

MINUTES

BOARD OF REGENTS

April 22, 2004

The Board of Regents met in regular session at 9:10 a.m., Thursday, April 22, 2004, in the Louisiana Purchase Room of the Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Chair Roland Toups called the meeting to order. Executive Assistant to the Commissioner, Ms. Carolyn Blanchard, called the roll and a quorum was established.

Present for the meeting were:

Billy Blake
Scott Brame
Richard D' Aquin
Frances Henry, Vice Chair
Stanley J. Jacobs
Robert Levy
William Oliver
Pat Strong, Secretary
Artis Terrell, Jr.
Roland Toups, Chair

Absent:

Reggie Dupré
W. Clinton Rasberry, Jr.
Virgil Robinson, Jr.
Clifford Smith
Adonis Ducre, Student Member

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Toups noted that no written requests were received for public comments and inquired if the audience had any comments at this time. There were none.

MINUTES APPROVED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MARCH 25, 2004

On motion of Regent Blake, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of March 25, 2004, as circulated.

SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF APRIL 21, 2004

On behalf of Regent Brame, Chair of the Sponsored Programs Committee, Dr. Kerry Davidson, Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs, presented motions from the Sponsored Programs Committee Report of April 21, 2004.

FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROPOSALS SUBMITTED IN THE FY 2003-04 BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND (BoRSF) COMPETITIVE CYCLE

ENDOWED CHAIRS COMPONENT

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve Support Fund money as necessary to complete endowments for the proposals ranked one through six in the competitive program and the two (2) proposals deemed "satisfactory" in the restricted bequests program. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMPONENT

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve expenditure of the \$2,031,221 estimated to be available in FY 2003-04 to fund the first year of new RCS and ITRS projects. These funds shall be disbursed as follows: (1) Industrial Ties Research Subprogram - \$625,000; and (2) Research Competitiveness Subprogram - \$1,406,221. Support Fund money shall be awarded to fully fund the twelve (12) top-ranked ITRS projects recommended. Support Fund money shall be awarded to fully fund the forty (40) top-ranked RCS proposals recommended. While the cutoff level for funding proposals cannot be finally decided until all campus responses have been received and the final allocation for expenditure is determined, the following principles will be adhered to:

(1) if the remaining money in the budget for a particular category is insufficient to fully fund the last recommended proposal for that category, the remaining funds shall constitute the total award for that proposal; (2) should an institution refuse or be denied an award, that money shall be offered to the next ranked proposal which the consultants recommended for Priority I funding within the respective subprogram; and (3) in accordance with Board policy, any unexpended R&D funds shall revert to the Enhancement category. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

ENHANCEMENT OF THE QUALITY OF DEPARTMENTS OR UNITS COMPONENT

ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to defer action on disbursement of FY 2003-04 Endowed Professorship awards until the May or June 2004 meeting. By that time the Board will have more complete information regarding the total availability of funds for this program component.

NEW UNDERGRADUATE, TRADITIONAL, AND TWO-YEAR INSTITUTION ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve funding for the Traditional Enhancement program as follows: (1) the \$329,824 earmarked for but unexpended in the Education Enhancement component shall be carried over for use in that component during FY 2004-05; and (2) the \$7,108,013 remaining for FY 2003-04 Traditional Enhancement proposals shall be awarded in the rank order and at funding levels recommended by consultants, and shall be divided among the six eligible disciplines and the multidisciplinary meritorious projects as follows: Agricultural Sciences - \$733,878; Arts - \$1,192,396; Earth/Environmental Sciences - \$908,993; Education - \$670,176; Engineering A - \$1,509,832; Health and Medical Sciences - \$1,842,738; and Multidisciplinary - \$250,000. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve funding for the Undergraduate Enhancement program as follows: the \$1,600,000 available for FY 2003-04 shall be awarded to meritorious proposals in the rank order and at funding levels recommended by consultants. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve funding for the Enhancement Program for Two-Year Institutions as follows: the \$908,880 available for FY 2003-04 shall be awarded to meritorious proposals in the rank order and at funding levels recommended by consultants. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve the following procedure for all awards in Traditional Enhancement, Undergraduate Enhancement, and the Enhancement Program for Two-Year Institutions. Money shall be awarded to highly recommended proposals within each area in order of their ranking and at funding levels recommended by consultants. While the cutoff level for funding proposals in these categories cannot be finally decided until the amount of money available in the Support Fund for FY 2003-04 has been determined and all campus responses have been received, the following principles will be adhered to: (a) if the remaining money in the budget for a particular category is insufficient to fully fund the last recommended proposal for that category, the remaining funds shall constitute the total award for that proposal; (b) should an institution refuse or be denied an award, that money shall be offered to the next Priority I or Priority II proposal within the same discipline which the consultants recommended for funding; (c) if no such proposal exists as that described in (b), available Support Fund money shall be added to the awards for any Priority I proposal(s) not fully funded in any other Traditional Enhancement discipline.

