

MINUTES

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM

JANUARY 26, 2006

A. Call to Order

Chairman Jimmy Long called to order a special meeting of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System in the Board of Regents' Conference Room, Room 6-242, Claiborne Building Conference Center, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, at 3:25 p.m. Mr. Long stated that a public comment card should be filled out if anyone wished to speak before the Board concerning items to be addressed by the Board.

B. Roll Call

The roll was called.

PRESENT

Mr. Jimmy Long, Sr. Chair
Mrs. Elsie P. Burkhalter, Vice Chair
Mr. Victor Bussie
Mr. Andre G. Coudrain
Dr. Mildred G. Gallot

Mr. Jeffrey S. Jenkins
Mr. D. Wayne Parker
Mr. Winfred F. Sibille
Mr. Michael H. Woods

ABSENT

Mr. Donald T. "Boysie" Bollinger
Mr. Robert T. Hale
Mr. Gordon A. Pugh
Mr. Walter R. Rhodes

Dr. Eunice W. Smith
Mr. Charles C. Teamer, Sr.
Ms. Mallory Wall

Also present for the meeting were the following: System President Sally Clausen, System staff, presidents and administrators from System campuses, Attorney Linda Law Clark and interested citizens. The meeting was available to System universities by videoconference.

C. Invocation

Mr. Bussie gave the invocation.

D. Discussion of higher education issues impacting UL System

1) Mr. Long called upon Mr. Woods, who made the following motion:

Upon motion of Mr. Woods, seconded by Mr. Bussie, the Board voted unanimously to direct System President Sally Clausen to move forward with discussions with the Board of Regents,

other system management boards, and other relevant parties on issues concerning the efficient and effective delivery of quality higher education to the students of this state and to bring before this Board for approval any recommended actions.

- 2) Mr. Long called on Dr. Clausen to discuss a January 20, 2006, meeting with Grambling Mayor Martha Andrus, Grambling City Council Member Edward Jones, GSU President Horace Judson, and UL System Board Members Elsie Burkhalter, Mildred Gallot, and Wayne Parker. The meeting was held at Grambling City Hall in response to an earlier meeting of the Grambling City Council regarding Grambling State University President Horace Judson and some members of his administrative staff. Dr. Clausen stated that she thought the meeting was productive and that Mayor Andrus and President Judson agreed to address some common issues such as water treatment and garbage pickup on the campus. Dr. Clausen stated that Dr. Judson has been working outside of the community doing what all university presidents do – working to grow the University through recruitment of new students, applying for and successfully attaining NSF grants, etc. Dr. Clausen asked Mr. Parker to comment about the meeting. He stated that he thought the issues brought up at the meeting were the result of communication problems. Mr. Parker thought Dr. Judson did a good job of responding to the concerns that were discussed and that the meeting was very positive. He complimented Dr. Clausen’s mediation of the meeting and stated that everyone had an opportunity to speak. Mr. Parker stated that a liaison committee was established to improve communication between the City and the University.

Dr. Clausen gave a brief overview of Grambling’s leadership from 1993 to present. She called attention to a January 19, 2006, letter from Legislative Auditor Steve Theriot, citing the remarkable progress the University has made in its financial affairs. Dr. Clausen also called attention to a January 25, 2006, letter from Dr. Judson to GSU Alumni regarding recruitment efforts and Grambling’s continuing progress and plans.

Board Member Andre Coudrain commented that GSU is moving in the right direction, and he is pleased with Dr. Judson’s leadership. Board Member Mike Woods called attention to the fact that since he has been on the Board, Grambling has received more funding per student on a per capita basis than received by students of all other institutions of higher education in the State of Louisiana. Mr. Woods stated that the UL Board of Supervisors has continued to support Grambling “above and beyond the call of duty” and that Grambling is in better shape today than at any other time during his tenure on the Board. He thanked Dr. Judson and also the Board for all that has been done and for all that will continue to be done for GSU.

Board Member Elsie Burkhalter complimented Dr. Clausen’s handling of the January 20th meeting and suggested that a meeting be arranged to keep GSU students informed.

Upon motion of Mrs. Burkhalter, seconded by Mr. Bussie, the Board voted unanimously to support Dr. Horace Judson, President of Grambling State University; to reaffirm their commitment to Dr. Judson and his administration; to congratulate him on the many accomplishments achieved during his tenure as President; and to give Dr. Judson full support as he continues the pursuit of excellence with the high expectations the Board has of Grambling State University.

Upon motion of Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Bussie, the Board voted unanimously to direct the System Office to prepare a public statement to attest to how Grambling State University has benefited from the assistance of the University of Louisiana Board of Supervisors and System President in regards to attaining SACS reaffirmation of accreditation, financial stability, and other critical actions taken to support the University.

- 3) Dr. Clausen called attention to a report from Noel Levitz/NCHEMS regarding Northwestern State University. She stated this report is in response to a follow-up visit to Northwestern to assess the progress made on recommendations from an institutional review. Dr. Randy Webb, President of Northwestern State University, responded that Northwestern welcomed opportunities to learn ways to improve the University, and he thanked the Board and Dr. Clausen for the help and support. Dr. Clausen gave an overview of the background of the institutional review process which the Board authorized a few years ago. She stated that four institutional reviews have been conducted thus far at universities in the UL System. The reviews are intended to inform the Board of those areas on System campuses that could be improved upon as well as those areas that should be promoted by the Board.
- 4) Dr. Clausen acknowledged and highly complimented the entire UL System Staff in their various capacities as part of a whole team of professionals. She thanked Dr. Loren Blanchard particularly for his contributions to System universities regarding accreditation issues. Board Member Mildred Gallot echoed Dr. Clausen's comments and highly praised Dr. Blanchard's expertise in accreditation matters. Dr. Gallot also complimented Dr. Clausen for employing such highly-qualified individuals in the System Office.
- 5) Mr. Long congratulated Board Member Wayne Parker and his wife Glenda on celebrating their 44th wedding anniversary.
- 6) Mr. Woods informed the Board that former student Board Member Jessica Clarke will be interning in the System Office for the spring 2006 semester. Mr. Long welcomed Jessica.

H. Other Business

There was no other business to come before the Board.

I. Adjournment

Upon motion of Mr. Sibille, seconded by Mr. Coudrain, the Board adjourned at 4:25 p.m.