

Louisiana Cancer Research Center  
Board of Directors Meeting  
A Hybrid Meeting was held  
On March 27, 2025, at 3:00 p.m.

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

**Dr. Lee Hamm**, Senior Vice President & Dean, School of Medicine, Tulane University, Chairman  
**Dr. Richard DiCarlo**, Dean, School of Medicine, LSU Health, Vice-Chairman  
**Ms. Barbara Goodson**, Executive Director, Firefighters' Retirement System, Secretary/Treasurer  
**Dr. Brian Boulmay**, Professor of Clinical Medicine, Hematology and Oncology, LSU Health  
**Ms. Paige Carter**, Chief Business Development Officer, Louisiana Economic Development  
**Dr. Patrice Delafontaine**, Executive Dean, School of Medicine, Tulane University  
**Mr. Walter Leger, Jr**, Senior Partner, Leger & Shaw Attorneys and Counselors  
**Mr. Darren Mire**, Member, Board of Regents; Director of Valuation, Orleans Parish Assessor's Office  
**Dr. Florastine Payton-Stewart**, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs, Xavier University  
**Ms. Pamela Ryan**  
**Ms. Carroll Suggs**

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

**Dr. Brian Moore**, Director, Ochsner Cancer Institute

Also, present were:

Mr. Sven Davisson, Chief Administrative Officer, LCRC  
Mr. Paige Sensenbrenner, Senior Partner, Adams & Reese, Legal Counsel, LCRC  
Ms. Deborah Reeder, Chief Financial Officer, LCRC  
Mr. Ryan Graffagnini, Controller, LCRC  
Dr. Stefan Grant, Chief, Hematology & Medical Oncology, Director, Tulane Cancer Center, Tulane University  
Dr. Lucio Miele, Director, LSU LCMC Health Cancer Center, LSU Health  
Ms. Seanne Falconer, Executive Director, Tulane Cancer Center  
Ms. Tammy Vaccaro, Sr. Research Administrator, Tulane Cancer Center & Radiation Oncology  
Dr. John Cole, Director of Clinical Cancer Research, Ochsner Health  
Ms. Lee Sabatini, Director, External Affairs, LSU LCMC Health Cancer Center, LSU Health  
Ms. Janice Williams-Lucas, Business Manager, LSU LCMC Health Cancer Center, LSU Health  
Ms. Stephanie Wiebke, Sr. Program Manager, Xavier University  
Mr. Terrell Neal, CFO, Louisiana Public Health Institute  
Ms. Shelina Davis, CEO, Louisiana Public Health Institute  
Dr. Michael Celestin, Director, Tobacco Control Initiative, LSU Health  
Dr. Christopher Williams, Professor, Chair of Basic Pharmaceutical Sciences, Xavier University  
Dr. Donna Williams, Public Health & Health System Research – HIV, LSU Health  
Dr. Earl Benjamin-Robinson, Director, TFL and COE, LCRC  
Dr. Augusto Ochoa, Deputy Director, LSU LCMC Cancer Center, LSU Health

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

**Dr. Hamm** requested approval of the minutes of the January 30, 2025, Board meeting.

A motion was made by **Dr. Delafontaine** and seconded by **Dr. DiCarlo** to accept the January 30, 2025, meeting minutes.

RESOLVED, with all in favor, to approve the minutes of the January 30, 2025, Board meeting.

**Dr. Hamm** called for the Finance Committee Report.

**Ms. Goodson** stated that Mr. Graffagnini would present the FY25 Budget to Actual Summary, LCRC activity to date by program in detail. Mr. Graffagnini presented the Budget to Actuals for all budget components.

**Ms. Goodson** concluded the Finance Committee report.

**Dr. Hamm** called for the Research Update report.

Dr. Grant and Dr. Miele presented a joint update on the LCRC Research. :

The primary focus of the meeting was the visionary leadership at LCRC, which emphasizes a collaborative legacy and the development of a dynamic cancer research infrastructure. This initiative prioritizes translational research and community service, aiming to elevate Louisiana's cancer research presence nationally.

Drs. Grant and Miele outlined the updated leadership structure, noting that they meet weekly with Mr. Davisson, while Cabinet members and extended leadership each convene monthly. This meeting structure supports cross-functional alignment and rapid communication to further LCRC's mission.

This governance structure designates the Cabinet as advisory to the two Co-Directors, with final decision-making authority resting with them. This arrangement is intended to foster clarity in leadership, transparency, and accountability, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of joint research programs.

They discussed how the recent federal science funding cuts threaten the research landscape in Louisiana. Mr. Davisson provided a single-page information sheet summarizing potential impacts in Louisiana. Delays and freezes in research projects jeopardize competitiveness and patient care, with anticipated job losses among technicians and graduate students.

**Dr. Hamm** called for an update from the Office of Community Engagement.

Dr. Benjamin-Robinson provided an update on the Community Health Workers (CHWs) and Nurse Navigators programs and their role in improving access to cancer screenings and education. CHWs help individuals and their families navigate and access community cancer screening services, adopt healthy behaviors, reduce tobacco use, and promote HPV vaccination. The Nurse Navigators initiate partnerships with community organizations providing navigation services to underserved people to implement education on cancer screening services and clinical trials. Together, the Community Health Workers & Nurse Navigators collaborate by utilizing LCP's Online Referral QR Code System, where the CHWs engage potential participants at community events to identify eligible participants, while the Nurse Navigators facilitate next steps with participants in their cancer screening process.

**Dr. Hamm** called for any old business.

Mr. Davisson presented a Charter for the LCRC Cabinet for review and adoption. He proposed the formal establishment of the LCRC Cabinet as an advisory body for the LCRC co-Directors to provide scientific and strategic guidance. Davisson noted that the current Cabinet and co-Directors are working well together during this transition, Drs. Grant and Miele.

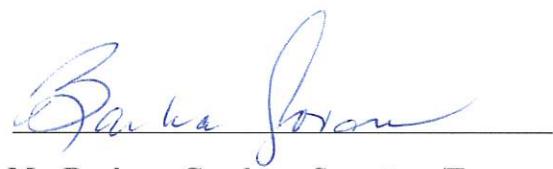
A motion was made by **Mr. Leger** and seconded by **Dr. Delafontaine**.

RESOLVED, with all in favor, to approve/ratify the LCRC Cabinet Charter as presented which charges the Directors with overseeing the scientific initiatives and the Chief Administrative Officer oversees the operations and administrative functions.

Mr. Sensenbrenner requested that the Amendment to the CEA be withdrawn from the agenda as a topic for discussion at this time.

**Dr. Hamm** called for any new business. There was none.

With no further discussion or business, the meeting adjourned.



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Ms. Barbara Goodson, Secretary/Treasurer