# Southern University and A&M College System BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING Board of Supervisors Meeting Board

## **Board of Supervisors Meeting Room**

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building Baton Rouge, Louisiana 9 a.m. Friday, April 21, 2017

#### Minutes

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by Board Chair Mrs. Ann A. Smith. The invocation was given by the Rev. Joe R. Gant.

#### **PRESENT**

Mrs. Ann Smith, Dr. Leroy Davis, Mr. Raymond Fondel, Ms. Jordan Franklin, Dr. Curman Gaines, Rev. Joe R. Gant, Mr. Richard Hilliard, Atty. Patrick Magee, Atty. Domoine Rutledge, Mr. Michael Small, and Dr. Leon R. Tarver II.

#### **ABSENT**

Atty. Tony Clayton, Rev. Donald R. Henry, Rev. Samuel Tolbert and Dr. Rani Whitfield

## UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING

System President Ray Belton, Chief of Staff Robyn Merrick, Executive Vice President and Provost M. Christopher Brown, Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs Flandus McClinton, Chancellors Dr. Lisa Mims Devezin (SUNO), Dr. Bobby Phills (SUAREC), Dr. Rodney Ellis (SUSLA), and Atty. John Pierre (SULC).

#### **BOARD COUNSEL**

Attys. Winston DeCuir, Jr., and Tracie Woods

## ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Friday, April 21, 2017 9:00 A.M.

Board of Supervisors Meeting Room 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building Southern University and A&M College Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70813

#### **MINUTES**

Board Chair Mrs. Ann A. Smith announced the convening of the Academic Affairs Committee. Academic Affairs Committee Chair Dr. Curman Gaines called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call: Dr. Curman Gaines, Rev. Joe R. Gant, Jr., Dr. Leon R. Tarver, II, Dr. Leroy Davis, Ms. Jordan Franklin, Mrs. Ann A. Smith

Absent: Atty. Tony M. Clayton

#### AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon the motion by Rev. Joe R. Gant, Jr. and seconded by Dr. Leon R. Tarver II the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed unanimously.

## AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS

**NONE** 

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

U.S. Association of Track and Field

Mr. Bill Shelton of the U.S. Association of Track and Field attended the meeting to present \$8,000 for four scholarships to SU Law Center students. The group also committed to providing additional scholarship money to the Law Center for scholarships.

Mr. Benson Kinney, Student Representative from the LA Board of Regents

Mr. Kinney was unable to attend and will present information during the May 12th Board of Supervisors meeting.

### **AGENDA ITEM 6: ACTION ITEMS**

Upon the motion by Dr. Tarver and seconded by Ms. Franklin, Items 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D were recommended for approval in globo.

## A. Request Approval of Tenure and Promotion Recommendations, SULC

Faculty Member	Department	Present Rank	Action
Prof. Wilmai Rivera-Perez	Law Center	Associate Professor	Tenure & Promotion

- B. Request Approval to Award the Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Dr. Dolly Deselle Adams, SUBR
- C. Request Approval to Award the Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to His Excellency Ambassador Mninwa Johannes Mahlangu, SUBR
- D. Request Approval of Certification of Candidates for Graduation (Spring 2017) SUBR, SUNO, SULC & SUSLA
- E. Approval of Appointment of Dr. Charles Vincent to the Louis Jetson-Lamar Corporation Endowed Professorship, SUBR

Upon the motion by Dr. Davis and seconded by Dr. Tarver the appointment of Dr. Charles Vincent to the Louis Jetson-Lamar Corporation Endowed Professorship was recommended for approval.

Motion passed.

## **AGENDA ITEMS 7: INFORMATION ITEMS**

## A. Faculty Accountability/Post-Tenure Review, SUBR

Dr. Brown provided an update on Faculty Accountability and Post-Tenure Review at the SUBR campus. He stated that after the University declared financial exigency the practice of performing faculty evaluations did not continue. An excellent faculty evaluation usually meant that faculty members would be promoted to the next rank and receive an increase in pay; however, with the exigency declaration faculty members ceased working toward this achievement. The Board already has an approved post-tenure review that was adopted in 2009. Brown stated that the updated policy would be forthcoming.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 8: OTHER BUSINESS**

Board Members Dr. Davis and Dr. Gaines both attended the Small College Initiative Conference sponsored by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools along with Law Center administrators including Chancellor Pierre, Professors Roederick White and Professor Alfreda Diamond. Board Members Davis and Gaines both expressed appreciation to Chancellor Pierre for the invitation to attend the conference

#### **AGENDA ITEM 9: ADJOURNMENT**

Upon the motion by Dr. Tarver and seconded by Dr. Davis the Academic Affairs Committee adjourned.

#### FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

(Following the Academic Affairs Committee)
Board of Supervisors Meeting Room

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building
Southern University and A&M College
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70813

#### **MINUTES**

The Facilities and Property Committee was called to order by Mr. Raymond Fondel.

Roll Call: Dr. Leroy Davis, Mr. Raymond Fondel, Jr., Mr. Richard Hilliard, Dr. Leon R. Tarver II, Mrs. Ann A. Smith

Absent: Rev. Donald R. Henry, Dr. Rani Whitfield

#### **AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon the motion by Dr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Hilliard the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

NONE

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: INFORMATION ITEMS**

## A. Priority Projects Updates, by Campuses

System Vice President Flandus McClinton stated that a summary of the priority projects was included in the meeting packet, but reviewed the status of each project.

## **B.** Status of Deferred Maintenance Projects

Eli Guillory System Director of Facilities Planning discussed the status of deferred maintenance projects. In response to a question from Board Member Rutledge regarding whether the funding was in place for all the projects, Mr. Guillory said that the funding is not in place. He stated that the University would know the status of the funding by the end of the legislative session. Atty. Rutledge questioned whether the projects have been prioritized. Mr. Guillory stated that they are prioritized; however, Dr. Tarver stated that even though the University has assigned a priority to the projects, when the list is submitted to the Board of Regents, the priority may be reprioritized.

## C. Update on Capitol Priorities

Mr. Guillory stated that the list of capitol priorities was included in the meeting materials and reviewed the items on the list

#### **AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS**

**NONE** 

#### **AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT**

Upon the motion by Dr. Tarver and seconded by Mr. Hilliard the Facilities and Property Committee adjourned.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

(Following the Facilities and Property Committee)
Board of Supervisors Meeting Room
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building
Southern University and A&M College
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70813

#### **MINUTES**

The Finance Committee was called to order by Committee Chair Atty. Domoine Rutledge.

Roll Call: Atty. Rutledge, Rev. Joe R. Gant, Jr., Mr. Richard Hilliard, Dr. Leon R. Tarver II, Mrs. Ann A. Smith

Absent: Atty. Tony Clayton, Rev. Donald R. Henry

#### **AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon the motion by Rev. Gant and seconded by Dr. Tarver the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**NONE** 

## **AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEMS**

#### A. Request Approval of Student Self-Assessed Fees, SUBR

Upon the motion by Rev. Gant and seconded by Dr. Tarver the student self-assessed fees were recommended for approval.

Motion passed.

# **B.** Request Approval of Policies and Procedures Governing Building and Facility Rental and Usage, SUS

Upon the motion by Dr. Tarver and seconded by Rev. Gant the Policies and Procedures Governing Building and Facility Rental and Usage, SUS was recommended for approval.

Motion passed.

## C. Request Approval of Policies and Procedures Governing the Handling of Cash, SUS

System Vice President Flandus McClinton stated that the policy presented is an update to the policy passed by the Board in 2000 and stated that all policies are being reviewed for updating.

Upon the motion by Rev. Gant and seconded by Dr. Tarver the **Policies and Procedures Governing the Handling of Cash, SUS** was recommended for approval.

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Atty. Rutledge stated that there should be more delineation in the policy as it relates to the benefits that are afforded to the group identified in the policy as internal group. System Vice President McClinton stated that in the attachment to the policy there is a breakdown of costs and there is also a percentage discount that is available to internal groups for the various buildings. Atty Rutledge also wanted to know whether groups like the SU Foundation and the Alumni Federation would be able to access facilities at no cost or a reduced cost. Mr. McClinton stated that the System President has the authority to waive fees for such groups.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 6: INFORMATION ITEMS**

### A. Interim Financial Report as of January 2017

System Vice President McClinton informed members of the board that he has met with all chief financial officers and who have submitted a forecast for the remainder of the year. He stated that all System Campuses are on target to close the year with a balanced budget.

