

**MINUTES
BOARD OF REGENTS
January 8, 2004**

The Board of Regents met in regular session at 10:15 a.m., Thursday, January 8, 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
W. Clinton Rasberry, Jr.
Virgil Robinson, Jr.
Clifford Smith
Pat Strong, Secretary
Artis Terrell, Jr.
Roland Toups, Chair
Adonis Ducre', Student Member

Absent:

Reggie Dupre'
Robert Levy
William Oliver

MINUTES APPROVED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 11, 2003

On motion of Regent Smith, seconded by Regent Rasberry, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of December 11, 2003, as circulated.

Chair Toups noted that no written requests were received for public comments and inquired if the audience had any comments at this time.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS FOR 2004

Ms. Veronica Howard, Assistant Attorney General, administered the Oath of Office as follows:

(1) Officers for the year 2004:

Chair: Roland Toups
Vice Chairman: Frances Henry
Secretary: Pat Strong

(2) Executive Committee for the year 2004:

Roland Toups, Chairman	Richard D'Aquin
Frances Henry, Vice Chair	Reggie Dupré (absent today)
Pat Strong, Secretary	Virgil Robinson
Scott Brame	

(3) Louisiana Student Financial Assistance Commission

Frances Henry and Pat Strong

RATIFICATION OF COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

On motion of Regent Strong, seconded by Regent Jacobs, the Board voted unanimously to ratify Committee appointments for 2004 as proposed by Chairman Toups. (See Attachment A.)

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER

Commissioner E. Joseph Savoie congratulated the new officers and thanked Regent Toups for serving as Chairman and the Board's commitment to improving education at all levels in Louisiana.

Dr. Savoie recognized Kim Hunter Reed, Deputy Commissioner for Public Affairs at the Board of Regents, who is joining the staff of Governor-elect Kathleen Babineaux Blanco. He thanked Ms.

Reed for her tenure at the Regents, and said she was extremely valuable, talented and effective. He noted that Dr. Jimmy Clarke, who has been heading up the Governor-elect's transition office, will be returning to his duties at the Board of Regents after the inauguration. Dr. Savoie commented that he and Ms. Henry were privileged to serve on the Education Transition Team. He said that many good recommendations will be forthcoming from the efforts of the Team.

Dr. Savoie mentioned that due to the inauguration of the Governor-elect, the Board of Regents' offices will be closed on Monday, January 12, 2004.

Commissioner Savoie cited a report released this week by *Education Week* magazine that listed Louisiana as the nation's number-one state in educational accountability and number-five in efforts to improve teacher quality. He congratulated the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education for earning the number-one distinction in accountability. Commissioner Savoie commended the efforts of Louisiana's colleges of education and the state's university presidents and chancellors for their work in redesigning teacher training programs statewide. He also acknowledged the work of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Teacher Quality for its role in Louisiana's successful education reform efforts.

He further stated that the next Committee and Board meetings will be January 21 and 22, 2004.

Dr. Savoie recognized Dr. William Jenkins, President of the Louisiana State University System, in the audience and extended congratulations to the LSU Tigers for winning the national football championship. Dr. Jenkins thanked the Board for its continued support throughout the past year. Chair Toups noted that a formal celebration will take place on January 24 to celebrate the national championship wins for the LSU Tigers and the Southern Jaguars.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Toups announced that Regent Richard D'Aquin will continue to serve as the Regents' appointment on the Proprietary School Advisory Commission for another four-year term.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent Strong, the meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m. with there being no further business to come before the Board.