnel Action on Positions equal to or greater than \$60,000

**Upon the motion by Mr. Sam Gilliam and seconded by Dr. Curman Gaines, Agenda Items 5A (1-4) with amendment to 5A (1) was recommended for global approval.**

**Motion passed**

Name	Position/Campus	Salary	Funding Source
1. Marina Biragova	Executive Director – SULC Technology & Entrepreneurship Clinic (Salary Adjustment) SULC	<del>\$66,000.00</del> <b>\$75,000.00</b>	State

2.	Taisheika Davis	Director of Financial Aid (New Appointment) SUBR	\$85,000.00	State
3.	Darrin Dixon	Director of Small Business Development Center (New Appointment) SUSLA	\$90,000.00	State
4.	Latonya Wright	Interim Director of Records and Registration (Interim Appointment) SULC	\$79,275.00	State

**Upon the motion by Chairman Atty Rutledge and seconded by Dr. Leon Tarver, Agenda Items 5-6 was recommended for global approval.**

**Motion passed**

5. Request Approval of Extended Medical Leave- August 11, 2020 through December 31, 2020 – Ms. D’Andrea Lee (SULC)

6. Request Approval for Extended Annual Leave- Dr. Cheryl Taylor – SU School of Nursing (SUBR)\*\* (*\*\*denotes executive session may be required*)

**AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**AGENDA ITEMS 7: ACTION ITEM(S):**

Upon the motion by Dr. Leon Tarver and seconded by Mr. John Barthelemy the meeting was adjourned. Motion Passed

## **SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

*(following Personnel Affairs Committee)*

Friday, October 23, 2020

Smith-Brown Student Union

Cotillion Ball Room

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

### **AGENDA**

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by Board Chair Atty Domoine Rutledge.

Present: Atty. Domoine Rutledge, Dr. Samuel Tolbert, Atty. Jody Amedee, Mr. John L. Barthelemy, Dr. Leroy Davis, Mr. Raymond Fondel, Dr. Curman Gaines, Mr. Bakari Garvey, Mr. Sam Gilliam, Mr. Richard Hilliard, Atty. Patrick Magee, Atty Edwin Shorty, Mrs. Ann Smith, Dr. Leon R. Tarver II, and Ms. Arlanda Williams.

Absent: Dr. Rani Whitfield

#### **UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING**

System President, Ray Belton

Interim Executive Vice President/Executive Vice Chancellor Bijoy Sahoo (SUBR)

Systems Vice Presidents Flandus McClinton (Finance and Business Affairs), Vladimir Appeaning (Strategic Planning, Policy, and Institutional Effectiveness), and Robyn Merrick (External Affairs) Chancellors Dr. James Ammons (SUNO), Dr. Orlando F. McMeans (SUAREC), Dr. Rodney Ellis (SUSLA), and Atty. John Pierre (SULC).

#### **BOARD COUNSEL**

Attys. Brandon DeCuir, Corrine Blache, and Jeremy Gathe

#### **AGENDA ITEM 3: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

A. **The Above and Beyond Award** was presented to Dr. Vladimir Appeaning, Vice President for Strategic Planning, Policy, and Institutional Effectiveness. He was introduced by Dr. Ray Belton, System President-Chancellor. He was presented a plaque and certificate from Board Chair Rutledge and President-Chancellor Belton. He thanked Board members for the honor and stated that he was speechless but was grateful to receive the award.

**B. Ray Smith Memorial Fund**

Chairman Atty Rutledge introduced Ms. Stacy Smith. She is here today to donate to Dr. Sandra Brown, School of Nursing Dean for the Nursing program. Ms. Stacy Smith and Dr. Brown came to the podium and Ms. Stacy mentioned briefly that she felt that she decided to make a donation because she wanted to fund the community. Dr. Brown thanked Ms. Smith for the donation. She informed everyone that the funds will be used to purchase an infant simulator for the student lab.

Dr. Brown thanked Mrs. Ann Smith for connecting her to the Smith family. She thanked the City of Amite. Dr. Brown will take Ms. Smith on a tour when they leave the meeting. Mrs. Ann Smith thanked Ms. Stacy Smith for the donation as well. Chairman Rutledge thanked her for coming.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: ACTION ITEMS**

Chairman Rutledge informed the board members that there was an item left off the agenda and he would like to add item B.

Upon the motion by Atty Patrick Magee and seconded by Mrs. Ann Smith to add item B to the agenda.

Motion Approved.

Upon the motion by Atty Patrick Magee and seconded by Mr. John Barthelemy items 6A-6I were recommended for global approval.

Motion passed.

