

SPECIAL RECOGNITION COMMITTEE

**J S Clark Administration Building, 2nd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA**

December 18, 2025

MINUTES

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Tony Clayton. The Board Chairman announced the convening of the Special Recognition Committee.

The invocation was given by Father Clark.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Braxtyn Dumas, an outstanding student at Southern University Laboratory School.

AGENDA ITEM D: SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Women's Hospital and Baton Rouge Campus College of Nursing and Allied Health Partnership

Presenter: Dean Sandra Brown

2. Presentation of Cy Pres Award - Judge Ethel Julie/Attorney Bernard Charbonnet

Presenter: Chancellor Alvin Washington

3. Above and Beyond

Presenter: Chancellor John Pierre – Recipient was Dr. Frimpong

4. Recognition of Southern University's Human Jukebox (ESPN's Band of the Year)

Presenter: Chancellor John Pierre – Dr. Kedric Taylor and members of the staff was in attendance and Dr. Taylor gave remarks.

AGENDA ITEM 4: ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Maple Gaines to adjourn the meeting.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

(Following Special Recognition Committee)

**J S Clark Administration Building, 2nd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA**

December 18, 2025

MINUTES

The Board Chairman Tony Claayton announced the convening of the Academic Affairs Committee. Mrs. Ann Smith called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by President Shields

Present: Mrs. Ann Smith – Chair, Ms. Maple Gaines – Vice Chair, Ms. Zazell Dudley, Mr. Myron K. Lawson, Mr. Henry Whitehorn and Atty Tony Clayton - Ex Officio

Absent: NONE

AGENDA ITEM C: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

There was a motion to adopt the agenda by Mr. Myron K. Lawson and second by Mr. Henry Whitehorn.

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM D: PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM E: ACTION ITEM(s)

1. Request for Approval of 2024- 2026 University Catalog (SUSLA)

Motion was made by Mr. Henry Whitehorn and second by Ms. Zazell Dudley to approve the Action Item E1.

Motion approved

2. Request for Approval of Fall 2025 Graduates - 28 Students (SULC)

Motion was made by Chairman Clayton and second by Ms. Zazell Dudley to approve the Action Item E2.

Motion approved

3. Request for Approval to Name Dr. Karen Jackson Permanent Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Success (currently interim) (SUBR)

Motion was made by Ms. Zazell Dudley and second by Ms. Maple Gaines to approve the Action Item E3.

Motion approved

4. Request for Approval to Name Dr. Albertha Lawson Permanent Graduate School Dean (currently interim) (SUBR)

Motion was made by Ms. Maple Gaines and second by Dr. Rani Whitfield to approve the Action Item E4.

Motion approved w/ Mr. Myron Lawson recusing himself from the vote.

AGENDA ITEM F: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s)

NONE

AGENDA ITEM G: OTHER BUSINESS

Atty Clayton recognized Judge Clark. Atty Rutledge recognized alums that are in town for Homecoming and asked them to stand.

AGENDA ITEM 8: ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Atty Domoine Rutledge to adjourn the meeting.

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

(Following Academic Affairs Committee)

**J S Clark Administration Building, 2nd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA**

December 18, 2025

MINUTES

The Board Chairman Tony Clayton announced the convening of the Athletics Committee. Atty Domoine Rutledge called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by President Shields

Present: Atty Domoine Rutledge, Chairman, Dr. Rani Whitfield, Vice Chairman, Mr. Reggie Abraham, Ms. Maple Gaines, Mr. Donald Ray Henry, Mr. Chris Massingill, Mr. Paul Matthews, Mrs. Ann Smith, Mr. Henry Whitehorn and Atty Tony Clayton - Ex Officio

Absent: NONE

AGENDA ITEM C: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

There was a motion to adopt the agenda by Mr. Henry Whitehorn and second by Dr. Rani Whitfield.

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM D: PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM E: ACTION ITEM(s)

Motion was made by Chairman Tony Clayton and second by Mr. Chris Masingill to approve the Action Item E1 – E3 in global.

Motion approved

1. Request for Approval of Marshall Faulk as the Head Football Coach (SUBR)
2. Request for Approval of Todd Lyght as the Defensive Coordinator (SUBR)
3. Request for Approval of Curtis "CJ" Johnson as the Offensive Coordinator (SUBR)

AD Roman Banks introduced Coach Marshall Faulks who gave brief comments.

AGENDA ITEM F: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s)

NONE

AGENDA ITEM G: OTHER BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM H: ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Myron Lawson to adjourn the meeting.

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

(Following Athletics Committee)

**J S Clark Administration Building, 2nd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA**

December 18, 2025

MINUTES

The Board Chairman Tony Clayton announced the convening of the Facilities and Property Committee. Mr. Donald Ray Henry called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by President Shields

Present: Mr. Donald Ray Henry – Chair, Ms. Maple Gaines – Vice Chair, Ms. Zazell Dudley, Mr. Chris Masingill, Mr. Paul P. Matthews, Atty. Domoine Rutledge, Atty. Edwin Shorty, Mrs. Ann Smith, Dr. Rani Whitfield and Atty. Tony Clayton – Ex Officio

Absent: NONE

AGENDA ITEM C: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

There was a motion to adopt the agenda by Atty Edwin Shorty and second by Ms. Maple Gaines.

