The Board of Regents met in regular session at 9:05 a.m., Thursday, January 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:

Scott Brame
Richard D’Aquin
Reggie Dupré
Frances Henry, Vice Chair
Stanley J. Jacobs
William Oliver
W. Clinton Rasberry, Jr.
Clifford Smith
Pat Strong, Secretary
Artis Terrell, Jr.
Roland Toups, Chair

Absent:

Billy Blake
Robert Levy
Virgil Robinson, Jr.
Adonis Ducré, 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.
INSTALLATION OF OFFICER FOR 2004

Ms. Veronica Howard, Assistant Attorney General, administered the Oath of Office to Regent Reggie Dupré as a member of the Executive Committee for 2004.

MINUTES APPROVED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 8, 2004

On motion of Regent D’Aquin, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of January 8, 2004, as circulated.

A REPORT ON RECENT ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE LOUISIANA STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE COMMISSION TO MAXIMIZE AID TO STUDENTS

Mr. Jack Guinn, Executive Director of the Office of Student Financial Assistance, delivered a power point presentation on recent actions by the Louisiana Student Financial Assistance Commission to maximize aid to Louisiana’s students.

He informed the Board that Louisiana’s students annually borrow almost $700 million under the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP). He noted that eligible lenders make the loans to students, which are secured against default by a guarantee agency. Mr. Guinn said that under federal law, guarantee agencies may charge students a fee up to 1% of the principal amount borrowed. He continued to say that since 1999, most guarantee agencies have waived the fee, leaving more than $6 million annually in the pockets of Louisiana’s students.

However, Mr. Guinn said that in April 2004, USA Funds, the state’s major competitor as a guarantor of student loans, will impose a guarantee fee of one-half percent of the principal loaned,
followed by another one-half percent in November 2004. He emphasized that the Commission will not impose a fee on loans it guarantees for students during school year 2004-05.

Mr. Guinn said that during this fiscal year, the Commission has authorized $400,000 from its Operating Fund, which are revenues of the federal student loan program, to be returned to schools for use as need-based student aid during school year 2004-05. He said that the Commission is proposing an interagency agreement with the Board of Regents for the purpose of awarding monetary grants to needy students. He said students must meet certain criteria to be granted an award and future availability of the funds will be subject to the generation of excess revenues in the Commission’s Operating Fund and subsequent appropriation by legislative act.

Ms. Melanie Amrhein from the Office of Student Financial Assistance spoke briefly about the Student Tuition Assistance Revenue Trust (START) Program. She said that it is an innovative college savings plan designed to help families contend with the future cost of their children's postsecondary education. Ms. Amrhein mentioned that a savings account may be opened on behalf of a child by any person, and participants in the program are able to save at their own pace, in amounts they can afford, and still have their money professionally managed. She further added that as an incentive to save, the State of Louisiana will match a portion of the deposits made to your account, depending upon the amount you deposit, your adjusted gross income and the category of account. Ms. Amrhein noted that up to $2,400 per year deposited in the program can be deducted from your Louisiana income taxes.

INTRODUCTION OF DR. TIMOTHY RYAN, CHANCELLOR AND MR. FREDRICK BARTON, VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND PROVOST, UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS
Dr. William Jenkins, President of the Louisiana State University System, first introduced the newly appointed Chancellor of the University of New Orleans Dr. Timothy Ryan. Dr. Jenkins noted that Dr. Ryan is not only a native of New Orleans, but received his B.A. in Economics from the University of New Orleans (UNO). He said that Chancellor Ryan received his Ph.D. in Economics from Ohio State University and, with his background, will play a vital role in advancing the economy of New Orleans through UNO.

Next, Dr. Jenkins introduced to the Board Mr. Fredrick Barton, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost at the University of New Orleans. He mentioned that Vice Chancellor Barton is an award winning fiction writer and is pleased to have him in this position to lead UNO to new heights.

Chancellor Ryan stated that he appreciated the opportunity to appear before the Board of Regents and looked forward to working with the Board. He remarked that Vice Chancellor Barton’s background and skills will have a strong place in the New Orleans community.

Vice Chancellor Barton remarked that it was a privilege to work with the new Chancellor and the LSU System. He said that the implementation of the new admission standards set by the Regents for UNO for fall 2005 will strengthen the UNO campus.

