

Louisiana Cancer Research Center
Board of Directors Meeting
A Hybrid Meeting was held
On February 1, 2024 @ 3:00pm

The following members of the Board of Directors were in attendance:

Dr. Richard DiCarlo, Interim Dean, School of Medicine, LSU Health, Chairman
Dr. Lee Hamm, Senior Vice President & Dean, School of Medicine, Tulane University, Vice-Chairman
Ms. Barbara Goodson, Executive Director, Firefighters' Retirement System,
Dr. Patrice Delafontaine, Executive Dean, School of Medicine, Tulane University
Dr. Gene D'Amour, Special Assistant to the President, Xavier University
Dr. Valentine Nfonsam, Professor and Chair of Surgery -School of Medicine, LSU Health
Ms. Carroll Suggs
Ms. Pamela Ryan
Mr. Walter Leger, Jr., Senior Partner, Leger & Shaw Attorneys and Counselors
Mr. Arthur Cooper, Senior Director, Special Projects, Louisiana Economic Development
Dr. Brian Moore, Director, Ochsner Cancer Institute

The following members of the Board of Directors were not in attendance.

Mr. Darren Mire, Member, Board of Regents; Director of Valuation, Orleans Parish Assessor's Office

Also, present were:

Dr. Joe W. Ramos, Director & Chief Executive Officer, LCRC
Ms. Deborah Reeder, Chief Financial Officer, LCRC
Mr. Paige Sensenbrenner, Senior Partner, Adams & Reese, Legal Counsel, LCRC
Mr. Ryan Graffagnini, Controller, LCRC
Dr. John Cole, Director of Clinical Cancer Research, Ochsner Health
Dr. Thomas Wiese, Professor, Xavier University
Dr. Michael Celestin, Director, Tobacco Control Initiative, , LSU Health
Ms. Stephanie Wiebke, Program Manager, Xavier University
Ms. Keadren Green, Sr. Clinical Administrator, Tulane University
Ms. Shelina Davis, CEO, LPHI
Dr. Stefan Grant, Deputy Director, Tulane University
Dr. Augusto Ochoa, Deputy Director, LSU-LCMC Cancer Center, Chair, Interdisciplinary Oncology, LSU Health
Dr. Donna Williams, Director, LCP, Associate Dean for Public Health Practice, LSU Health
Ms. Cheryl Floyd, Associate Director, Finance, LPHI
Dr. Earl Benjamin-Robinson, Director, TFL and COE, LCRC
Ms. Raenique Sylve, Program Manager, COE, LCRC

Dr. DiCarlo called the meeting to order. The roll was called and there was a quorum.

Dr. DiCarlo requested approval of the minutes of the November 16, 2023, Board meeting.

A motion was made by **Ms. Ryan** and seconded by **Dr. Moore**.

RESOLVED, with all in favor, to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2023, Board meeting.

Dr. DiCarlo called for the Finance Committee Reports.

Mr. Ryan Graffagnini presented the FY24 Budget to Actual Summary that includes LCRC activity to date by program.

Ms. Reeder presented the Certificate of Resolution for LCRC's Section 125 Premium Only Plan (POP) for plan year beginning March 1, 2024, and ending February 28, 2025. The plan provides for employee pre-tax reductions for health-related premiums and requires adoption by the Board.

A motion was made by **Dr. Delafontaine** and seconded by **Ms. Ryan**.

RESOLVED, with all in favor, to approve LCRC Section 125 Premium Only Plan (POP) for plan year ending February 28,2025.

Ms. Reeder presented a summary of the midyear budget revisions and called for a presentation by the institution.

Dr. Augusto Ochoa presented the LSU Mid-Year Budget revisions highlights:

1. Funds were moved from Faculty Recruitment Shared Resources for personnel to start-up a new biorepository,
2. Funds were also reallocated for that was purchased last budget year but received this budget year.

Ms. Ryan inquired what are the difficulties with recruitment and if cost of living was a factor. Dr. Ochoa stated yes, that and related issues affect recruitment, but those are only some factors in the process to locate and hire qualified candidates. Dr. Ramos stated that it is the “ebb and flow” of the recruitment process.

Dr. Stefan Grant presented clarification of the Tulane Mid-Year Budget revisions as redistribution of funds, no dollar change.

Dr. Wiese presented clarification of the Xavier Mid-Year Budget revisions focus on two areas:

1. Personnel removed from the COE sub-budget
2. Funds were reallocated to engage a recruitment firm for faculty recruitment purposes.

Ms. Reeder presented the slight changes to the Cancer Research Training and Education Coordination (CRTEC) budget which properly reallocated funds to be consistent with current program initiatives. The total budget requests for LCRC remain unchanged.

A motion was made by **Ms. Goodson** and seconded by **Dr. Delafontaine**.

RESOLVED, with all in favor, to approve all revised mid-year budgets as presented, and to ratify those not requiring revisions.

Copies of all mid-year budgets were distributed to the Board and are on file at LCRC.

Dr. DiCarlo called for the Director/CEO Report

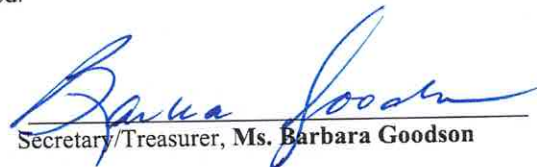
Dr. Ramos gave an update on the LCRC including:

Dr. Ramos provided the final EAC report to the Board. It was distributed to the Board and is on file.

Dr. Donna Williams and Dr. Earl Benjamin-Robinson presented an update on the Community Outreach and Engagement program. They provided an overview of current focus areas (Tobacco-Free Living and Tobacco Cessation Initiative) and key new initiatives. They highlighted their work in organizing promising practices symposiums in northern Louisiana, potential for developing a cancer screening registry, and improving screening/post screening navigation.

Dr. Moore chaired the remainder of the meeting and called for any new business.

With no further discussion or business, the meeting adjourned.


Secretary/Treasurer, **Ms. Barbara Goodson**