

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, October 21, 2004

The Finance Committee met on Thursday, October 21, 2004, at 9:15 a.m. in the Louisiana Purchase Room of the Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Chair Pat Strong called the meeting to order. The roll was called and a quorum was established.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Pat Strong, Chair
Virgil Robinson, Jr.
William Blake
Scott Brame
Richard D'Aquin
Jesse Bilberry, Jr., SU System
Jimmy Long, UL System
John Delaney, LCTCS

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Clifford Smith

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

W. Clinton Raspberry, Jr.
Roderick West

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

E. Joseph Savoie
Donald J. Vandal
Wendy Simoneaux
Janice Hill
Angela Davis
Louise Moore

GUESTS PRESENT

Appendix A

FINANCIAL AND BUDGET ISSUES OVERVIEW

Ms. Wendy Simoneaux, Associate Commissioner for Finance, presented an overview of the FY 2004-2005 operating budgets for postsecondary education. She indicated that the operating budget (inclusive of all means of financing) totals approximately \$3.636 billion, with \$2.344 billion reflected in unrestricted operating funds and \$1.292 billion in restricted operating funds. Ms Simoneaux's presentation then provided various views of the operating budgets and concluded with a schedule on state support used in athletic programs as allowed under Board policy.

OPERATING BUDGET PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSION

Regents staff indicated that in advance of the meeting the systems had been provided a list of key issues they were to address in their presentations to the Committee. Those issues included priority uses of new funds, information on tuition and fees and financial aid, faculty and staff pay, enrollment trends, operating cost issues and efficiency measures, and the Governor's Information Technology Initiative.

Dr. Sally Clausen, President of the University of Louisiana System, Mr. Mike Woods, Chair of the University of Louisiana Board of Supervisors, and Ms. Dee'Layne Cothorn, Associate Vice President for Budget and Planning, presented operating budget information for the University of Louisiana System and addressed each of the key issues outlined by the staff.

Mr. Bill Silvia, Executive Vice President of the LSU System, presented operating budget information for the Louisiana State University System. Mr. Silvia's presentation was based on the theme "Advancing the Academic Mission in a Resource Restricted Environment" and outlined the LSU System responses to the key issues to be addressed.

Mr. William Hebert, Director of Finance, presented the operating budgets for the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON).

Dr. Leon Tarver, President of the Southern University System, and Mr. Tolor White, Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs and Comptroller, presented an overview of the operating budgets for the Southern University System and addressed the key issues raised by staff.

Finally, Dr. Walter Bumphus, President of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, and Ms. Jan Jackson, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration, presented the operating budgets for the Louisiana Community and Technical College System.

OPERATING BUDGET CONSIDERATION

Following the operating budget hearings and presentations by the four systems and the LUMCON, the Committee took the following action:

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Robinson, the Finance Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Board of Regents approve the operating budget submissions for FY 2004-2005.

After discussion of the issue of proposed BA-7 adjustments pending with the budget submissions, the Committee took the following action:

On motion of Regent Robinson, seconded by Regent D'Aquin, the Finance Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Commissioner of Higher Education be authorized to review and approve proposed BA-7 adjustments for institutions and budget units which were pending and are reflected in the attached Appendix B.

After discussion of the status of the UNO Athletic Program, the Committee took the following action:

On motion of Regent D'Aquin, seconded by Regent Brame, the Finance Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Board of Regents authorize the University of New Orleans to operate its athletic program at the level proposed in its budget submission, which is in excess of the amount allowed under the Board's policy on use of operating budget funds for athletic programs, but which is within projected athletic program revenues.

COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT POOL DISTRIBUTION

After discussion of the Community and Technical College Growth & Development Pool Distribution, the Committee took the following action:

On motion of Regent Robinson, seconded by Regent Brame, the Finance Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Board of Regents approve the distribution of the Community and Technical College Growth and Development Pool as reflected in the attached Appendix C.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the chair declared the meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.