## **AGENDA ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS**

**NONE** 

#### AGENDA ITEM 8: ADJOURNMENT

Upon the motion by Rev. Gant and seconded by Mr. Hilliard the finance committee adjourned.

#### TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

(Following the Finance Committee)
Board of Supervisors Meeting Room

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building
Southern University and A&M College
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70813

#### **MINUTES**

The technology committee was called to order by Committee Chair Mike Small.

**Roll Call**: Mr. Mike Small, Mr. Richard Hilliard, Mr. Raymond Fondel, Jr., Dr. Rani Whitfield and Mrs. Ann A. Smith

Absent: Rev. Samuel C. Tolbert, Dr. Rani Whitfield

#### **AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon the motion by Mr. Hilliard and seconded by Mr. Raymond Fondel, Jr. the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed unanimously.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**NONE** 

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEM**

## A. Information Technology Reorganizational Plan, SULC

Chancellor John Pierre stated that a copy of the reorganizational plan for IT at the SU Law Center was included in the meeting packet. Chancellor Pierre stated that the reorganization is being done to create efficiencies in back office operations.

Upon the motion by Mr. Fondel and seconded by Mr. Hilliard the technology committee adjourned.

Motion passed.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 6: INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

## A. A Pathway Forward: Implementing SU System IT Transformation Plan and Shared Services, SUS

Dr. Gabriel Fagbeyiro gave a brief synopsis on strategies that can be used to realize efficiencies on SU campuses as it relates to technology. A copy of the plan was included in each meeting packet. Rev. Gant asked that the comprehensive IT plan be sent to members of the board prior to the meeting so that they will have time to review the plan.

### **AGENDA ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS**

**NONE** 

### **AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT**

Upon the motion by Mr. Fondel and seconded by Mr. Hilliard the technology committee adjourned.

#### PERSONNEL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

(Following the Technology Committee)
Board of Supervisors Meeting Room
2nd Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building
Southern University and A&M College
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70813

#### **MINUTES**

The personnel affairs committee was called to order by Committee Chair Atty. Patrick Magee.

**Roll Call**: Atty. Magee, Dr. Curman Gaines, Rev. Joe R. Gant, Jr., Dr. Leon R. Tarver II, and Mrs. Ann A. Smith

Absent: Rev. Donald R. Henry, Atty. Tony Clayton

#### AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon the motion by Dr. Tarver and seconded by Dr. Gaines the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed unanimously.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dr. Diola Bagayoko, spoke in support of the proposed appointment for Dr. Luria Stubblefield and expressed his dismay at losing Dr. M. Christopher Brown as Provost.

SUBR sociology professor Dr. Anthony Igiede also expressed his disappointment at losing Provost Brown.

Dr. Frank Martin, Chair of the Business Administration department at SUNO spoke in support of the appointment of Dr. David Adebogye as Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Evening and Weekend Affairs/Accreditation Liaison.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEMS**

## A. Request Approval of Personnel Action on Positions greater than \$60,000

Upon the motion by Mr. Fondel and seconded by Dr. Tarver personnel action items 5 A 1 through 13 was recommended for approval.

Motion passed.

Atty. Magee asked each Chancellor to discuss the personnel actions from their respective campuses.

SUNO Chancellor Dr. Lisa Mims stated that the appointment of Dr. David Adebogye would allow the SUNO campus to better serve the adult learner population in New Orleans and to be successful in reaffirmation of its accreditation.

Name	Position/Campus	Salary		
NEW APPOINTMENTS				
1. Phebe Pydras	Director of the Law Library New Appointment, SULC	\$120,000		
2. Lata Johnson	Associate Vice Chancellor/CIO, Technology, Security & Telecommunications New Appointment, SULC	\$104,000		
3. Tramelle Williams	IT Network Administrator/Security Specialist New Appointment, SULC	\$70,000		
4. Joycelyn Johnson	Chief of Police New Appointment, SUBR	\$80,000		
5. Brenda Jackson	Vice Chancellor for Research and Strategic Initiatives/Executive Director of Title III New Appointment, SUNO	\$90,000		
6. Donna Grant	Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management New Appointment, SUNO	\$95,000		
7. Luria Young	Interim Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost New Appointment, SUS/SUBR	\$180,000		
8. Camacia Smith-Ross	Interim Vice Provost, Academic Affairs, New Appointment, SUBR	\$ 90,000		
9. Willie Francois	Director of Enterprise Research Planning, SUS New Appointment	N/A		
10. Rachel Carriere	Director of Web Application (Interim)	N/A		
Name	Position/Campus	Salary		
TITLE CHANGES ONLY				
11. David Adegboye	Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Evening and Weekend Affairs/Accreditation Liaison, SUNO	N/A		
12. Gloria Moultrie	Chief Administrative Officer of Community Outreach Alumni Affairs and Public Relations, SUNO	N/A		
13. Terrance Cyriaque	IT Security Manager, SUBR	N/A		