RECRUITMENT OF SUPERIOR GRADUATE STUDENTS COMPONENT

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve funding for recommended proposals submitted in the FY 2003-04 cycle for the Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students Program. Funds shall be awarded for the durations and at funding levels recommended by consultants. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR BUDGETARY SHORTFALL

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve the following Contingency Plan for budgetary shortfall: Should the final FY 2003-04 Support Fund budget not achieve the revised amount budgeted herein,

any shortfall shall be accommodated through a proportionate reduction in the amounts allocated for proposals in the Traditional Enhancement Program.

At this time, Chair Toups recognized Deputy Commissioner Davidson, Associate Commissioner John Wallin, and staff for their hard work and dedication to Sponsored Programs.

FEDERAL MATCHING GRANTS PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS RELATIVE TO THE NASA EPSCoR PROGRAM

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve the NASA EPSCoR consultants' report and funding recommendations in the amount of \$178,577 relative to the six (6) top-ranked Developing Aerospace Research & Technology (DART) projects, to be paid from NASA funds and unexpended FY 2001-02 and FY 2003-04 Support Funds allocated to the NASA EPSCoR program. Projects shall be funded in the order, amounts, and with any stipulations recommended in the consultants' report. If an award is declined, that award shall be offered to the alternate proposals in the order indicated in the report.
(Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS RELATIVE TO THE NSF EPSCoR PROGRAM

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Levy, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve three (3) proposals included in the "Highly Recommended for Funding" category at the levels requested in the proposals. EPSCoR funds in the amount of \$54,890 will be used to fund the following three (3) proposals: (1) "Preliminary Planning Grant for a Nanoscale Science and Engineering Center in Polymer-Based Nanostructures" by Dr. Brian Mitchell, Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Tulane University, in the amount of \$15,000; (2) "Planning Grant for Louisiana Astrophysics Center" by Dr. Michael Cherry, Department of Physics and Astronomy, LSU-Baton Rouge, in the amount of \$20,000; and (3) "An Integrated Spatial Data Mining System for Change and Anomaly Detection for Decision Support and Risk Assessment" by Dr. Nina Lam, Department of Geography and Anthropology, LSU-Baton Rouge, in the amount of \$19,890.

FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS MODIFICATION RELATIVE TO THE DOE EPSCoR PROGRAM

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Blake, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to waive the requirement that the Board's matching commitment be reduced proportionately to the DOE award amount, and allow the matching commitment to remain at \$400,000 per year for the three-year duration of the award. Funds will come from the FY 2004-05, FY 2005-06, and FY 2006-07 budgets of the Board of Regents Support Fund.