- A. Request Approval of the Minutes from September 25, 2020 meeting of the Board of Supervisors
- B. **Request Approval of Committee Reports and Recommendations**
- C. Request Approval of MOU between the Southern University Law Center Technology & Entrepreneurship Clinic and the University of New Orleans Urban Entrepreneurship & Policy Institute (SULC)
- D. Request Approval of MOU between the Southern University Law Center Technology & Entrepreneurship Clinic and Southern University New Orleans through its Small Business Development & Management Institute (SULC/SUNO)
- E. Request Approval of MOU between Synchronicity Unlimited, LLC and the Southern University Law Center (SULC)
- F. Request approval of MOU between SINOMO JV, Southern University Law Center and the Southern University College of Business (SULC/SUBR)

- G. Request approval of MOU between the National Wildlife Federation and the Southern University Law Center (SULC)
- H. Request Approval of Authority to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (SUBR)
- I. Request approval for the President and legal counsel to negotiate and execute, with the Chairman's concurrence, an opt-in provision in a previously executed Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between LA Energy Partners, LLC and the State of Louisiana through the Division of Administration to provide thermal energy services for the Baton Rouge landmass (SUBR)
- J. Request Approval of 2019-2020 Evaluation of SU Campus Chancellors\*\*  
*(\*\*denotes executive session may be required)*

Upon motion by Atty Patrick Magee and second by Atty Jody Amedee, the board will go in an executive session for 2019-2020 Evaluation of SU Campus Chancellors.

Motion Approved.

Upon motion by Atty Patrick Magee and second by Atty Edwin Shorty, the executive session will reconvene.

Motion Approved

## **AGENDA ITEM 7: INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### **A. Legislative Update**

Dr. Merrick gave the legislative update. She announced the special session adjourned today. They had been in session from September 28 – October 23. She discussed the bills that were up for discussion at the session. She specific mentioned the SB32 which was set to expire this year. She also mentioned the bills that were introduced. There were no questions.

### **B. Medical Marijuana Update**

Chancellor McMeans introduced Dr. Jana Snowden. Dr. Jana Snowden thanked the board for allowing her to be on the agenda. She gave a recap and update on the products launched in 2020 and informed the board of the new products that will be launched in the coming weeks.

Dr. Davis recommended to Dr. Snowden and Chancellor Mc Means to initiate a research project that will test the impact of the products for COVID-19 patients. They said they would research it.

Chairman Rutledge thanked Dr. Snowden and Chancellor McMeans for all the work that had been done.

### C. President's Report

Dr. Belton acknowledged the chancellors for their leadership and all the work done.

### D. Chancellor's Reports (see packet for details)

Dr. Sahoo (SUBR) - Southern University was chosen as one of 13 Historically Black Colleges and Universities for IBM's first Quantum education and research initiative for HBCUs. Aimed at driving a diverse and inclusive quantum workforce, the IBM-HBCU Quantum Center will offer access to its quantum computers, as well as collaboration on academic, education, and community outreach programs. Boeing will provide tactical business and technical support to Southern University to improve its ability to win NASA contracts and subcontracts. ExxonMobil was the presenting sponsor for the day of giving, which was also declared the university's official Homecoming event by System President Ray L. Belton. The virtual event featured panel discussions and presentations, and a socially distanced student/alumni staffed call center at the Valdry Center for Philanthropy, located on the Southern University Baton Rouge campus. Supporters were able to make donations for Give Day online. At the end of the day, Southernites and supporters exceeded the goal of \$5 million for students and programs across the system. The gifts will serve thousands of students. Chevron donated \$1 million and the Greater Baton Rouge Pan-Hellenic Council also made a significant gift.

Dr. Ammons (SUNO) – Thanked the Board for allowing him to be at SUNO. He is excited to announce that the students are excelling and achieving. The Faculty are writing grants to get additional funding and support. The announcement for the opening of the museum will be soon.

Chancellor Ellis (SUSLA) – Thanked the board for allowing him to be at SUSLA. He mentioned the new position for the Darrin Dixon which will be approved this month. He spoke great things about Darrin Dixon. Dr. Davis told Chancellor Ellis that he recruited Darrin Dixon and that he is a great guy and he congratulates him.

Chancellor McMeans (SUAREC)– Thanked the board for allowing him to be at SUAREC. He mentioned the ag center will be redeveloping some of the programs and the SUAREC will receive funds from the USDA in DC.

Chancellor Pierre (SULC) – Thanked the board. He mentioned the operations of vulnerable initiatives. This is a great semester for the law center.

## **AGENDA ITEM 8: RESOLUTIONS**

Mr. Bakari Garvey read the SGA Presidents Pledge and Resolution

Ms. Tracey Taylor-Jarrell, Board Staff read resolutions for the following:

Ms. Sheila Augustine Escort Family

Ms. Simone Andrea Kernisant Family

Mrs. Richelle Hammond-Soniat Family

Dr. Leroy Davis added Mr. John Givens to the list – Department of Business and one of the Mayors of Baker

Upon motion from Mr. Fondel to approve the read resolutions with the addition and Dr. Leroy Davis second the motion. Motion approved.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 9: OTHER BUSINESS**

Chairman Rutledge announced the next meeting will be in Baton Rouge, La at the same place – Cotillion Ball Room on November 20, 2020.

Mr. Raymond Fondel “thanked the administration of SU, Tamara Banks, and Chief Johnson for all their efforts and all that was donated to the City of Lake Charles during this hurricane season. It was very much appreciated.”

#### **AGENDA ITEM 10: ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion and second the meeting was adjourned.  
Motion passed