## B. Request Approval for Medical Leave of Absence for Stephen McGuire, SUBR

Upon the motion by Dr. Tarver and seconded by Dr. Gaines the medical leave of absence for Dr. Stephen McGuire was recommended for approval.

Motion Passed

## **AGENDA ITEM 6: INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

President Belton explained that the information item presented was the University's attempt to bring the salaries of the University police officers up to current civil service allowances. The University made the request to the Louisiana State Civil Service department to amend the Special Entrance Rates for several categories of officers which would allow the University to attract and retain competent officers. Dr. Belton also stated that he is working to give salary adjustments across the board for all civil service employees on the campus.

AGENDA ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS NONE

#### **AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT**

Upon the motion by Rev. Gant and seconded by Mrs. Smith the personnel affairs committee adjourned.

#### SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

(Following the Personnel Affairs Committee)
Board of Supervisors Meeting Room
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building
Southern University and A&M College
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70813

#### **MINUTES**

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by Board Chair Mrs. Ann A. Smith. All members were present except Rev. Donald R. Henry, Rev. Samuel Tolbert. and Dr. Rani Whitfield.

#### AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon the motion by Rev. Gant and seconded by Mr. Mike Small the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed unanimously.

## **AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**NONE** 

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

The *Above and Beyond Award* was presented to Mr. Major Brock, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Success at the Shreveport campus. Mrs. Smith presented a plaque and Dr. Belton presented a certificate to Mr. Brock. SUSLA Chancellor Rodney Ellis spoke about Mr. Brock's commitment to student success and retention and stated that because of his efforts the campus passed the QEP Quality Enhancement Plan with no recommendations. Mr. Brock thanked members of the board and Board Chair Mrs. Ann Smith for the acknowledgement.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 6: ACTION ITEMS**

## A. Approval of Minutes of the March 31, 2017 meeting

Upon the motion by Mr. Hilliard and seconded by Mr. Raymond Fondel, Jr. the minutes were recommended for adoption.

Motion passed.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that the minutes of the April 21, 2017, meeting, be and they are hereby approved.

#### **B.** Approval of Committee Reports and Recommendations

Upon the motion by Rev. Gant and seconded by Dr. Davis. the committee reports were recommended for adoption.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the actions taken by the Academic Affairs Committee, Facilities and Property Committee, Finance Committee, Technology Committee and Personnel Affairs Committee be and they are hereby approved.

#### 1. Academic Affairs

a. Request Approval of Tenure and Promotion Recommendation, SULC

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the tenure and promotion recommendation for Associate Professor Wilmai Rivera-Perez, SULC is hereby approved.

b. Request Approval to Request Approval to Award the Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Dr. Dolly Deselle Adams, SUBR

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the honorary doctorate of Humane Letters degree for Dr. Dolly Deselle Adams, SUBR be and it is hereby approved.

c. Request Approval to Award the Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to His Excellency Ambassador Mninwa Johannes Mahlangu, SUBR

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that honorary doctorate of Humane Letters degree for His Excellency Ambassador Mninwa Johannes Mahlangu, SUBR be and it is hereby approved

d. Request Approval of Certification of Candidates for Graduation (Spring 2017) SUBR, SUNO, SULC & SUSLA

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the resolutions presented for the certification of candidates for Spring 2017 Commencement for SUBR, SUNO, SULC, and SUSLA be and they are hereby approved.

e. .Approval of Appointment of Dr. Charles Vincent to the Louis Jetson-Lamar Corporation Endowed Professorship, SUBR

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that appointment of Dr. Charles Vincent to the Louis Jetson-Lamar Corporation Endowed Professorship, SUBR be and it is hereby approved.