At this time, Chair Toups recognized Associate Commissioner Khonsari for his hard work in preparation of Capitol Day, an event hosted by the Regents and Louisiana's NSF EPSCoR held on April 20, 2004.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BoRSF PLANNING COMMITTEE

ALLOCATION OF REMAINING FY 2004-05 BoRSF MONEY WITHIN THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (R&D) PROGRAM

Strengthening of the Industrial Ties Research Subprogram (ITRS)

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve the addition of \$300,000 to the \$650,000 currently available for new ITRS awards in FY 2004-05. This would make a total of \$950,000 available for new awards in this subprogram. The staff will collaborate closely with the Louisiana Department of Economic Development to modify as necessary the request for proposals governing this subprogram of the BoRSF.

Establishment of a Subprogram for Postdoctoral Research Associates

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve the provision of \$600,000 from the FY 2004-05 Plan and Budget to establish a new R&D subprogram for postdoctoral research associates. The staff will engage affected campus representatives to develop a request for proposals with suitable guidelines for this new subprogram.

USE OF SUPPORT FUND TO CONTINUE THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL EDUCATION BOARD (SREB) MINORITY DOCTORAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve Louisiana's continued meaningful participation in the SREB Minority Doctoral Scholars Program. Prior to adoption of the FY 2005-06 Plan and Budget, the Commissioner of Higher Education will present a plan to assure funding for up to 10 minority doctoral scholars per year.

ACCESS OF INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS TO THE ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS COMPONENT OF THE BoRSF

Dr. Davidson noted that since the summer of 2003 the Board has considered issues relating to the distribution of endowed professorships at public and independent campuses. He said that no changes should be made to the Endowed Professorships Policy that would place special restrictions on independent campuses.

Mr. Brame said that the Regents would review the endowed professorships component at the Sponsored Programs Committee meeting in May or June if additional money is provided for this component by the Legislature.

ADOPTION OF THE SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF APRIL 21, 2004

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Sponsored Programs Committee Meeting Report of April 21, 2004, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

On behalf of Regent Henry, Chair of the Facilities and Property Committee, Mr. Rich Griswold, Associate Commissioner for Facilities, presented motions from the Facilities and Property Committee Report of April 21, 2004.

SMALL CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORT

On a motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendations of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the small capital projects report as presented by staff.

**Louisiana State University
Agricultural Center
W. A. Callegari Environmental
Center Expansion
\$275,000 in State Funds**

**Louisiana State University
and A&M College
Student Health Center Elevator Replacement
\$175,000 from Auxiliary Funds**

REAPPROVAL OF SMALL CAPITAL PROJECTS PROCEDURE

On a motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to continue the delegation of authority and responsibility to staff for the small capital projects program administration. Further, that the delegation of such authority and responsibility no longer be subject to annual re-approval.

AMENDMENTS TO CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET RECOMMENDATION FOR FY 2004-2005

Regent Henry informed the Board that action to reconsider the deferment of the Naval ROTC project at Southern University and A&M College, in light of new information, was necessary.

Regent Henry requested an update from Mr. Griswold. He noted that the Naval ROTC program has 53 students. He mentioned it is a desegregation project and in 1994, there was an original budget of \$440,000, but due to inflation the current cost is estimated at \$807,500. Mr. Griswold further stated that Southern has a contract with the Department of Navy to provide a facility to the students. He also mentioned that many code requirements have proved to be very costly.

Regent Henry stated that the ROTC program is a joint program shared by Southern University and LSU.

On a motion of Regent Jacobs, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to increase the budget of the Naval ROTC Building Renovation project at Southern University and A&M from \$440,000 to \$807,500.

Regent Henry also mentioned that the Comprehensive Facilities Policy would be forthcoming next month for the Regents review.

On a motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to amend its FY 2004-2005 Capital Outlay Budget Recommendation to increase the budget for the Student Activity Center and Outdoor Facility project at Southern University in Shreveport from \$1,805,000 to \$2,405,000.

CAPITAL OUTLAY STATUS REPORT

Mr. Griswold indicated that House Bill 2 has been introduced and referred to the Joint Legislative Capital Outlay Committee but no action has been taken.

ACT 971 PROJECTS

On a motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the list of work items in the amount of \$82,000 to be performed under the provisions of Act 971 of 1985 as presented for Southern University in New Orleans.

