

**Southern University and A&M College System**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

**MINUTES**

Jesse N. Stone Lecture Hall 3050

Martin Luther King Jr. Drive

Shreveport, Louisiana

**9 a.m.**

**Friday, August 26, 2016**

**Minutes**

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Leon R. Tarver II. The invocation was given by the Rev. Joe R. Gant.

**PRESENT**

Dr. Leon R. Tarver II, Mr. Calvin Braxton, Sr., Atty. Tony Clayton, Ms. Jordan Franklin, Rev. Joe R. Gant, Mr. Raymond Fondel, Dr. Curman Gaines, Rev. Donald R. Henry, Mr. Richard Hilliard, Mr. Myron Lawson, Atty. Patrick Magee, Mr. Darren Mire, Mrs. Ann Smith, Rev. Samuel Tolbert

**ABSENT**

Mr. Michael Small 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, Interim Chancellor Lisa Mims Devezin (SUNO), Director of Finance Linda Batiste (SUAREC), Chancellor Rodney Ellis (SUSLA), and Chancellor John Pierre, (SULC).

**BOARD COUNSEL**

**Attys. Winston DeCuir, Sr., and Tracie Woods**

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

Upon the motion by Rev. Joe R. Gant and seconded by Mr. Myron K. Lawson the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dr. Nigel Gwee, Faculty Senate President at SUBR spoke in support of the Tenure and Promotion recommendations for faculty. Atty. Francis Ball wife of Dr. Gwee also addressed Board members in support of faculty. Dr. Sonya Hester, Faculty Senate President, SUSLA also spoke in support of the tenure and promotion recommendations for faculty. Dr. Chanika Jones addressed Board members in support of the appointment of Dr. Damien Ejigiri and stated that the leadership Dr. Ejigiri has provided to the Criminal Justice Department and the School of Public Policy has been invaluable.

**AGENDA ITEM 5: SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Dr. M. Christopher Brown spoke about the implications of *Elevate Louisiana*, an initiative of the Louisiana Board of Regents, and provided Board members with a system-wide update on the status of accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools-Commission on Colleges (SACS)

**AGENDA ITEM 6: ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Minutes of the July 29, 2016, regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors**

Upon the motion by Mrs. Smith and seconded by Rev. Gant the minutes were recommended for approval. Motion passed unanimously.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that the minutes of the July 29, 2016, regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors, be and it is hereby approved.

**B. Academic Affairs (Honorable Ann Smith)**

**1. Adoption of the Nursing Program Retention Initiative: Salary Considerations, SUBR  
(Executive Session may be required)**

Mrs. Smith asked President Belton to provide an overview of the salary considerations being made for School of Nursing faculty. The faculty retention initiative is being proposed to allow faculty members in the School of Nursing to earn a salary that is somewhat competitive with local hospitals and health care agencies.

Upon the motion by Mrs. Smith and seconded by Dr. Gaines the nursing faculty retention initiative was recommended for approval.

Motion passed.

<b>Employee</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Proposed Salary</b>
1. Allen-Garner, Juanita A.	Assistant Professor	\$65,000
2. Coulter, Sharon V.	Assistant Professor	\$65,000
3. Livous, Gwendolyn	Assistant Professor	\$65,000
4. Marcell, Vinne N.	Assistant Professor	\$65,000
5. Martin, Tonda	Assistant Professor	\$65,000
6. Matthews, Diane P.	Assistant Professor	\$65,000
7. Natal, Gordon	Assistant Professor	\$65,000
8. Thyssen, Rosalynn	Assistant Professor	\$65,000
9. Upshaw, Antionella	Assistant Professor	\$65,000
10. Williams, Trudy	Assistant Professor	\$65,000
11. Hull, Edna	Associate Professor	\$74,000
12. Brown, Sandra	Professor	\$90,000
13. Spurlock, Wanda	Professor	\$90,000
14. Jacqueline Hill	Professor	\$97,000
15. Leah Cullens		\$65,000

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the School of Nursing faculty retention initiative be and it is hereby approved.

**2. Request Approval of Strategic Plan-A Way Forward (2016-2021), SUSLA**

Upon the motion by Atty. Clayton and seconded by Mr. Fondel the strategic plan for Southern University, Shreveport 2016-2021 was recommended for approval.

Motion passed unanimously.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the strategic plan-A *Way Forward* for Southern University, Shreveport 2016-2021 be and it is hereby approved.

