

Southern University Board of Supervisors

9:00 a.m.

Friday, November 27, 2015

Strand 12 Meeting Room

Hyatt Regency, 2nd Floor

601 Loyola Avenue

New Orleans, LA

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 Gant.

PRESENT

Dr. Leon R. Tarver II, Mr. Calvin W. Braxton, Sr., Atty. Tony Clayton, Mr. Dominique Diamond, Mr. Raymond Fondel, Dr. Curman Gaines, Rev. Joe R. Gant, Rev. Donald Ray Henry, Mr. Richard Hilliard, Mr. Myron Lawson, Atty. Patrick Magee, Mr. Darren Mire, Mr. Michael Small, Mrs. Ann Smith, Rev. Samuel Tolbert, Dr. Rani Whitfield

A quorum was established.

ABSENT

None

UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING

System President Ray Belton, Chief of Staff Robyn Merrick, System Vice President Flandus McClinton (SUBR), Chancellors Victor Ukpolo (SUNO), Adell Brown (SUAREC), Sam Gilliam (SUSLA), and John Pierre (SULC)

BOARD COUNSEL

Attys. Winston DeCuir, Jr. and Tracie Woods

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

On the motion of Rev. Gant seconded by Dr. Curman Gaines, the agenda was adopted as printed.

Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

AGENDA ITEM 5: ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2016

A. Chairman

For purposes of conducting the election of board officers for 2016, Dr. Tarver relinquished the chairman's seat to allow Vice Chairman Calvin Braxton to preside. Mr. Braxton solicited nominations from the floor for the office of chairman of the Board.

On the motion of Atty. Tony Clayton and seconded by Mr. Patrick Magee Dr. Leon R. Tarver was nominated to serve as chairman of the Board for 2016.

On the motion of Atty. Tony Clayton and seconded by Mr. Myron Lawson the nominations were closed.

A roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Mr. Calvin W. Braxton, Sr., Atty. Tony Clayton, Mr. Dominique Diamond, Dr. Curman Gaines, Rev. Joe R. Gant, Rev. Donald Ray Henry, Mr. Richard Hilliard, Mr. Myron Lawson, Atty. Patrick Magee, Mr. Darren Mire, Mr. Michael Small, Mrs. Ann Smith, Dr. Rani Whitfield

Nays: Rev. Samuel Tolbert

The motion passed.

Dr. Leon Tarver was elected Chairman of the Southern University Board of Supervisors for 2016. Dr. Tarver thanked Board members for their support.

B. Vice Chairman

On the motion of Mr. Myron Lawson and seconded by Dr. Curman Gaines, Mr. Calvin Braxton was nominated to serve as vice chairman of the Board for 2016.

On the motion of Dr. Rani Whitfield and seconded by Atty. Patrick Magee the nominations were closed.

A roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Mr. Calvin W. Braxton, Sr., Atty. Tony Clayton, Mr. Dominique Diamond, Dr. Curman Gaines, Rev. Joe R. Gant, Rev. Donald Ray Henry, Mr. Richard Hilliard, Mr. Myron Lawson, Atty. Patrick Magee, Mr. Darren Mire, Mr. Michael Small, Mrs. Ann Smith, Rev. Samuel Tolbert, Dr. Rani Whitfield

Nays: None.

The motion passed.

Mr. Calvin Braxton was elected Vice Chairman of the Southern University Board of Supervisors. Mr. Braxton thanked members of the Board.

AGENDA ITEM 6: SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Dr. M. Christopher Brown II, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost distributed copies of a report which provided an update on the collaborative work that has been done with the Board of Regents (BOR). He introduced Dr. Lisa Smith Vosper, associate commissioner for workforce development at the LA Board of Regents. Dr. Smith-Vosper spoke in general about initiatives in workforce development and how the mission of workforce development has been expanded. She emphasized the fact that higher education has an important role in workforce development. Ms. Stacey Chaisson of Dow Chemical Company spoke about Dow's commitment to Southern University and students at Southern University students and described several programs and projects that will further the working relationship with the University and Dow Chemical Company. Dow employee and SU mechanical engineering alumnus Stephan Pierre attended the meeting and was introduced as the liaison to Southern University for Dow Chemical.