ACT 959 PROJECTS

On a motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the request by the University of Louisiana at Lafayette to construct 3,100 GSF of new space at a cost of \$490,000 to provide for additional chimpanzee research space at the New Iberia Research Center.

LEASES

On a motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the request by the Louisiana State University System to lease 0.12 acres of land on the Louisiana State University in Shreveport campus to the Willis Knighton Health System for \$100 per year and for a term of three years, renewable for one additional three-year term, provided, that Willis Knighton will use the leased premises to construct a temporary pediatric clinic of approximately 3,800 GSF and

at a cost of approximately \$200,000, and that it will donate the improvements to LSU-S at the termination of the lease.

ADOPTION OF THE FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF APRIL 21, 2004

On motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Facilities and Property Committee Meeting Report of April 21, 2004, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF APRIL 21, 2004

On behalf of Regent Toups, Chair of the Executive Committee, Mr. Donnie Vandal, Deputy Commissioner for Administration, presented motions from the Executive Committee Report of April 21, 2004.

TEACHER ACCOUNTABILITY UPDATE

Regent Henry thanked everyone involved for their tireless efforts in improving teacher education in the state of Louisiana. Regent Henry asked for a full Board endorsement of the resolution signed by Chair Toups and Commissioner Savoie. Regent Toups also took the opportunity to thank Dr. Burns for all her hard work. Commissioner Savoie reiterated the dramatic improvements in such a short time. He thanked the State Department of Education for its efforts.

On motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee to adopt the resolution which commended all public and private higher education institutions for increasing the percentage of teacher candidates who pass the PRAXIS examinations, for increasing the overall number of teacher candidates who complete their programs fully certified to teach, and for increasing the number of teacher candidates completing programs in teacher shortage areas.

LOUISIANA OPTICAL NETWORK INITIATIVE UPDATE

On motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendations of the Executive Committee that the Board of Regents assume responsibility for overall governance and direction of the Louisiana Optical Network Initiative and authorize and direct the Commissioner to work with the LONI Steering Committee to design an administrative structure based upon proven and successful models of consortium governance.

On motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendations of the Executive Committee that the Board of Regents should authorize the Commissioner to appoint a Board of Regents' LONI representative to the National LambdaRail Board of Directors. The representative will serve as the Louisiana delegate to the National LambdaRail project and will cast votes as authorized by the Steering Committee until a governance structure is formalized.

UPDATE ON DESEGREGATION SETTLEMENT

Mr. Vandal said that an Executive Session was called to discuss desegregation issues. He mentioned that a roll call vote was taken. He reported that no motions were made and no votes were taken during the Executive Session.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER

Regent Toups recognized Dr. Savoie for receiving the highest honor bestowed by the Louisiana Community and Technical College System on April 14, 2004, for all his contributions to this system.

At this time, Dr. Savoie noted that April 21, 2004, was Administrative Professionals Day and thanked Nancy Beall, Loretta Braud, Christine Coulon, Karen Day, Vera Dear, Jill Holton, Carla McMorris, Bessie Mitchell, Louise Moore, and Darlene Sevier, the Regents' Administrative Professionals, for their hard work.

Dr. Savoie also commended Mr. Axel Vasquez, Special Assistant to the Commissioner, for his recent achievement in competing and completing the Boston Marathon on Monday, April 19, 2004.

He also reminded the Board of several upcoming events:

- Congratulations to the Louisiana Technical College/Ascension Parish for its upcoming 25th anniversary celebration;
- On April 30, the “Quality Teaching Matters: Symposium will be held at the Radisson where 169 new national board certified teachers will be recognized. This project is funded by the National Commission on Teaching and a grant award by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education from LEQSF;
- On May 7, the Board of Regents is sponsoring a one-day International Education Symposium at UNO’s Lindy Boggs International Conference Center; and
- The next Committee and Board meetings will be May 26 and 27, 2004.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent Strong, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.