## 2. Facilities and Property Committee

No action items were presented. The information items presented will be filed for auditing purposes.

#### 3. Finance Committee

## a. Request Approval of Student Self-Assessed Fees, SUBR

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that the Student Self-Assessed Fees, SUBR be and it is hereby approved.

## b. Request Approval of Policies and Procedures Governing Building and Facility Rental and Usage, SUS

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that the Policies and Procedures Governing Building and Facility Rental and Usage, SUS be and it is hereby approved.

## c. Request Approval of Policies and Procedures Governing the Handling of Cash, SUS

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that the Policies and Procedures Governing the Handling of Cash, SUS be and it is hereby approved.

## 4. Technology Committee

## a. Information Technology Reorganizational Plan, SULC

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that the Information Technology Reorganizational Plan, SULC be and it is hereby approved.

#### 5. Personnel Affairs Committee

#### a. Approval of Personnel Action on Positions greater than \$60,000

## 1. Phebe Poydras

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that the new appointment of Phybe Pydras as Director of the Law Library, SULC at a salary of \$ 120,000 be and it hereby is approved.

#### 2. Lata Johnson

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that the new appointment of Lata Johnson, as Associate Vice Chancellor/CIO Technology, Security & Telecommunications, SULC at a salary of \$104,000 be and it hereby is approved.

#### 3. Tramelle Williams

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that new appointment of Tramelle Williams as IT Network Administrator/Security Specialist, SULC at a salary of \$70,000 be and it hereby is approved.

## 4. Joycelyn Johnson

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that new appointment of Joycelyn Johnson as Chief of Police, SUBR at a salary of \$80,000 be and it hereby is approved.

#### 5. Brenda Jackson

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that new appointment of Brenda Jackson as Vice Chancellor for Research and Strategic Initiatives/Executive Director of Title II, SUNO at a salary of \$90,000 be and it hereby is approved.

#### 6. Donna Grant

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that new appointment of Donna Grant as Vice Chancellor for Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, SUNO at a salary of \$95,000 be and it hereby is approved.

#### 7. Luria Young

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that new appointment of Luria Young as Interim Executive Vice President for Student Affairs and Provost, SUS/SUBR at a salary of \$180,000 be and it hereby is approved.

#### 8. Camacia Smith-Ross

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that new appointment of Camacia Smith-Ross as Interim Vice Provost, Academic Affairs, SUBR at a salary of \$90,000 be and it hereby is approved.

#### 9. Willie François

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that new appointment/title change for Willie Francois as Director of Enterprise Research Planning, SUS, be and it hereby is approved.

#### 10. Rachel Carriere

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that the new appointment/title change for Rachel Carriere as Interim Director of Web Application, SUBR be and it hereby is approved.

#### 11. David Adegboye

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that the title change for David Adegboye as Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Evening and Weekend Affairs/Accreditation Liaison, SUNO be and it hereby is approved.

#### 12. Gloria Moultrie

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that the title change for Gloria Moultrie as Chief Administrative Officer of Community Outreach, Alumni Affairs and Public Relations, SUNO be and it hereby is approved.

#### 13. Terrance Cyriaque

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that the new appointment/title change for Terrance Cyriaque as IT Security Manager, SUBR be and it hereby is approved.

## b. Request Approval of Medical Leave for Dr. Stephen McGuire, SUBR

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that the medical leave for Dr. Stephen McGuire as Interim Director of Web Application, SUBR be and it hereby is approved.

#### AGENDA ITEM 7: INFORMATION ITEM

#### a. Legislative Update

Mr. Rodney Braxton distributed a copy of a report that included a list of current legislation that has been proposed that may affect higher education and Southern University. Mr. Braxton highlighted several items from the report and stated that there could be an \$18 million cut to higher education this session.

Rev. Gant asked that weekly reports be sent to members of the board so that they are informed about the bills that are progressing through the session. Mrs. Smith asked about the SU Day at the Capitol and the reason why the date June 5 had been selected. Mr. Braxton stated that usually the day is coordinated through the Speaker's office, but the Speaker's office did not get a response from the University in a timely manner. The June 5<sup>th</sup> date was the earliest date that was available in the Capitol Rotunda that could accommodate the event. Dr. Tarver stated that June 5<sup>th</sup> is not late, because all legislators would be present at that time and we might have an opportunity to influence decisions. Mr. Braxton added that usually the most controversial bills are in conference and Dr. Davis asked about new revenue that could be generated from the Gas Tax. Mr. Braxton stated that in his meetings with legislators there are no plans for new revenue that would be generated.