Commissioner of Higher Education E. Joseph Savoie expressed that excellent choices for the city of New Orleans and the state were made when selecting Chancellor Ryan and Vice Chancellor Barton.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF JANUARY 21, 2004
On behalf of Regent Oliver, Chair of the Technology Committee, Mr. Gerard Killebrew, Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs, presented motions from the Technology Committee Report of January 21, 2004.

REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER FOR INFORMATION AND LEARNING TECHNOLOGY

Mr. Killebrew noted that Mr. Mike Abbiatti, Associate Commissioner for Information and Learning Technology, reported on the following:

- Postsecondary Information Technology Priorities
- Electronic Campus Merger

NEW BUSINESS

Louisiana Optical Network Initiative (LONI)

Mr. Killebrew noted that a presentation on the Louisiana Optical Network Initiative (LONI) was made by Chancellor Mark Emmert, LSU and A&M and Dr. Ed Seidel, Director, Center for Computation and Technology, LSU and A&M.

Wireless Collaborative Training Initiatives

Mr. Killebrew stated that an update was given on the wireless collaborative training between several campuses and the Office of Telecommunications staff.

ADOPTION OF THE TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF JANUARY 21, 2004

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

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE
FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF JANUARY 21, 2004


SMALL CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORT

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

Northwestern State University
Dorm Room Sounders
$225,000 Self-Generated Funds

Grambling State University
Renovation of Former Fish Hatchery - GIS Remote Sensing Laboratory
$148,450 State Funds

Nicholls State University
Campus Street Resurfacing
$349,000 Auxiliary Funds

LSU and A&M
LSU Student Health Center Window Replacement
$348,000 Auxiliary Funds

PROJECTS UTILIZING ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF FINANCING

On motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Facilities and Property Committee to approve the third phase of the Student Housing Project at Southeastern Louisiana University.

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

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

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF JANUARY 21, 2004
On behalf of Regent Henry, Vice Chair of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Mr. Killebrew presented motions from the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting Report of January 21, 2004.
PROPOSED NEW ACADEMIC/RESEARCH CENTER - LSU AGRICULTURAL CENTER - CENTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMICS AND POLICY

On the motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant conditional approval for the proposed Center for Natural Resource Economics and Policy at the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center for one year, effective July 1, 2004. As required by Board of Regents Academic Affairs Guidelines: Proposed New Centers, Institutes, and Other Academic/Research Units, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center shall submit to the Commissioner of Higher Education a proposal for full approval of the Center by June 30, 2005. If this proposal is not forthcoming by this date, the Board of Regents shall re-examine the need for this center.

PROPOSED NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Northwestern State University - B.S. in Addiction Studies

On the motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the proposed Bachelor of Science in Addiction Studies program (CIP 51.1501) at Northwestern State University, effective immediately, with the stipulation that the University shall submit an implementation report to the Commissioner of Higher Education by August 1, 2005, which documents appropriate faculty workload distribution and coordination with other public degree programs in substance abuse counseling.

Southern University and A&M College - B.S. in E-Business

On the motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the proposed Bachelor of Science in Electronic Business program (CIP 52.1205) at Southern University and A&M College, effective immediately. By August 1, 2005, the University shall submit an implementation report to the Commissioner of Higher Education addressing the program’s enrollment, budget, and contingency funding plans.

PROPOSED LETTER OF INTENT - SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY - B.S. IN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

On the motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to grant approval for the proposed Letter of Intent for a projected B.S.
program in Occupational Health, Safety and Environment (CIP Code 15.0701) at Southeastern Louisiana University, effective immediately.
UPDATE ON CONDITIONALLY APPROVED PROGRAM - SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY IN NEW ORLEANS - M.A. IN MUSEUM STUDIES

On the motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent Oliver, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee to receive the final 2003 Progress Report Relative to the Implementation of the Master of Arts in Museum Studies program (CIP 30.1401) at Southern University in New Orleans. Accordingly, this program shall be granted full approval. An implementation report addressing staff concerns expressed in the staff analysis shall be due by December, 2004.

TEACHER EDUCATION INITIATIVES

Mr. Killebrew noted that updates were given on the activities of the Blue Ribbon Commission, the ranking of Louisiana’s teacher education efforts and plans for implementation of a new State Higher Education Executive Officer (SHEEO) Teacher Quality grant.

REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER - SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED PROGRAM REVIEWS AND OTHER ANTICIPATED ACADEMIC AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES

Mr. Killebrew reiterated that the proposed program reviews are ongoing, and that there are several upcoming special reviews.

