

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM
February 17, 2009**

A. **Call to Order**

Mrs. Elsie Burkhalter, Chair, called to order the special meeting of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System in Room 100, the "Louisiana Purchase Room," Claiborne Conference Center, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana at 9:40 a.m.

B. **Roll Call**

The roll was called and a quorum established.

PRESENT

Mrs. Elsie Burkhalter, Chair	Mr. Jeffrey Jenkins
Mr. Winfred F. Sibille, Vice Chair	Ms. Renee Lapeyrolerie
Mr. Paul Aucoin	Mr. Jimmy Long
Mr. Andre G. Coudrain	Mr. Russell Mosely
Mr. Edward Crawford III	Mr. D. Wayne Parker
Dr. Mildred G. Gallot	Mr. Carl Shetler
Mr. E. Gerald Hebert	Ms. Morgan Verrette

ABSENT

Mr. Gregory Hamer, Sr.

Also present for the meeting were the following: System President Randy Moffett, System staff, interested citizens, and representatives of the news media.

C. **Invocation**

Mr. Parker gave the invocation.

D. **Report of Southeastern Louisiana University Presidential Search Committee**

Dr. Moffett thanked all Committee members for their willingness to serve during the process and especially commended the non-Board members who devoted hours of their time to assist in the search. These members included: Dr. Joe Burns, Southeastern Faculty Senate Representative; Mr. Daryl Ferrara, Chairman of the Board for the Hammond Chamber of Commerce; and Mr. Zealon Solomon, SGA President at Southeastern.

Dr. Moffett gave a report of the Southeastern Louisiana University Presidential Search Committee. He stated that the Committee had met daily on Southeastern's campus during the week of February 9-13, 2009. On the first days, the four semifinalists had been interviewed and each had been given several opportunities to participate in meetings with deans, department heads, faculty, student leaders, staff, and community members. These meetings also allowed Committee members to observe the candidates in a variety of environments.

Dr. Moffett stated that the Search Committee had met on Friday, February 13, to deliberate and selected two finalists for the Board's consideration: Dr. John Crain, Interim President of Southeastern, and Dr. Michael Shonrock, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at Texas Tech University. Dr. Shonrock subsequently withdrew his name for consideration for the position, which left Dr. John Crain as the sole candidate to be interviewed by the full Board.

E. **Candidate Interviews**

Dr. Moffett introduced Dr. Crain as the Interim President of Southeastern, having served as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs for seven years. He earned his undergraduate and masters degrees from Southeastern Louisiana University and his doctorate in accountancy from the University of Mississippi.

Dr. Crain stated that it was honor to have the opportunity to interview for the position as President of Southeastern. He stated that he had worked for the university for 22 years, first as a faculty member, Faculty Senate President, dean, and later to the position of provost. He said that he has a sincere desire to continue in the position he has held for the past seven months. Dr. Crain said that he has a strong personal interest in the university and its success in the future.

Board members were given the opportunity to question Dr. Crain and afterwards five interested audience members voiced comments. These individuals included: Stanley Dameron, community member and member of the SLU Development Foundation; Pat Williams, 2008 President of the SLU Alumni Foundation; Patsy Causey, retired Vice President for Student Affairs; Ken Kennelly, SLU alumnus and Baton Rouge businessman; and Gurley Maurin, member of the Hammond community. All had strong words of support for Dr. Crain.

Dr. Moffett stated that the Board would meet in Executive Session pursuant to R.S. 42:6.1 to discuss personnel matters with Dr. Crain.

Upon motion of Mr. Shetler, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board voted to convene in Executive Session. The following roll call vote was recorded:

Yeas: Mr. Aucoin, Mrs. Burkhalter, Mr. Coudrain, Mr. Crawford, Dr. Gallot, Mr. Hebert, Mr. Jenkins, Ms. Lapeyrolerie, Mr. Long, Mr. Mosely, Mr. Parker, Mr. Shetler, Mr. Sibille, Ms. Verrette

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. Hamer

At 10:30 a.m., the Board met in Executive Session. While in Executive Session, the Board may meet with its staff, legal counsel, or other persons it deems necessary. No motions may be made nor votes taken.

At 10:50 a.m., upon motion of Mr. Sibille, seconded by Mr. Long, the Board voted to reconvene in Open Session. The following roll call vote was recorded:

Yeas: Mr. Aucoin, Mrs. Burkhalter, Mr. Coudrain, Mr. Crawford, Dr. Gallot, Mr. Hebert, Mr. Jenkins, Ms. Lapeyrolerie, Mr. Long, Mr. Mosely, Mr. Parker, Mr. Shetler, Mr. Sibille, Ms. Verrette

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. Hamer

While in Executive Session, no motions were made nor votes taken.

F. **Discussion of Candidates/Motion**

Dr. Moffett asked for observations from the Board members. Mr. Coudrain began the discussion and made the following motion, seconded by Ms. Verrette. Mr. Mosely asked for a unanimous second to the motion and there was no objection. A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby appoint Dr. John Crain as the next President of Southeastern Louisiana University at an annual salary of \$248,000 with related benefits as are afforded by Board RULES and that Dr. Randy Moffett, President of the University of Louisiana System, in consultation with the Board Chair and Vice Chair, execute a letter of appointment for Dr. Crain.*

The following roll call vote was recorded:

Yeas: Mr. Aucoin, Mrs. Burkhalter, Mr. Coudrain, Mr. Crawford, Dr. Gallot, Mr. Hebert, Mr. Jenkins, Ms. Lapeyrolerie, Mr. Long, Mr. Mosely, Mr. Parker, Mr. Shetler, Mr. Sibille, Ms. Verrette

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. Hamer

G. **Introduction of President of Southeastern Louisiana University**

Dr. Moffett and Mrs. Burkhalter congratulated Dr. Crain on his selection as fourteenth President of Southeastern Louisiana University. Dr. Crain thanked the Board for approving his appointment and said that he was honored to continue to work with the Southeastern family and community. Board members also congratulated Dr. Crain.

H. **Other Business**

Mrs. Burkhalter reminded the Board that the next scheduled meetings will be held on March 26-27, 2009 in Baton Rouge.

I. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, upon motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Coudrain, the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.