Mr. Rodney Braxton of Southern Strategies attended the meeting to give an update on the status of the legislative agenda for Southern University. He stated that the new governor would officially take office on January 11 and stated that there may be two special sessions at the beginning of the year. Also informed Board members that there has been some discussion about budget cuts and discussion about the use of the state's rainy day fund to sustain the cuts. In response to a question about GRAD Act targets, Mr. Braxton stated that there is opportunity for the University to amend its GRAD Act targets. Mr. Braxton also stated that tuition authority would remain with the legislature, but amending the GRAD Act targets could alleviate some of the funding issues. Dr. Smith-Vosper stated that the new performance based funding model may also aid university systems with funding and the BOR will be meeting in January about the new funding model.

AGENDA ITEM 7: ACTION ITEMS

Agenda Items 7 A – J were approved in globo on the motion of Rev. Joe Gant and seconded by Mr. Myron Lawson

Motion carried unanimously.

A. Minutes of the October 23, 2015, regular meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors that the minutes of the Board's regular meeting of October 23, 2015 be and are hereby approved.

B. Request Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) Between the City of New Orleans and the New Orleans Redevelopment Authority (NORA) and the Southern University Law Center (SULC)

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the Southern University Law Center (SULC) enter into a cooperative agreement with the New Orleans Redevelopment Authority (NORA) be and it is hereby approved.

C. Request Approval to transfer funds to SUSLA as authorized upon the Board of Regents' approval of the 1st quarter GRAD Act Performance Improvement Contract Report (BA-7 #3)

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University to authorize BA – 7 #3 to transfer funds to SUSLA as authorized upon the BOR's approval of the 1st quarter GRAD Act Performance Improvement Contract Report for the Southern University System be and it is hereby approved.

D. Request Approval to use prior year funds, SUBR

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that SUBRs request to use \$450,000.00 in prior year funds generated by the Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management through the Department for Residential Life and Housing and the Student Health Center to fund certain programs, initiatives and personnel adjustments within the Division be and it is hereby approved.

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

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University that the Administration's recommendation for approval of positions with salaries greater than \$60,000 be and they are hereby approved.

Name	Title	Salary
Christopher Guillory	Institutional Research Director New Appointment SUBR	\$85,000
Greta Wilkes, MD	Director, Student Health Center New Appointment, SUBR	\$110,000

F. Request Approval of Sabbatical and Medical Leave of Absence, SUBR

1. RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors that the request for **sabbatical leave for Dr. Piu-Man Lam** be and is hereby approved.

2. RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors that the request for **medical leave of absence for Dr. Michael Smyser** be and is hereby approved.

G. Request Approval of Employee Eligibility Requirements for the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Policy

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors that the policy presented on employee eligibility requirements for the Affordable Care Act (ACA) be and is hereby approved.

H. Request Approval of Drug Free Workplace Policy-Amended

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors that that the amended Drug Free Workplace Policy be and is hereby approved.

I. Resolution for Conferral of Degrees Fall 2015

1. Candidates for Degrees, Fall 2015 Commencement Exercises, SUBR

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors that the Fall 2015 Commencement Resolutions for Southern University -Baton Rouge be and they are hereby approved.

2. Resolution for Conferral of Degrees 2015, SUNO

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors that the Fall 2015 Commencement Resolutions for Southern University -Baton Rouge be and they are hereby approved.

3. Resolution for Conferral of Degrees 2015, SULC

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors that the Fall 2015 Commencement Resolutions for Southern University Law Center be and they are hereby approved.

4. Resolution for Conferral of Degrees 2015, SUSLA

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the Fall 2015 Commencement Resolution for Southern University at Shreveport be and they are hereby approved.

J. Resolutions

Condolences:

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, the condolences be and they are hereby extended to the families listed below.

- The Willie Faye Tarver Chambers Family – Mrs. Chambers, aunt of Southern University Board of Supervisors’ chairman, Dr. Leon Tarver II, passed away on November 5, 2015.
- The Esther Mae McClanahan Fondel Family -- Mrs. Fondel, mother of Southern University Board of Supervisors’ member, Mr. Raymond Fondel, passed away on November 8, 2015.
- The Rev. Joseph Riley, Jr. Family -- Rev. Riley, father of Mrs. Maya Riley Banks, board relations coordinator, passed away on November 9.
- The Samuel Sims Family -- Mr. Sims, a building contractor who was instrumental in building many buildings throughout the SU System, and husband of Mrs. Rosemary Sims, a cashier in the Bursar’s Office, SUBR, passed away on November 10, 2015.