**C. Athletics (Honorable Tony Clayton)**

1. Extension of Employment Contract for Head Coach Men's Basketball, SUBR
2. Extension of Employment Contract for Head Coach Women's Basketball, SUBR
3. Operating Budget FY 2016-2017 Athletic Budget, SUNO
4. Operating Budget FY 2016-2017 Athletic Budget, SUBR
5. Operating Budget FY 2016-2017 Athletic Budget, SUSLA

Upon the motion by Atty. Clayton and seconded by Mr. Raymond Fondel, items **6 C 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5** were recommended for approval in-globo.

Motion passed unanimously.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the Employment Contract Extension for Head Coach Men's Basketball, SUBR be and it is hereby approved.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the Employment Contract Extension for Head Coach Women's Basketball, SUBR be and it is hereby approved.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the FY 2016-2017 Operating Budget for Athletics at Southern University at New Orleans be and it is hereby approved.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the FY 2016-2017 Operating Budget for Athletics at Southern University-Baton Rouge be and it is hereby approved.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the FY 2016-2017 Operating Budget for Athletics at Southern University-Shreveport be and it is hereby approved.

**D. Facilities and Property (Honorable Donald Ray Henry)**

1. Priority Projects Update, SUS (Informational)  
President Belton asked Vice President McClinton to review priority projects. A list of the priority projects was included in the meeting packet. Vice President McClinton highlighted several items from the list. In response to a question from Board Member Jordan Franklin about the childcare facility on campus, VP McClinton stated that the facility was not ADA compliant and according to State of Louisiana guidelines could not be occupied. The report will be placed into the Board office records.

**E. Finance (Honorable Myron Lawson)**

1. **Request for Approval of Operating Budgets, System-Wide**  
VP McClinton gave a summary of the budget and distributed a printed copy of the summary along with budgets for all campuses. Self-generated revenue represents 60% of the operating budget while state funds are 32%. Students are providing a greater portion of the cost of higher education with the decline of state support.

Upon the motion by Mr. Lawson and seconded by Atty. Clayton the operating budgets for SU System campuses was recommended for approval

Motion passed unanimously.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the FY 2016-2017 Operating Budgets for Board and System Administration, Southern University and A&M College Baton Rouge, Southern University Law Center, Southern University-New Orleans, Southern University-Shreveport and the Southern University Law Center be and they are hereby approved.

**2. Request for Approval of BA-7 No.1, SUS, SUBR, SULC, SUNO and SUSLA**

Upon the motion by Mr. Lawson and seconded by Atty. Clayton the BA-7 No. 1, for SUS, SUBR, SULC, SUNO and SUSLA were recommended for approval

Motion passed unanimously.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the BA-7 No. 1, for SUS, SUBR, SULC, SUNO and SUSLA be and they are hereby approved.

**F. Personnel Affairs (Honorable Patrick Magee)**

**1. Faculty Promotions, All campuses**

Personnel Committee Chair Atty. Magee deferred to President Belton who explained that the faculty members listed were approved for promotions in rank without the commensurate salary.

Upon the motion by Mr. Lawson and seconded by Mr. Fondel the faculty promotions for SUBR, SUNO, and SUSLA were recommended for approval.

**Roll call vote:**

**Yeas:** Tarver, Braxton, Clayton, Fondel, Franklin, Gaines, Gant, Henry, Hilliard, Lawson, Magee, Mire, Smith, Tolbert

**Nays – None**

Motion passed unanimously.

<b>SUSLA</b>	<b>Faculty Rank</b>	<b>Recommended Salary</b>
1. Kenechuku Anyanechi	Associate Professor	\$42,335
2. Jennifer Green	Associate Professor	\$41,450
3. Aylwin Holmon	Associate Professor	\$41,540
4. Breunka Moon	Associate Professor	\$40,080
5. Joslin Pickens	Associate Professor	\$41,451
6. Shelia Swift	Associate Professor	\$59,199
7. Daphne Thibeaux	Associate Professor	\$50,656
8. Harolyn Wilson	Assistant Professor	\$40,790
9. Olden Wright	Assistant Professor	\$40,023
<b>SUNO</b>	<b>Faculty Rank</b>	<b>Recommended Salary</b>
1. Ilyia Tietzel	Professor	\$47,659
2. Cynthia Singleton	Professor	\$47,659
3. Tchadar Marinov	Professor	\$47,659
4. Evelyn Harrell	Professor	\$50,608
5. Joseph Coleman	Associate Professor	\$45,090
6. Christopher Linn	Associate Professor	\$44,660
7. Muhammed Miah	Associate Professor	\$72,200
8. Adrine Harrell-Carter	Associate Professor	\$67,100
9. Robert Azzarello	Associate Professor	\$47,150
10. Bashir Atteia	Associate Professor	\$46,635
11. Rachid Belmasrou	Associate Professor	\$46,635
12. Jill Murray	Associate Professor	\$48,180
13. Sherry Bachus	Associate Professor	\$53,840

