

**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Friday, December 14, 2023 / 9:00am
Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room
J. S. Clark Administration Bldg. 2nd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA.

MINUTES

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by Board Chair Myron K. Lawson.

The invocation was given by Minister Patsy Wilkerson who is Associate Minister at Shiloh Baptist Church, Baton Rouge. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sandra Harris, a student at Southern University Lab School.

AGENDA ITEM 3: SPECIAL PRESENTATION(S)

Chairman Myron K. Lawson

A. Above and Beyond Award

Chancellor John Pierre recognized Atty Corinne Blache, General Counsel for Southern University System.

AGENDA ITEM 4: ROLL CALL

Chairman Lawson entertained a motion to appoint Chancellor John Pierre as secretary pro tem in President Shields's absence.

There was a motion by Dr. Rani Whitfield and second by Mrs. Ann Smith to appoint Chancellor John Pierre as Secretary Pro Tem in President Shields's absence.

Motion Approved

Vice Chairman Mr. Sam Gilliams called Academic Affairs committee to order.

Roll Call by Chancellor John Pierre

Present: Mr. Sam Gilliam –Vice-Chair, Atty Tony Clayton, Mrs. Maple Gaines, Mrs. Ann Smith, and Mr. Myron K. Lawson - Ex Officio

Absent: Dr. Leon Tarver – Chairman and Dr. Arlanda Williams

AGENDA ITEM 5: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

There was a motion by Mrs. Ann Smith and second by Mrs. Maple Gaines to adopt the agenda.

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM 6: PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Albert Samuels – Support of Action Item 7C – He Support the Tenure for Professor Addison.

AGENDA ITEM 7: ACTION ITEM(s)

There was a motion by Mr. Myron Lawson and second by Mrs. Ann Smith to approve action items 7A – 7D be approved globally.

Motion passed.

- A. Request Approval of Commencement Resolutions
 - 1. SUBR
 - 2. SULC
- B. Request Approval to Award an Honorary Degree for Rev. Jesse Jackson (SUBR)
- C. Request Approval of Appeal to Grant Tenure for Professor Stephone Addison (SUBR)
- D. Request Approval of Posthumous Honorary Degree for Bryan C. Pecot (SUBR)

AGENDA ITEM 8: OTHER BUSINESS

None

AGENDA ITEM 9: ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Atty Tony Clayton to adjourn the meeting.

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE
(Following Academic Affairs Committee)
Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room
J. S. Clark Administration Bldg. 2nd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA.

AGENDA

Board Chair Myron Lawson announced the convening of the Athletics Committee. Chairman Atty Domoine Rutledge called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by Chancellor John Pierre

Present: Atty Domoine Rutledge - Chairman, Dr. Rani Whitfield – Vice-Chair, Mrs. Ann Smith, Mr. Raymond Fondel, Atty. Tony Clayton and Mr. Myron K. Lawson - Ex Officio

Absent: Mr. Paul Matthews

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon the motion by Dr. Rani Whitfield and seconded by Mr. Raymond Fondel to adopt the agenda.

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEM(S)

A. Request Approval of Contract for New Head Football Coach Terrence Graves
(SUBR)

Dr. Rani Whitfield nominate Terrence Graves as Head Coach. He acknowledges his accomplishments and mentions how the students support him. The motion was seconded by Mr. Raymond Fondel.

There was a lengthy discussion between Atty Tony Clayton, Atty Edwin Shorty, and Atty Domoine Rutledge around the entire hiring process and the best interest for the university as well as the revenue allocation for coaches and athletic program.

It was mentioned the discussion wasn't about the coach or necessarily saying Coach Graves isn't a good leader or coach, the topic was the process and how the administration operates.

Based on the conversation, Ms. Ann Smith asks that the process be reviewed in the future. It was mentioned there was nothing wrong with the process.

AD Roman Banks introduced Coach Graves and gave insight on the search and hiring process and mentioned how Coach Graves had a great resume and was chosen as the best candidate. Coach Graves thanked everyone for their support and gave a brief statement.

The vote was a roll call vote on the motion:

There were 5 yes, and 1 no (Atty Tony Clayton) – Atty Clayton ask that his vote reflects how bad the administration handled the process and the lack of transparency not that Graves is a bad coach.