#### b. System President's Report

President-Chancellor Belton expressed appreciation to Dr. M, Christopher Brown for his outstanding contributions to the SU System and wished him well on his new appointment. Dr. Belton also reminded board members about academic signing day at all campuses. He expressed appreciation to all alumni who are participating. He informed board members that the marketing materials have launched. The PR firm will be scheduling meetings on the other campuses in the system to get more information about the campus. SU also is poised to launch online course offerings and a platform that students will be able to have access to textbooks electronically as well. He also congratulated Dr. Luria Young who is president-elect of the Conference of Louisiana Colleges and Universities (CLCU). The CLCU conference will be hosted at SUBR in 2019. He also commended Dr. Moustapha Diack for conducting the Affordable Learning summit that was held in New Orleans, LA.

Board Members Raymond Fondel and Dr. Tarver also extended best wishes to Dr. Brown for his service to the University. Mr. Fondel also reminded board members about academic signing day and invited Mr. Carlton Jones, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President of Alumni Affairs to speak about the plans for academic signing day. Mr. Fondel also asked President Belton to provide an update on the status of the resolution regarding the revised admissions standards for the University at next month's board meeting.

Rev. Gant expressed dismay that the University did not do anything to retain Dr. Brown as provost and cautioned administrators to value good employees.

## c. Campus Reports

Each Campus Chancellor submitted written reports that were included in the meeting packet.

**SUNO** – Chancellor Mims-Devezin announced that SUNO served as one of the sites for the Georgetown University 272 webcast. SUNO submitted 10 proposals to the LA BOR Support Enhancement Fund 6 were funded. Two of the proposals were ranked first. SUNO was included in the 2018 Journey through African American History resource guide calendar and SUNO will host the Region6 Title III technical assistance workshop next week.

SUSLA – Chancellor Ellis announced the date for commencement on May 16 at the Shreveport Convention Center the speaker is Rebecca Sykes Shreveport native and president of the Oprah Winfrey Foundation; the Southern University Museum of Art was nationally recognized as one of the top 20 HBCU museums and thanked Dr. Tarver for his continued contributions to the museum

**SUAREC**- Dr. Bobby Phills thanked Board members for their support and made the following announcements: more than 3,000 elementary through high school students attended their recent National Ag Day celebration. Small Business and contractors workshop with more than 300 small business owners were in attendance. SUAREC faculty and students received many awards during the Association of Research Directors conference. U.S. Forest Service Fire prevention program was held. Awards and recognition banquet was held for the College of Agriculture. USDA representative will be on site at the SUAREC on April 25. The marijuana RFP is ready to be released. SUBR purchasing director Ms. Linda Antoine is assisting in the endeavor and is awaiting approval from the Division of Administration.

**SULC** – Chancellor Pierre announced that May 1 is the deadline for law center applications; thanked Dr. Mims-Devezin and SUNO administrators for their work with the Georgetown Project. He also announced that commencement is May 13 and Judge Shonda Stone would be the commencement speaker for the SULC. Announced that 6 additional judges have been inducted into the law center alumni hall of fame bringing the total to 50. Also congratulated Ms. Jordan Franklin who will be graduating in May.

**SUBR** – Dr. M. Christopher Brown announced that Dr. Luria Young would be President elect of the CLCU and that SUBR would be the host sight for the conference in 2019. Announced the time change for commencement to 9:30 a.m. There are 738 students graduating.

Awards Recognition Banquet for the Basketball team was held Thursday, April 20 and attended by Mrs. Smith, Mr. Fondel, Dr. Gaines and Atty. Rutledge.

## **AGENDA ITEM 8: OTHER BUSINESS**

President Belton recognized Mrs. Smith who had a birthday Monday, April 18. Also Mrs. Smith recognized Board Members Mike Small and Dr. Tarver who also had birthdays during the month of April.

## **AGENDA ITEM 9: ADJOURNMENT**

Upon the motion by Dr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Franklin the meeting adjourned.