<b>SUBR</b>	<b>Faculty Rank</b>	<b>Recommended Salary</b>
1. Peter Breaux	Associate Professor	\$53,459
2. Cheria Lane-Mackey	Associate Professor	\$55,659
3. Caroline Telles	Associate Professor	\$53,853
4. Allison Anadi	Professor	\$74,148
5. Alo Dutta	Professor	\$72,382
6. Nigel Gwee	Professor	\$77,855
7. Anthony Igiede	Professor	\$68,683

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the promotions for faculty members at SUSLA, SUNO, and SUBR be and they are hereby approved.

**2. Approval of Personnel Action on Positions greater than \$60,000**

Upon the motion by Atty. Magee and seconded by Mrs. Ann Smith to approve action **Item 6 F 2** in globo for the purpose of discussion.

Motion passed.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position/Campus</b>	<b>Salary</b>
<b>CONTINUATIONS</b>		
1. Donald Andrews	Dean, College of Business Continuation, SUBR	\$130,000
2. Janet Rami	Dean, College of Nursing and Allied Health Continuation, SUBR	\$127,000
<b>NEW APPOINTMENTS/REPLACEMENTS</b>		
3. Ada Kwanbunbumpen	Director of Institutional Research, Effectiveness and Strategic Planning New Appointment/Replacement, SUNO	\$70,000
4. Willie Jones	Interim Dean, College of Education New Appointment/Replacement, SUNO	\$80,000
5. Shelia Duplechain-DeRouen	Director of System-wide Assessment and Self-Study and Director for Title III New Appointment/Replacement, SUS	\$98,500
6. Francesca Williams	Associate Professor/Tenure Track New Appointment/Replacement, SUBR	\$73,000
7. Mwalima Shujaa	Professor, School of Education New Appointment/Replacement, SUBR	\$67,825
8. Thomas Miller	Dean, College of Humanities & Interdisciplinary Studies New Appointment/Replacement, SUBR	\$113,000
9. Habib Mohamadian	Dean, College of Sciences and Engineering New Appointment/Replacement, SUBR	\$132,500
10. Damien Ejigiri	Dean, Nelson Mandela College of Government & Social Policy and Director of Graduate Studies New Appointment/Replacement, SUBR	\$132,500
11. Albert Samuels	Professor and Director, Jewel Prestage Social Research Ctr. New Appointment/Replacement, SUBR	\$95,000
12. Terrilyn Jenkins Gillis	Full-time Tenure Track Assistant Professor Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology New Appointment/Replacement, SUBR	\$62,000
13. Jalynn Jones	Principal 7-12, SU Laboratory School New Appointment/Replacement, SUBR	\$65,000
14. Nadia Seals	Principal Pre-K-6, SU Laboratory School New Appointment/Replacement, SUBR	\$65,000

Name	Position/Campus	Salary
15. Kimberly Clark	Assistant Professor, School of Nursing New Appointment/Replacement, SUBR	\$60,000
16. Johnette Kay	Assistant Professor, School of Nursing New Appointment/Replacement, SUBR	\$60,000
17. Shena Williams	Assistant Professor, School of Nursing New Appointment/Replacement, SUBR	\$60,000
18. Michelle Jackson	Executive Assistant, Office of the Chancellor New Appointment/Replacement, SULC	\$84,000
19. Tavares A. Walker	Director, Office of Career Services New Appointment/Replacement, SULC	\$75,000
20. Michelle Hill	Assistant Vice President for Online Enrollment Services New Appointment, SUS	\$105,000
21. Verjanis Peoples	Director, School of Education New Appointment, SUBR	\$120,000

Chairman Tarver asked President Belton to give an overview of the personnel actions. Dr. Belton stated that there were several personnel actions that should be removed from consideration. He recommended removal of all appointments associated with the academic stabilization plan to allow faculty members to have additional input and engagement in the plan. He stated that he would defer action on these items until the October Board meeting. **Personnel Items 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 11, 21** were removed from consideration.