Motion Pass

AGENDA ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS

None

AGENDA ITEM 8: ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Raymond Fondel to adjourn the meeting.

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

(Following Athletics Committee)

Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room
J. S. Clark Administration Bldg. 2nd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA.

AGENDA

Board Chair Myron Lawson announced the convening of the Facilities and Property Committee. Chairman Atty Edwin Shorty called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by Chancellor John Pierre

Present: Atty. Edwin Shorty – Chairman, Atty Domoine Rutledge – Vice Chair, Mrs. Ann Smith, Dr. Rani Whitfield, and Mr. Myron K. Lawson, - Ex Officio

Absent: Dr. Leon Tarver II and Mr. Paul Mathews

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon the motion by Dr. Rani Whitfield and seconded by Mrs. Ann Smith to adopt the agenda with added Action item 6A.

Motion passed with roll call vote.

AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

AGENDA ITEM 5: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s)

Mr. Kenneth Dawson gave a presentation and update on all campuses. He provided a handout with all the information.

Chancellor John Pierre gave a summary on the Shreve Memorial Library Facility.

- A. Update on the Status of Shreve Memorial Library Facility (SULC)
- B. Facilities Update (SUS)

AGENDA ITEM 6: ACTION ITEM(s)

A. Solar Panel Project

Request to authorize Southern Foundation to determine feasibility of solar panels.

Mr. Kenneth Dawson gave summary of project. There were questions and discussion around the solar panels among the board members and Mr. Dawson. **Follow up on Where are we with Entergy?**

Motion was made by Dr. Whitfield and seconded by Mrs. Ann Smith.

Motion approved.

AGENDA ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dr. Rani Whitfield to adjourn the meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
(Following Facilities and Property Committee)
Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room
J S Clark Administration Bldg. 2nd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA 70813
9:00 AM

MINUTES

Board Chair Myron K. Lawson announced the convening of the Finance Committee. Vice Chairman Ms. Ann Smith called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by Chancellor John Pierre

Present: Mrs. Ann Smith -Vice-Chair, Mr. Sam Gilliam, Mrs. Christy Reeves Atty. Domoine Rutledge, and Atty. Mr. Myron K. Lawson - Ex Officio

Absent: Dr. Arlanda Williams- Chairman and Dr. Leon Tarver II

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon the motion by Ms. Christy Reeves and seconded by Mrs. Ann Smith the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEM(s):

- A. Request Approval for Admissions Fee Adjustment (SUBR)
- B. Request Approval for the Imposition of a Housing Application Fee Policy for Returning Students (SUBR)

There was a motion by Mr. Sam Gilliam and seconded by Attorney Domoine Rutledge to approve action items 5A and 5B in global.

Motion approved.

AGENDA ITEM 6: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s):

- A. Financial Report
Mr. McClinton gave a brief update on each campus.

AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS

None

AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Christy Reeves to adjourn the meeting.

PERSONNEL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

(Following Finance Committee)

Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room
J. S. Clark Administration Bldg. 2nd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA.

MINUTES

Board Chair Myron Lawson announced the convening of the Personnel Affairs Committee. Chair Mr. Sam Gilliam called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by President Shields

Present: Mr. Sam Gilliam - Chairman, Mrs. Christy Reeves–Vice-Chair, Atty Tony Clayton, Ms. Zazell Dudley, and Mr. Myron Lawson - Ex Officio

Absent: Dr. Leon Tarver, II. and Dr. Arlanda Williams

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon the motion by Zazell Dudley and seconded by Mrs. Christy Reeves the agenda was recommended for adoption with the following amendments: Added Action Item 5H – Continuation of Interim Appointments at SUSLA, updated Action Item 5E – current salary and proposed salary for Carolyn Telles and update Action Item 5G new salary amount to \$159,744.

Motion approved.

AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Dr. Yasser Ismail – SUBR – Agenda item 5E – Want to thank board members for solving salary issue.
2. Dr. Anthony Igiede – SUBR Faculty Senate – Agenda item 5E and 5G – Strong support from Members
3. Dr. Oswald D’Auvergne – SUBR Faculty Senate President – Agenda item 5E – support salary increases.
They all thanked President Shields, Dr. Lurie Young and Chancellor Pierre.

AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEM(S)

There was a discussion around Personnel Item 5B(3) – Atty Clayton inquired about the search and job description and Chancellor Pierre and Dr. Young responded.

There was a motion made to approve Action Item 5A – 5H in global.
There was a roll call vote.

Motion Approved

A. Request Approval of Personnel Action on Positions Equal to or Greater than \$60,000.00 (SUNO)

| Name | Position/Department | Description | Waived/Search | Salary | | Funding Source |
|---------------|---|--------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| | | | | Current | Suggested | |
| 1. Erica Witt | Director of Museum/ Asst. Professor <i>SUNO Museum of Art</i> | New Appointment Existing Position | Promotion | \$56,000.00 | \$72,240.00 | State/Federal |

B. Request Approval of Personnel Action on Positions Equal to or Greater than \$60,000.00 (SUBR)

| Name | Position/Department | Description | Waived/Search | Salary | | Funding Source |
|-----------------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| | | | | Current | Suggested | |
| 1. Mary Cobb-Marshall | MBA Online Coordinator <i>College of Business</i> | Salary Adjustment Additional Duties | Title Reclassification | \$64,272.00 | \$75,000.00 | State/Federal |
| 2. Terrence Graves | Head Football Coach <i>Dept of Athletics</i> | New Appointment Existing Position | Search | – | \$250,000.00 | State |
| 3. Karen Jackson | Executive Director of Stakeholder Engagement <i>Office of Academic Affairs</i> | New Position Revised Title & Job Description | Waived | – | \$93,600.00 | State |
| 4. Toni Jackson | Director of Advancement <i>College of Science and Engineering</i> | Salary Adjustment | N/A | \$85,000.00 | \$90,000.00 | State |
| 5. Toni Manogin | Associate VP of Accreditation Compliance, Planning & Policy <i>Office of Strategic Planning</i> | Title Change Additional Duties Salary Adjustment | N/A | \$126,959.00 | \$148,500.00 | State |
| 6. Raymond Plains | Director of Grounds <i>Facility Services</i> | Realignment/ Title Change/ Salary Adjustment | N/A | \$59,900.00 | \$70,000.00 | State |
| 7. Karen Simms | Project Manager <i>Rehabilitation Disability Studies & Counseling</i> | Additional Duties Salary Adjustment | N/A | \$74,948.00 | \$77,234.00 | Federal |
| 8. Sarah Spland | IT Liaison and Professional Development Officer <i>Division of IT</i> | New Position | Waived | – | \$80,000.00 | Federal |
| 9. Henry Thurman | Director of Projects Architecture <i>Facility Services</i> | Realignment/ Title Change/ Salary Adjustment | N/A | \$69,628.00 | \$79,628.00 | State |
| 10.. Jimmie Wade | Director of Maintenance & Operations <i>Facility Services</i> | Realignment/ Salary Adjustment | N/A | \$72,000.00 | \$82,000.00 | State |
| 11. Sonia Wilson | TANF MED Program Director <i>Research and Strategic Initiatives</i> | New Position | Waived | – | \$90,000.00 | Federal |

C. Request Approval of Personnel Action on Positions Equal to or Greater than \$60,000.00 (SULC)

| Name | Position/Department | Description | Waived/Search | Salary | | Funding Source |
|------------------|---|-------------|---------------|---------|-------------|----------------|
| | | | | Current | Suggested | |
| 1. Caeshia Clark | Coordinator of Records and Registration <i>Southern University Law Center</i> | | <i>Waived</i> | - | \$70,000.00 | State |
| 2. Joseph Royal | Financial Aid Counselor <i>Southern University Law Center</i> | | <i>Waived</i> | - | \$63,000.00 | State |

D. Request Approval of Personnel Action on Positions Equal to or Greater than \$60,000.00 (SUSLA)

| Name | Position/Department | Description | Waived/Search | Salary | | Funding Source |
|--------------------|---|--------------------------------|---------------|---------|--------------|----------------|
| | | | | Current | Suggested | |
| 1. Lonnie McCray | Interim Vice Chancellor <i>Academic Affairs and Workforce Development</i> | Continuation | <i>N/A</i> | - | \$108,576.00 | State |
| 2. Quiana Skidmore | Director of Human Resources <i>Office of the Chancellor</i> | Promotion Existing Position | <i>Search</i> | | \$73,500.00 | State |

