

Louisiana Cancer Research Center
Board of Directors Meeting
A Hybrid Meeting was held
On March 28, 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, Secretary/Treasurer
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. Pamela Ryan
Mr. Arthur Cooper, Senior Director, Special Projects, Louisiana Economic Development
Mr. Darren Mire, Member, Board of Regents; Director of Valuation, Orleans Parish Assessor's Office

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

Dr. Brian Moore, Director, Ochsner Cancer Institute
Ms. Carroll Suggs
Mr. Walter Leger, Jr., Senior Partner, Leger & Shaw Attorneys and Counselors

Also, present were:

Dr. Joe W. Ramos, Director & Chief Executive Officer, LCRC
Ms. Deborah Reeder, Chief Financial Officer, LCRC
Mr. Sven Davisson, Chief Administrative 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. Michael Celestin, Director, Tobacco Control Initiative, LSU Health
Ms. Keadren Green, Sr. Clinical Administrator, Tulane University
Ms. Shelina Davis, CEO, LPHI
Dr. Stefan Grant, Chief, Hematology & Medical Oncology, Director, Tulane Cancer Center, Tulane University
Dr. Augusto Ochoa, Deputy Director, LSU-LCMC Cancer Center, Chair, Interdisciplinary Oncology, LSU Health
Dr. Earl Benjamin-Robinson, Director, TFL and COE, LCRC
Ms. Janice Williams-Lucas, MPH, Business Manager 3, LSU Cancer Center, LSU Health
Dr. John Kirwan, Pennington Biomedical Research Center
Dr. Justin Brown, Pennington Biomedical Research Center

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 February 1, 2024, Board meeting.

A motion was made by **Ms. Ryan** and seconded by **Dr. Delafontaine**.
RESOLVED, with all in favor, to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2024, Board meeting.

Dr. DiCarlo called for the Finance Committee Reports.

Mr. Ryan Graffagnini presented the FY24 Financial Updates. A copy of the financial report was distributed in the Board binders.

Ms. Reeder presented the Lease Amendment Agreement for LSU's Cancer Center Biobank (CCB) and Clinical Trials Office (CTO) space on the fifth floor of the LCRC building for review and requested approval of the Board. The additional space to be leased to LSU will generate approximately \$100k in annual revenue.

A motion was made by **Mr. Mire** and seconded by **Ms. Ryan**.

RESOLVED, with all in favor, to approve the Lease Amendment Agreement for LSU's CCB and CTO space on the fifth floor of the LCRC building.

Dr. DiCarlo called for the Director/CEO Report

Dr. Ramos gave an update on the LCRC including:

Dr. Ramos stated the LCRC is in the building phase now. That means strategic recruitment, targeted pilot funds and grant writing support to grow our extramural funding base across programs. LCRC leadership is working with Tulane, Xavier, and LSU on recruitment. Funds are committed in two Tulane offer letters for startup and in two for LSU at the moment. Funds are also committed for Xavier recruitment.

First Development funds outcomes will be decided ahead of the Scientific Retreat to be held on 5.17.2024. The Annual Scientific Retreat will once again be hosted by Xavier and will be an in-person and Hybrid event. The special guest speaker will be Dr. Carol Bult, Professor from Jackson Laboratories (JAX). Her work bridges the digital biology divide by integrating computational informatics with biomedical research. She served as the Deputy Director of the JAX Cancer Center (which is NCI Designated), currently as the center's Associate Director of Plan to Enhance Diversity and serves as the Scientific Director of the Patient Derived Xenograft (PDX) and Cancer Avatar program. The PDX programs is a resource of deeply characterized and well-annotated "human to mouse" cancer models with a focus on bladder, lung, colon, breast, and pediatric cancer.

LCRC and Xavier co-hosted the NIH All of Us program at the LCRC on March 15. This is a large program developing and following a diverse cohort aimed at having one million people enrolled to develop the largest database of health-related information including lifestyle and environmental factors. The data includes data from surveys, electronic health records, whole genome sequences and genotyping.

On March 28, the LCRC was visited by a Breast Cancer Survivor, Agnes Judge, who is visiting cancer centers in all fifty states and providing inspiration to breast cancer survivors across the country and donating towards cancer research. The LCRC was the 19th stop on her 50-state tour.

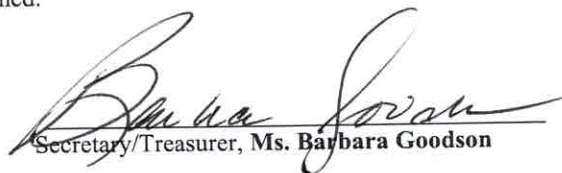
Pennington presentation: Dr. Ramos had the privilege of touring the state in his first month here at LCRC and learning about the great talent Louisiana has in every corner working on different aspects of reducing Louisiana's high cancer burden. During that trip, Dr. Ramos had his first visit to Pennington. They have exceedingly high impact work known worldwide in nutrition, obesity, and metabolism. They are also integral to the LSU Cancer Center initiative. NCI approved that these grants as well as the vet school's grants will be part of our eventual NCI Designation application and count towards all metrics.

Pennington's overview was presented by Drs. John Kiwan and Justin Brown. A copy of the report is on file. They provided an overview of Pennington and identified several areas of ongoing and growing cancer research including:

- Metabolism, obesity, nutrition, and exercise related to cancer
- Preclinical animal models
- Drug trials, lifestyle modification trials
- Select research cores

Dr. DiCarlo called for any new business.

With no further discussion or business, the meeting adjourned.


Secretary/Treasurer, Ms. Barbara Goodson