Upon the motion by Atty. Magee and seconded by Atty. Clayton that all personnel actions be approved **except items 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 11, 21.**

Mrs. Ann Smith questioned the proposed appointments at the Laboratory School. Discussion ensued.

Atty. Clayton stated that with 400 students, employing three principals makes the organization “top heavy.” SU Lab School Director Averil Sanders stated that the proposed appointments are an effort to make the organization more efficient and the school model that he is using was previously used at the School a few years ago. He explained that the high school attendance and reporting structure is different than the attendance and reporting structure at the elementary level. Mr. Lawson stated that maybe a title change should be considered for the proposed appointments. Chairman Tarver stated that the director should offer a more thorough explanation to members of the Board at the next board meeting.

Atty. Clayton offered a substitute motion seconded by Rev. Donald Henry to **remove personnel items 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, and 21.**

Motion passed unanimously.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the Administration’s recommendation for approval of positions with salaries greater than \$60,000 (**excluding items 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, and 21**) be and they are hereby approved.

**3. Approval of Medical Leave of Absence with Pay (3) months or longer,**

- a.) Shirley McLendon, starting August, 01 2016 to November 10, 2016, SUS
- b.) Joseph H. Stewart, Jr., starting July 01, 2016 to January 1, 2017, SUBR
- c.) Michelle Ghetti, starting August 15, 2016 to May 31, 2017, SULC

Upon the motion by Atty. Magee and seconded by Mr. Lawson that the medical leave of absence with pay for Shirley McLendon, Joseph H. Stewart, Jr. and Michelle Ghetti be approved in globo.

Motion passed.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the medical leave of absence with pay for **Shirley McClendon** (August 1, 2016- November 10, 2016), SUS be and it hereby is approved.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the medical leave of absence with pay for **Joseph H. Stewart, Jr.** (July 1, 2016 – January 1, 2017), SUBR be and it hereby is approved.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the medical leave of absence with pay for **Michelle Ghetti.** (August 15, 2016 – May 31, 2017), SULC be and it hereby is approved.

**4. Approval of Leave of Absence with Pay (3) months or longer,**

- a.) Russell Jones, starting August 15, 2016 to January 1, 2017, SULC

Upon the motion by Atty. Magee and seconded by Mr. Fondel that the leave of absence with pay for Russell Jones be approved.

Atty. Clayton questioned whether a precedent was being set with faculty and administrators taking leaves of absence with pay. Vice President for Human Resources Lester Pourciau was asked to clarify the leave of absence. Mr. Pourciau stated that since the historic flood event, leaves of absence have been extended to employees that were affected. Atty. Woods stated that an executive order from the Office of the Governor was sent to state agencies that encourages leniency during this period.

Rev. Tolbert called for the question.

Motion passed. Atty. Clayton opposed approval of this item.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the leave of absence with pay for Russell Jones (August 15, 2016- January 1, 2017), SULC be and it hereby is approved.

**G. Recruitment and Admissions (Honorable Curman Gaines)**

**1. Update on Enrollment for Fall, 2016, all campuses (Informational)**

Each campus provided enrollment figures for the Fall 2016 semester as follows:

Interim Chancellor Lisa Mims-Devezin stated that current enrollment at SUNO is 2,473 compared to 2,700 students at this time last Fall.

Chancellor Ellis stated that SUSLA enrollment is 2,671 compared to 3,174 last fall.

Chancellor Pierre stated that SULC enrollment is down with 590 students that have schedules-(i.e. the students have registered for classes) and 526 that have completed registration (i.e. paid tuition and any fees). He stated that additional students would be paying throughout the weekend. At this time last fall, SULC had 612 students with schedules at this time. Like the national trend in law schools the 1<sup>st</sup> year class is down.

SUBR Vice Chancellor Brandon Dumas distributed a written report of the enrollment statistics for SUBR and stated that the first day of class ran concurrently with the first day of registration. There are 319 fewer students enrolled at the University compared to the 2015 Fall semester. Dr. Dumas thanked Dr. Fagbeyiro and the technology team that assisted with set up of the Jag Q initiative so students don't have to wait in line to complete the registration process. Students receive a message 15 minutes prior to their appointment time notifying them to return to the arena to see financial aid counselors.