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM D: PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM E: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s)

1. Facilities Update (SUS)

Mr. Dawson gave the update and answered questions from board members. Mr. Henry commended Mr. Dawson and thanked him for all his hard work on the projects.

AGENDA ITEM G: OTHER BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM H: ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Chris Masingill to adjourn the meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
(Following Facilities and Property Committee)
J S Clark Administration Building, 2nd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA

December 18, 2025

MINUTES

The Board Chairman Tony Clayton announced the convening of the Finance Committee. Mr. Myron K. Lawson called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by President Shields

Present: Mr. Myron K. Lawson – Chair, Mrs. Ann Smith – Vice Chair, Mr. Reggie Abraham, Atty. Quincy Cawthorne, Ms. Zazell Dudley, Ms. Maple Gaines, Mr. Chris Masingill, Atty. Domoine Rutledge and Atty. Tony Clayton– Ex Officio

Absent: NONE

AGENDA ITEM C: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

There was a motion by Atty Domoine Rutledge and a second by Mrs. Ann Smith to adopt the agenda.

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM D: PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

AGENDA ITEM E: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s)

1. Interim Financial Report (SUS)

Mr. McClinton gave a summary and there were no questions.

AGENDA ITEM G: OTHER BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM H: ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Atty Domoine Rutledge to adjourn the meeting.

LEGAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

(Following Finance Committee)

J S Clark Administration Building, 2nd Floor

Baton Rouge, LA

December 18, 2025

MINUTES

The Board Chairman Tony Clayton announced the convening of the Legal Affairs Committee. Atty Quincy Cawthorne called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by President Shields

Present: Atty. Quincy Cawthorne – Chair, Atty. Domoine Rutledge – Vice Chair, Ms. Maple L. Gaines, Atty. Edwin Shorty, Mr. Henry Whitehorn and Atty Tony Clayton – Ex Officio

Absent: Mr. Aaron Manzy

AGENDA ITEM C: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

There was a motion to adopt the agenda by Atty Domoine Rutledge and second by Mr. Henry Whitehorn.

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM D: PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM E: ACTION ITEM(s)

Motion was made by Ms. Maple Gaines and second by Atty Domoine Rutledge to approve the Action Item E1.

Motion approved

1.. Request for Approval of Gray Decision Intelligence (DI) Contract (SUS)

2. Cell Tower RFP – Wireless Edge (SUBR)

Motion was made by Atty Rutledge to approve contract and seconded by Chairman Clayton

Motion Approved

AGENDA ITEM F: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s)

1. Cell Tower RFP - Wireless Edge (SUBR)

Motion was made to convert informational item to action item by Atty Rutledge and seconded by Chairman Clayton

Motion approved by roll call vote.

2. Revised Decuir, Clark and Adams Contract (SUS)

Atty Corinne Blache gave information on the revised contract. Answered questions from board members

AGENDA ITEM G: OTHER BUSINESS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM H: ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Atty Rutledge to adjourn the meeting.

PERSONNEL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

(Following Legal Affairs Committee)

J S Clark Administration Building, 2nd Floor

Baton Rouge, LA

December 18, 2025

MINUTES

The Board Chairman Tony Clayton announced the convening of the Personnel Affairs Committee. Atty Edwin Shorty called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by President Shields

Present: Atty. Edwin Shorty – Chair, Ms. Maple Gaines – Vice Chair, Mr. Reggie Abraham, Ms. Zazell Dudley, Mr. Chris Masingill, Atty Domoine Rutledge, Mrs. Ann Smith, Mr. Henry Whitehorn, and Atty Tony Clayton – Ex Officio

Absent: NONE

AGENDA ITEM C: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

There was a motion to adopt the agenda by Mr. Chris Masingill and second by Ms. Maple Gaines.

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM D: PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM E: ACTION ITEM(s)

1. Request for Approval of Personnel Action on Positions Equal to or Greater than \$100,000.00

Motion was made by Atty Rutledge and seconded by Mr. Chris Masingill to approve Item E1 (SUBR, SULC, and SUNO) in global

Motion Approved

Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes December 18, 2025**(SUBR)**

Name	Position/Department	Personnel Action	Waived/ Search	Salary		Funding Source
				Previous	Suggested	
1. Karen Jackson	Assistance Vice Chancellor for Student Success	New Appointment Existing Position	Waived	\$ 97,200	\$ 108,000	State
2. Albertha Lawson	Dean, Graduate School	New Appointment Existing Position	Waived	\$160,000	\$ 180,000	State
3. Marshall Faulk	Head Football Coach	New Appointment Existing Position	Waived	\$250,000	\$ 400,000	State
4. Curtis "CJ" Johnson	Offensive Coordinator	New Appointment Existing Position	Waived	\$ 95,000	\$ 150,000	State
5. Todd Lyght	Defensive Coordinator	New Appointment Existing Position	Waived	\$ 82,500	\$ 125,000	State

(SULC)