ADOPTION OF THE ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF JANUARY 21, 2004

On motion of Regent Henry, seconded by Regent Smith, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting Report of January 21, 2004, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF JANUARY 21, 2004
On behalf of Regent Oliver, Chair of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee, Dr. Jimmy Clarke, Deputy Commissioner for Planning, Research and Performance, presented motions from the Planning, Research and Performance Committee Report of January 21, 2004.

**BOR/BESE 2003 REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE ON SECONDARY TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION ARTICULATION**

On the motion of Regent Oliver, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to adopt the BOR/BESE 2003 Report to the Legislature on Secondary to Postsecondary Education Articulation. The staff is authorized to make non-substantive changes to the report based on input from BESE prior to submission to the Legislature.

**RESPONSE TO HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 213 OF 2003**

On the motion of Regent Oliver, seconded by Regent Henry, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to adopt Response to House Concurrent Resolution No. 213 of the 2003 Louisiana Legislature, instructs the Commissioner to continue discussions with the Department of Education regarding its concerns, and authorizes the Commissioner of Higher Education to submit the report to the Legislature on the Regents’ behalf. In the event that discussions with the State Department of Education result in a revised recommendation, staff will resubmit the recommendation to the Board of Regents for its consideration and action.

**LICENSURE (R.S.17:1808)**

On the motion of Regent Oliver, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to approve a two-year operating license for Southwest University, located in Kenner, Louisiana.

**PROPRIETARY SCHOOLS**

On the motion of Regent Oliver, seconded by Regent Smith, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to approve an initial operating license for the Louisiana School of Bartending, L.L.C., located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
On the motion of Regent Oliver, seconded by Regent Strong, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to approve Associate in Occupational Studies Degree programs in Computer Technology, Criminal Justice, Medical Office Administration, and Radiography at Career Technical College, located in Monroe, Louisiana.

On the motion of Regent Oliver, seconded by Regent Brame, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to approve Associate in Occupational Studies Degree programs in Office Automation (Business Management and Medical Management) at ITI Technical College, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

On the motion of Regent Oliver, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to renew the licenses of the following proprietary schools (initial license date in parentheses):

- Advantage Learning Center (1/26/95)
- American Commercial College (12/5/02)
- Blue Cliff College-Lafayette (1/27/00)
- Court Reporting Institute (1/27/00)
- Gretna Career College (12/19/91)
- H&R Block - Alexandria (11/1/74)
- H&R Block - Baker (11/1/74)
- H&R Block - Baton Rouge (3) (11/1/74)
- H&R Block - Bossier City (11/1/74)
- H&R Block - Chalmette (11/1/74)
- H&R Block - Hammond (11/1/74)
- H&R Block - Houma (11/1/74)
- H&R Block - Lafayette (2) (11/1/74)
- H&R Block - Lake Charles (11/1/74)
- H&R Block - Leesville (11/1/74)
- H&R Block - Metairie (2) (11/1/74)
- H&R Block - Monroe (2) (11/1/74)
- H&R Block - New Orleans (2) (11/1/74)
- H&R Block - Rayne (11/1/74)
- H&R Block - Shreveport (11/1/74)
- H&R Block - Terrytown (11/1/74)
- H&R Block - Shreveport (11/1/74)
- H&R Block - Thibodaux (11/1/74)
- High-Tech Institute--Orlando (12/5/02)
- Infinity Hypnosis Institute, Inc. (12/5/02)
ITI Technical College (1/27/00)
Kaplan Inc. - Baton Rouge (2/26/85)
Kaplan Inc. - New Orleans (2/26/85)
LaFourche Merchant Marine Training Services, Inc. (12/14/89)
Martin International, Inc. (12/9/82)
Metropolitan Community College - Kenner/Metairie (12/5/02)
NASCAR Technical Institute (12/5/02)
National Driving Academy, Inc. (12/5/96)
New Wine Floral Design School (12/6/01)
Northshore Career College (1/22/98)
Remington College - Baton Rouge (1/27/00)
Southland School of Taxidermy (1/27/00)
Southwest Paralegal College (12/7/00)
TransportSafe Training Center, Inc. (12/7/95)

REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Dr. Clarke mentioned the importance for Louisiana’s colleges and universities to meet deadlines for submission of pertinent information to the Board of Regents.

On motion of Regent Oliver, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Planning, Research and Performance Committee to instruct the Commissioner of Higher Education to inform the System Presidents in writing whenever member campuses do not submit data in a timely manner.