E. Request Approval of Faculty Equity Pay Adjustments Equal to or Greater than \$75,000.00 (SUBR)

| NAME | FACULTY RANK | CURRENT SALARY | PROPOSED ADJUSTMENT | PROPOSED SALARY |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Yasser Ishmail | Full Professor | \$76,621 | \$ 3,702 | \$ 80,323 |
| Radian Belu | Full Professor | \$87,529 | \$12,702 | \$100,231 |
| Lidiya Dubytska | Full Professor | \$79,000 | \$ 6,470 | \$ 85,470 |
| Twumassi Yaw | Full Professor | \$78,701 | \$ 9,260 | \$ 87,961 |
| Mathieu Kourama | Full Professor | \$84,915 | \$5,085 | \$90,000 |
| Shizhong Yang | Full Professor | \$84,915 | \$5,085 | \$90,000 |
| Carolyn Telles | Full Professor | \$79,000 | \$6,470 | \$85,470 |

F. Request Approval of Sabbatical Leave for Mysore Ramaswamy (SUBR)

G. Request Approval of Reassignment of Dr. Bijoy Sahoo to Faculty in the College of Business (SUBR)

Based upon Dr. Sahoo's resignation from his position as Vice Chancellor and Provost and return to the classroom. His new salary of ~~\$136,800~~ \$159,744 is based upon 80% of his 12-month salary.

H. Request for Continuation of Interim Appointments at Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA)

AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS

None

AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Atty Tony Clayton to adjourn the meeting.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

(Following Personnel Affairs Committee)

Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room
J. S. Clark Administration Bldg. 2nd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA.

AGENDA

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Myron K. Lawson.

Roll Call by Chancellor John Pierre

PRESENT

Atty Tony Clayton, Ms. Zazell Dudley, Mr. Raymond Fondel, Jr., Ms. Maple Gaines, Mr. Myron Lawson, Ms. Christy Reeves, Atty Domoine Rutledge, Atty Edwin Shorty, Mrs. Ann Smith, Dr. Samuel Tolbert, Rev. Dr. Rani Whitfield

ABSENT

Mr. Paul Matthews, Dr. Leon Tarver, II, Dr. Arlanda Williams and Mr. Jy'Ron Young

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon the motion by Atty Domoine Rutledge and seconded by Dr. Rani Whitfield the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

AGENDA ITEM 5: RESOLUTIONS

Dr. Allen Vital, Chief of Staff read resolutions for the following:

Condolences

- Jim Milton Gaines
- Keith Danny Williams
- Coach Louis Hightower
- Additional Names provided by Dr. Vital

Commendations

- Congratulations to Southern Lab Football Team

There was a motion by Atty Domoine Rutledge to approve the read resolutions and additional names and Mrs. Christy Reeves second the motion.

Motion approved.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Action Item(s)¹

There was a motion by Atty Domoine Rutledge and second by Dr. Rani Whitfield to approve action items 6A – 6f be approved globally.

Motion passed.

- A. Approval of Minutes of the November 24, 2023, SUS Board of Supervisors Meeting
- B. Approval of Committee Recommendations
- C. Request Approval of Partnership between Southern University and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Research Services (SUAREC)
The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Research Service (ARS) is seeking to construct a federal research facility on Southern University's campus which will house both ARS Employees and SU Ag Center research faculty. The research areas to be explored include Climate Smart, Honeybees and Sustainable Agricultural Systems applicable to Louisiana. At the onset, the lease would be 20 years at zero dollars, and once funded, the term would be adjusted to 49 years for a dollar. Southern University & A&M College would be the first HBCU, 1890 Land-Grant Institution to have an ARS research lab located on its campus.
- D. Request Approval for Contract Amendment for James H. Ammons, Chancellor of Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO)
- E. Request Approval of Contract Settlement for Coach Eric Dooley (SUBR)
- F. Chancellor's Evaluations (SULC and SUAREC)¹

AGENDA ITEM 7: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s):

- A. Presidential Report
- B. Chancellor's Reports

AGENDA ITEM 8: OTHER BUSINESS

None

AGENDA ITEM 9: ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Atty Tony Clayton to adjourn the meeting.

¹ Pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute 42:17, executive session may be required.