- The Nina Hebert Marchand Family -- Mrs. Marchand, former member and chairwoman of the Southern University Board of Supervisors, passed away on November 11, 2015.
- The Joyce Baucom Stephens Family – Mrs. Stephens, retired assistant to the chancellor, SUBR and professor of foreign languages passed away on November 16, 2015.
- The Arthur B. Tolson Family – Dr. Tolson, retired professor of history and son of the acclaimed Wiley College debate coach, Mr. Melvin Tolson, SUBR, passed away on November 20, 2015
- The Shirley Mann Grady Family, Mrs. Grady, a 1955 graduate of SUBR, passed away on November 23, 2015.

Commendations:

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Southern University, that the commendations be and they are hereby extended to the individuals/entities listed below.

- Governor John Bel Edwards on the occasion of winning the governor’s race.
- Dow Chemical Company for their recommitment to Southern University and the Department of Engineering

AGENDA ITEM 8: Informational Items

A. Update on local charter authorization

- A status report was given by Atty. Preston Castille. Mr. Castille stated that the Superintendent of Education has agreed to recommend to the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) that the SU Lab School become a charter authorizer.

B. JD and MBA Dual Program Update Humanities Building plans.

- Interim Chancellor John Pierre of the SU Law Center distributed a flyer to each board member announcing the new JD and MBA academic program which will commence Fall 2016.

C. System President’s Report

Dr. Ray Belton stated that the Department of Rehabilitation and Disability Services received a \$13.1 million grant. He also gave an update on the status of the chancellor searches at SUSLA, the SU Law Center and the SU Agricultural Research and Extension Center.

In response to the report, Rev. Gant expressed concern about the number of vacancies and interim appointments that exist in key positions on the campuses. He stated that we should be

looking for persons to be more accountable. Board member Myron Lawson also expressed concern about the vacant positions that exist on the campus and stated that he would like to see a timeline for the law center chancellor search, the agricultural, research, and extension center search and the search for athletic director.

D. Campus Reports

Dr. Victor Ukpolo announced that the SUNO campus would begin new collaborative academic programs: MBA/JD and MSW/JD.

Mr. Sam Gilliam representing SUSLA, distributed copies of a written report and highlighted the fact that they have an articulation agreement with LSU-Shreveport for students in allied health programs.

Dr. Adell Brown submitted a written report of the activities of the SU Agricultural, Research and Extension Center.

Atty. John Pierre submitted a written report to board members with updates and news from the SU Law Center.

President Chancellor Belton acknowledged Al Harell of the SU System Foundation. Mr. Harrell gave an update on Bayou Classic activities. He stated that ticket sales are above last year's sales with 62,000 expected to be in attendance at the game. He announced that he was looking forward to seeing board members at the black tie gala on Friday evening as well as at the coaches' luncheon at noon Friday.

Dr. Ukpolo reminded Board members that they are invited to breakfast on Saturday morning where Governor Elect John Bel Edwards will be in attendance.

Board member Raymond Fondel wanted the record to reflect that he supports Dr. Tarver as chairman of the board and also Mr. Calvin Braxton as vice chair. He also thanked board members for their support during the death of his mother.

Board member Tony Clayton stated that he would like to see a building named in honor of Jewel Prestage and he asked President-Chancellor Belton to advance the idea by identify a building for the next board meeting.

Board member Rani Whitfield commended the SU ROTC corps who are making their annual trek to the Superdome jogging from Baton Rouge with the Bayou Classic game ball.

Dr. Belton thanked board members for their continued support. He also thanked Dr. Brown for distributing copies of Dr. Brown's new book, *Whiteness is the New South Africa: Qualitative Research on Post-Apartheid Racism*, to members of the Board and thanked Dr. Ukpolo for hosting the Saturday morning breakfast.

AGENDA ITEM 9. Other Business

None.

AGENDA ITEM 10: Adjournment

Upon the motion by Atty. Tony Clayton and seconded by Mr. Myron Lawson the meeting adjourned.

Motion carried unanimously.