ADOPTION OF THE PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF JANUARY 21, 2004

On motion of Regent Oliver, seconded by Regent D’Aquin, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Planning, Research and Performance Committee Meeting Report of January 21, 2004, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF JANUARY 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 Meeting Report of January 21, 2004.
FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE JOINTLY SPONSORED
(REGENTS/NASA) LaSPACE PROGRAM

Graduate Fellowships (GF) Program Component

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Dupré, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve the LaSPACE consultants’ report and funding recommendations relative to the three recommended new Graduate Fellows for academic year 2004-05. The Committee further recommended that both the new and continuing fellowships be paid from $60,000 of FY 2004-05 Support Fund money allocated to the LaSPACE Graduate Fellowships program and the remainder ($40,000) from NASA LaSPACE funds. (The out-of-state consultants’ report is available in the Office of Sponsored Programs.)

Research Enhancement Awards (REA) Program Component

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Dupré, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve the LaSPACE consultants’ report and funding recommendations in the amount of $154,893 relative to the six top-ranked LaSPACE Research Enhancement Awards proposals. 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. (The out-of-state consultants’ report is available in the Office of Sponsored Programs.)

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BoRSF PLANNING AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES RELATIVE TO RESTORATIONS IN THE FY 2003-04 PLAN AND BUDGET

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Dupré, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve the restorations to the FY 2003-04 Board of Regents Support Fund Plan and Budget as recommended by the Planning and Advisory Committees. (See Appendix B of the Committee Report on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BoRSF PLANNING AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES RELATIVE TO THE FY 2004-05 PLAN AND BUDGET

On motion of Regent Brame, seconded by Regent Dupré, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Sponsored Programs Committee to approve the FY 2004-05 Board of Regents Support Fund Plan and Budget as
recommended by the Planning and Advisory Committees. (See Appendix C of the Committee Report on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)
ADOPTION OF THE SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF JANUARY 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 January 21, 2004, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF JANUARY 21, 2004

On behalf of Regent Toups, Chair of the Executive Committee, Mr. Donald Vandal, Deputy Commissioner for Administration, presented the Executive Committee Report of January 21, 2004.

UPDATE ON DESEGREGATION SETTLEMENT

Mr. Vandal mentioned that an Executive Session was called to discuss desegregation issues. A roll call vote was taken and results are noted below.

Yes: (7) Scott Brame, Richard D’Aquin, Reggie Dupré, Frances Henry, Virgil Robinson, Pat Strong, Roland Toups

No: (0)

Abstain: (0)

Absent: (0)

Mr. Vandal said that certain staff were requested to remain in the room for the Executive Session. He continued that no motions were made and no votes were taken during the Executive Session.

ADOPTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT OF JANUARY 21, 2004

On motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent Dupré, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Executive Committee Meeting Report of January 21, 2004, as presented. (Copy on file in the office of the Board of Regents.)
Chair Toups acknowledged Ms. Theresa Hay, Assistant Commissioner for Planning and Research and Mr. Gene Fields, Associate Commissioner for Information Services and Data Management for their hard work in collaborating with the Department of Education in the development and implementation of the Student Transcript System (STS).

Mr. Toups recognized Delgado Community College and Southern University of New Orleans for submitting the test data for the Student Profile System (SSPS) several months in advance of the January 15th deadline.

Mr. Toups also credited Mr. John Wallin, Associate Commissioner for Sponsored Programs Administration, for his expertise in detailing the recommendations of the Planning and Advisory Committee for the BoRSF 2003-04 and 04-05 Plan and Budgets.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER

Commissioner of Higher Education E. Joseph Savoie informed the Board that within the next two weeks, he and the staff will be conducting higher education briefings sessions with House Education Chair Carl Crane and the House Education Committee, as well to the newly appointed Senate Education Chair Chris Ullo and staff.

Dr. Savoie also noted that he and staff met with the system presidents this week to discuss the executive budget proposals submitted to the Regents from the Division of Administration. He said that an appeal letter has been submitted, and a meeting has been set up for next week to meet with Commissioner of Administration Jerry Luke LeBlanc.

Commissioner Savoie pointed out that in the Regents’ packet was an informative bulletin from the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans.
Chair Toups personally thanked Dr. Tim Ryan and Mr. Fredrick Barton from the University of New Orleans for being in attendance today.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business to come before the Board, on motion of Regent Toups, seconded by Regent Strong, the meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m.