Name	Position/Department	Personnel Action	Waived/ Search	Salary		Funding Source
				Previous	Suggested	
1. Angela Bell	Director of the Lousi Berry Institute for Civil Rights and Social Justice/Associate Professor	Existing Position	Search	\$141,681	\$191,681	State
2. Angela Mason	Associate Director of Library Services	Existing Position	Search	\$91,728	\$108,000	State
3. Melanie Rey	Director of Career Services	Existing Position	Search	\$90,000	\$102,211	State
4. Gail Stephenson	Director of Faculty Affairs	New Position	Search	\$149,386	\$165,000	State

(SUNO)

Name	Position/Department	Personnel Action	Waived/ Search	Salary		Funding Source
				Previous	Suggested	
1. Patrice Sentino	Dean, School of Social Work	New Appointment	Search	\$105,000	\$100,000	State

Motion was made by Atty Rutledge and seconded by Chairman Clayton to approve Items E2 (a-c) in global

Motion Approved

2. Request for Approval of Sabbatical Applications

- a.** Dr. Radian Belu (Electrical Engineering)
- b.** Dr. Natassia Jones (SMED)
- c.** Dr. Guang-Lin Zhao (Physics)

AGENDA ITEM F: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s)

AGENDA ITEM G: OTHER BUSINESS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM H: ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Atty Rutledge to adjourn the meeting.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

(Following Personnel Affairs Committee)

J S Clark Administration Building, 2nd Floor

Baton Rouge, LA

December 18, 2025

MINUTES

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by Board Chairman Tony Clayton.

PRESENT

Mr. Reggie Abraham, Atty Quincy Cawthorne, Ms. Zazell Dudley, Ms. Maple Gaines, Mr. Donald R. Henry, Mr. Myron K. Lawson, Mr. Chris Masingill, Mr. Paul Matthews, Atty Domoine Rutledge, Atty Edwin Shorty, Mrs. Ann Smith, Rev. Dr. Samuel Tolbert, Mr. Henry Whitehorn, Dr. Rani Whitfield and Atty Tony Clayton

ABSENT

Mr. Aaron Manzy

AGENDA ITEM C: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

There was a motion to adopt the agenda by Mr. Chris Masingill and second by Mrs. Ann Smith.

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM D: PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Fred Moss (SUSLA) – commented for and support Action Item F5.

AGENDA ITEM E: RESOLUTIONS

Ms. Rachel Watson read resolutions for the following:

Resolutions

- Sarah Davis Family
- Donald Hesiod Pugh Family
- Catherine Bridgeman Flentroy Family
- Mother Carolyn Jones Family

There was a motion by Atty Domoine Rutledge to approve the read resolutions and second by Atty Edwin Shorty.

Motion approved.

AGENDA ITEM F: ACTION ITEM(s)

There was a motion by Atty Domoine Rutledge and second by Dr. Rani Whitfield approved action item F (1-3) globally.

Motion passed. Mr. Myron Lawson Abstain from the vote.

1. Request for Approval of Minutes of November 28, 2025, SUS Board of Supervisors Meeting
2. Request for Approval of Committee Reports and Recommendations
3. Request for Approval of Separation Agreement between Dennis J. Shields and Southern University Board of Supervisors (SUS) (Pursuant to LSA R.S. 44:17 executive sessions may be required)

Atty Clayton announced the board will go into executive session. Mr. Henry Whitehorn made the motion to go into executive session and Mrs. Ann Smith seconded. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

There was a motion by Mr. Paul Matthews and second by Atty Rutledge to come out of executive session. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Item F4 - There was a motion by Atty Domoine Rutledge to select and appoint Chancellor Orlando McMeans as interim President, second by Dr. Whitfield and Rev. Tolbert.

Roll Call Vote – All present voted yes for the exception of Mr. Chris Masingill who abstained from the vote.

Chairman Clayton and board members congratulated Chancellor McMeans on his appointment as Interim President. Interim President McMeans spoke and thanked everyone for support and thanked the board for trusting him to do the job.

4. Selection of Interim President for Southern University System Commencing on January 1, 2026 Until a Permanent President is Selected (SUS) (Pursuant to LSA R.S. 44:17 executive session may be required)

Item F5 – There was a motion by Rev. Tolbert to grant Chancellor Gantt and extension for four years and allow Chairman Clayton and Vice Chairman and president to negotiate the salary. Motion was seconded by Mr. Chris Masingill and Mrs. Ann Smith.

Chancellor Gantt thanked the president and the board for trusting her and granting her the extension.

AGENDA ITEM G: INFORMTIONAL ITEM(s)

1. President Report

President Shields gave his closing remarks. This is his final meeting. He welcomed Chancellor McMeans and wished him well in his new position. He had great things to say about Chancellor McMeans. He thanked the board and everyone that supported him during his time at Southern University. He also congratulated Chancellor Gantt on her extension.

2. Chancellor's Report

Each chancellor gave brief remarks and wished everyone a Happy Holiday. They congratulated Chancellor McMeans and thanked President Shields for all he did also.

AGENDA ITEM H: OTHER BUSINESS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM I: ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Atty Rutledge to adjourn the meeting.