Mr. Fondel stated that students will be dealing with challenges and asked the administration to be sensitive to returning students who may have been affected by the flood.

#### **H. Memorandum of Understanding Between Southern University and A&M College and Thurgood Marshall College Fund**

Upon the motion by Atty. Clayton and seconded by Dr. Gaines that the Memorandum of Understanding between Southern University and A&M College and the Thurgood Marshall College Fund be approved.

Motion passed unanimously.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the Memorandum of Understanding between Southern University and the Thurgood Marshall College Fund be and it is hereby approved.

#### **I. Resolutions (Agenda item was moved so that it would occur before the finalists interviews)**

President Belton announced resolutions as follows:

**Mrs. Naomi Thelma Harrison Loeb Family.** Mrs. Loeb is a native of Eunice, LA and mother of Mrs. Cynthia Loeb Tarver, former Director of Financial Aid at SUBR and mother-in-law of SU Board Chairman Leon R. Tarver II. She passed away August 6.

**Dr. Mervell Winzer Bracewell Family.** Dr. Bracewell, mother of Dr. Cheryl Taylor, Director of the Graduate Nursing Program passed away on August 21.

Upon the motion of Mr. Darren Mire and seconded by Mr. Fondel the resolutions were recommended for approval.

Motion passed.

**RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the resolutions be and they are hereby approved.



**J. Finalists Interviews for Chancellor of SUAREC & Dean of College of Agriculture**

Dr. Adell Brown was the first finalist interviewed by members of the Board in the public session.

Upon the motion by Atty. Magee and seconded by Mr. Fondel the Board convened in executive session with Dr. Brown.

**RECONVENTION**

Upon the motion by Atty. Magee and seconded by Mr. Braxton the Board reconvened.

Chairman Tarver thanked Dr. Brown for serving in the interim position and the interview ended.

Dr. Lionel Lyles was interviewed publicly by members of the Board. Upon completion of the interview with Dr. Lyles. Dr. Bobby Phills was interviewed by members of the Board publicly.

Upon the motion by Mr. Lawson and seconded by Dr. Gaines the Board convened in executive session for both Dr. Lionel Lyles and Dr. Bobby Phills.

**RECONVENTION**

Upon the motion by Atty. Magee and seconded by Mr. Fondel the Board reconvened.

From the candidates interviewed, President Belton offered for consideration Dr. Lionel Lyles as Chancellor of the SU Agricultural Research and Extension Center (SUAREC) and Dean of the College of Agriculture.

Upon the motion by Atty. Clayton and seconded by Mr. Hilliard to accept the recommendation to appoint Dr. Lionel Lyles to the position of Chancellor/Dean.

**Roll call vote:**

**Yeas: Tarver, Braxton, Clayton, Gaines, Hilliard, Lawson, Mire, Smith**

**Nays: Fondel, Gant, Henry, Magee, Tolbert**

**Abstentions: Franklin**

**Motion failed.**

Upon the motion by Rev. Samuel Tolbert and seconded by Rev. Donald Henry, Dr. Bobby Phills was recommended for the position of Chancellor of the SU Agricultural Research and Extension Center (SUAREC) and Dean of the College of Agriculture.

**Roll call vote:**

**Yeas: Fondel, Gant, Henry, Hilliard, Lawson, Magee, Mire, Smith, Tolbert**

**Nays: Tarver, Braxton, Clayton, Gaines,**

**Abstentions: Franklin**

**Motion passed.**

Dr. Phills was congratulated as the new leader of the College of Agriculture and Chancellor of the SU Agricultural Research and Extension Center. He thanked Board members for their support and Chairman Tarver invited him to the table with the other Chancellors and senior leadership staff. Mr. Fondel presented a Bible to Dr. Phills on behalf of the Board.

## **K. Informational Items**

### **1. System President's Report**

President Belton expressed appreciation to SUBR staff for assisting persons who were housed in the F.G. Clark Activity Center shelter and thanked Shreveport campus employees and others who provided support. He also thanked Shreveport campus administration and staff for hosting the Board meeting.

### **2. Campus Reports**

All campus reports were included in the meeting packet.

### **7. Other Business**

NONE

### **8. Adjournment**

Upon the motion by Atty. Clayton and seconded by Mr. Fondel the meeting adjourned.