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P. O. Box 3677
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Phone (225)342-4253, Fax(225) 342-
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FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, October 11, 2007
Friday, October 12, 2007

The Finance Committee met on Thursday, October 11, 2007, at 2:05 p.m.

in the Board Conference Room of the Claiborne Building, 6th Floor, 1201 North Third

Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Chair Scott Brame called the meeting to order. The

roll was called, and a quorum was established.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Scott Brame, Chair
Richard D'Aquin
W. Clinton Raspberry, Jr.
Clifford Smith
Victor Stelly
Harold Stokes
Alvin Kimble, LSU System

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mary Ellen Roy
Pat Strong

Maurice Durbin

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Artis Terrell, Jr., Vice Chair
Roland Toups
LCTC System Representative
SU System Representative
UL System Representative

Wendy Simoneaux

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

E. Joseph Savoie
Donald J. Vandal

GUESTS PRESENT

Appendix A

FY 2007-2008 OPERATING BUDGET REVIEW

Chair Scott Brame provided the committee with a brief overview and informed the committee that the purpose and format of this year's budget hearing would be different from previous years. In the past, the committee was presented budget information on a system level as opposed to an individual institution level. Mr. Brame reminded the committee that because of the significant investment in higher education in FY 2007-2008, the committee would hear from each institution on its plans for the responsible use of its "discretionary funding" and other significant budget items. Mr. Vandal then proceeded to review the material provided to the committee by staff and also informed the committee that because of prior conflicts, Delgado Community College and LUMCON would present to staff at a later date and staff would report to the committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

The committee welcomed Dr. Ralph Slaughter, President of the Southern University System who gave an overview of the system and its plans for 2007-

2008 and an explanation on plans for land grant activity throughout the Southern System.

Mrs. Margaret Ambrose, Interim Chancellor of Southern Baton Rouge A&M College (SUBR), presented SUBR's plan for 2007-2008 which included such items as increased program accreditation, budget stabilization from enrollment decline, and increased retention focus.

Dr. Victor Ukpolo, Chancellor of Southern University at New Orleans, reported on the status of his campus as a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and the three tier approach he applied to faculty and staff pay plans.

Dr. Ray Belton, Chancellor of Southern University at Shreveport, outlined his 5 priorities for the 2007-2008 year which includes, institutionalizing key positions, marketing and public relations for recruitment and retention, and distance learning initiatives. There was also discussion of the institution's aviation program and its hangar facilities lease.

Dr. Freddie Pritcher, Chancellor of the Southern University Law Center, presented his institution's priorities and addressed accreditation issues.

Mr. Leodrey Williams, Chancellor of the Southern University Agricultural Center, presented priorities for 2007-2008 and plans for faculty and staff pay increases.

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

The Committee welcomed Dr. John Lombardi, President of the Louisiana State University System. Dr. Lombardi introduced Mr. John Antolik, Assistant Vice President, who explained that the change in LSU the system office budget is comprised mainly of new funding for additional positions to provide oversight of the teaching hospitals as well as the Healthcare Services Division at the system level.

Mr. Sean O'Keefe, Chancellor of the Louisiana State University and A&M College, outlined major investments in faculty support, student services, information technology, honors college programs, business administration programs, campus security, and benefits for graduate assistants.

Next, Mr. Tom Klie, Associate Dean for the Louisiana State University Veterinary School, presented its plan for its discretionary funds which included faculty and salary increases in excess of the faculty salary dollars provided, faculty promotions, lab facility renovations, increase funding for internal grants, upgrades or new equipment purchases and an increase in library holdings.

Dr. Richardson, Chancellor of the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, explained that with its discretionary dollars, the Ag center was able to fill key positions in extension and research, increase budgeted travel expenses and equipment purchases.

Dr. Claude Bouchard, Director of Pennington Biomedical Research Center, then presented his plan for the discretionary dollars received by Pennington,

which included increasing seed funding to new research projects in an effort to leverage return. Dr. Bouchard also addressed three targeted initiatives, the LaCATS project, diabetes research and adult stem cell research.

At 7:10 p.m., the committee recessed until 9:00 a.m. Friday, October 12th.

The Finance Committee reconvened at 9:05 a.m. on Friday, October 12, 2007 in the

Board Conference Room of the Claiborne Building, 6th Floor, 1201 North Third Street,

Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Chair Brame introduced Dr. Timothy Ryan, Chancellor of the

University of New Orleans. Dr. Ryan briefed the committee on UNO's progress in the

wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and explained that most of the discretionary dollars

were being utilized to hire new faculty members according to a strategic plan that will

help revitalize UNO. In addition, Dr. Ryan discussed UNO's role in two charter schools

in the New Orleans area.

Dr. Marsala, Chancellor of Louisiana State University at Shreveport, reported

that its discretionary dollars were to be used to maintain financial stability in the wake of

tuition losses and to suspend a long standing hiring freeze. This allowed hiring much

needed faculty in the colleges of business, education, liberal arts, and sciences.
Dr.

Marsala also explained that the University will be able to expand into masters programs which will help Shreveport residents stay in the state to avail themselves of graduate education.

Mr. Rouse Caffey, Interim President of Louisiana State University at Alexandria,

detailed LSUA's plan for the upcoming year which included items such as, budget

stabilization, increased bachelor degree offerings, increased campus security, and

increase student life offerings.

Dr. William Nunez, Chancellor at Louisiana State University at Eunice, explained

that the 3% budget increase for LSUE was used to restore items that were cut at LSUE

in FY 05-06 and for personnel hires.

The committee then welcomed Dr. Hollier, Chancellor of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at New Orleans. Dr. Hollier gave an extended overview of his recovery efforts and the pending joint venture with the Veteran's

Administration. In the absence of Dr. McDonald, Chancellor of the Louisiana State

University Health Sciences Center at Shreveport, Mrs. Sheila Faour, Director of

Budgets and Planning explained that the health sciences center used its discretionary

funding for supplemental pay, faculty promotions, and in general support of the medical

school.

In conclusion, Mr. Jack Weiss, Chancellor of the Louisiana State

University Paul M. Hebert Law Center presented his plan for the use of discretionary

funding which included expansion of the Law Center's Clinical Legal Education

program.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the Finance

Committee adjourned at 12:35 p.m.