

UL System News

Recap of Official Business of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System

Dr. Sally Clausen
President

Board of Supervisors

Mr. Michael H. Woods
Chair

Mr. Robert C. Davidge
Vice Chair

Mr. Donald T. "Boysie"
Bollinger

Mrs. Elsie P. Burkhalter

Mr. Victor Bussie

Mr. Andre G. Coudrain

Mr. Jimmy D. Long, Sr.

Ms. Katie Ortego

Mr. D. Wayne Parker

Mr. Gordon A. Pugh

Mr. Walter R. Rhodes

Mr. Carl Shetler

Mr. Winfred F. Sibille

Dr. Eunice W. Smith

Mr. Charles C. Teamer, Sr.

Mr. David Wright

Universities

Grambling State University

Louisiana Tech University

McNeese State University

Nicholls State University

Northwestern State
University

Southeastern Louisiana
University

University of Louisiana at
Lafayette

University of Louisiana at
Monroe

UL Lafayette Student Inducted Into the UL System Board

The Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System inducted its new student member, Katie Ortego, during its meeting in Baton Rouge today.

Ortego is the Student Government Association President at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and was elected to the UL System Board by her fellow SGA presidents in the System.

"This is truly an honor for me," said Ortego. "I hold this position with high regard, and I look forward to representing the interests of all the students from each of the eight universities."

A senior public relations major, student leadership



Pictured left to right: ULS attorney Winston DeCuir, "Mickey" Ortego, ULS Board Chair Mike Woods, ULS Student Board Member Katie Ortego, ULS President Sally Clausen and UL Lafayette Vice President for Student Affairs Raymond "Coach" Blanco.

has been a priority to Ortego throughout her college career. Student government

positions she has held at UL Lafayette include Freshman Senator, Liberal Arts Senator, Liberal Arts President and now SGA President.

In addition, Ortego participated in several UL System initiatives, such as voter registration drives, eighth grade peer mentoring, and the "R U Ready?" campaign that promotes college preparation.

A Lafayette native, Ortego is the daughter of Mary Kathryn Ortego of Lafayette and Ron Ortego of Opelousas. She also has a twin brother, Chris Ortego, who attends UL Lafayette as well.

Board Authorizes 4 Percent Operational Fee

The Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System authorized its universities to assess a 4 percent operational fee on students beginning this fall.

The fees — an average of \$61 a semester — are intended to help universities cover mandated costs without impacting instructional services. Without the fee, Louisiana's universities, which are now 47th in the nation in funding, would be facing more than \$8 million in increased costs for insurance, retirement and mandated pay raises for classified employees.

Head of the Council of Student Body Presidents Kimberly Ludwig, who testified before a legislative committee on behalf of the fee, told the Board that she believes students understand the importance of the fees as they affect the long-term progress of universities.

"We continue to be amazed at the quality education we receive despite our low funding. Without this fee, we would be taking two steps back," Louisiana Tech's Ludwig said. "Higher education in Louisiana has made so much progress, I would hate to see us go backwards."

Board Chair Mike Woods said that even with the fee, students at UL System universities will pay 22 percent less tuition and fees than their peers in the southeastern region.

UL System President Sally Clausen explained that there is some relief for students who cannot afford the fee. The legislation that authorized the increase includes a hardship waiver. "We certainly don't want to place a burden on students."

University Spotlight – Grambling State University



Working to Improve Quality of Life for America's Poor

Grambling State University is partnering with universities in Arkansas and Mississippi to enhance the quality of life for one of the poorest areas in the country—the Mississippi Delta.

The project, Mid-South Delta Leaders Program, will offer classes, learning re-

treats, and study travel tours to leaders and potential leaders in the 55-county/parish area.

The goal is to help residents help themselves through practical application of knowledge and resources that will not only improve their quality of life, but also that of future generations.

Participants will represent higher education, primary and secondary educa-

tion, government, non-profit and for-profit businesses, self-employment and retirement.

The W. K. Kellogg Foundation awarded a \$1.2 million grant for the project, which is shared among Grambling, Arkansas State University in Jonesboro and Delta State University in Mississippi.



Louisiana parishes involved in the Mid-South Delta Leaders Program are Caldwell, Catahoula, Concordia, East Carroll, Franklin, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas and West Carroll.

Board Action

The ULS Board of Supervisors approved the following:

Academic and Student Affairs

- Louisiana Tech: to offer the following existing degree programs through distance learning technologies: Bachelor of Science in Health Information Administration and Associate of Science in Health Information Technology
- Louisiana Tech: letter of intent/proposal for a Master of Science degree program in Health Information Management
- McNeese: proposed McNeese/LSUA Engineering Consortium Agreement
- McNeese: Cooperative Agreement with Ecole Supérieure Libre des Sciences Commerciales Appliquées (ESLSCA) in Paris, France
- UL System: endorsement of new and revised Policies and Procedures Memoranda on Program Discontinuance and Unclassified Employees Called to Active Duty in the Military

Joint Athletic and Audit

- Grambling: permission to increase ticket prices for the 2004 Bayou Classic
- UL Lafayette: employment contract and agreement for

Glynn Cyprien, Head Men's Basketball Coach, effective May 19, 2004

- UL Monroe: revised employment contract and agreement for Charlie Weatherbie, Head Football Coach, effective July 1, 2004
- UL Monroe: preliminary report on Intercollegiate Athletic Programs
- UL System: System Universities' Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Internal Audit Plans

Finance

- Louisiana Tech: refinance existing bonded debt and apply savings for repair and replacement to existing residential housing facilities and to plan for new student housing
- Nicholls: enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with South Louisiana Economic Council, Inc. to formalize the relationship
- Nicholls: tuition waivers for public school teachers who are pursuing or have completed the National Board Certification Program
- Northwestern: enter into a lease agreement for bookstore operation
- Acceptance of Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Financial and Compliance Representation

Letters from Grambling, Southeastern, UL Lafayette and UL Monroe

- UL System: consideration of four percent operational fee as authorized by HB 1062

Facilities Planning

- Louisiana Tech: purchase two small tracts of land on the south and north sides of the Kansas City Southern Railroad track for a proposed pedestrian bridge to be located near campus
- Southeastern: amend the Board Resolution approved December 5, 2003 regarding the Southeastern Louisiana University Privatized Housing proposal
- UL Lafayette: enter into a lease with the Lafayette Economic Development Authority (LEDA) for seven acres of property in the Research Park for the purpose of constructing a technology immersion center
- UL Monroe: amend the Board Resolution approved January 9, 2004 regarding the University of Louisiana at Monroe Privatized Housing proposal

Personnel

- Louisiana Tech: appoint Dr. James D. Liberatos as Dean of the College of Applied and Natural Sciences

Did You Know?

The UL System enrolled over 83,000 students in 2003-04, more than half of the state's total public 4-year universities.

effective July 1, 2004

- Louisiana Tech: appoint Dr. Stan A. Napper as Dean of the College of Engineering and Science effective July 1, 2004
- Nicholls: appoint Dr. Badiollah Asrabadi as Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for a one-year appointment effective July 1, 2004
- Nicholls: appoint Dr. Albert Davis as Interim Dean of University College for a one-year appointment effective July 1, 2004
- Nicholls: appoint Dr. Velma Sue Westbrook as Dean of the College of Nursing and Allied Health effective July 1, 2004