New Members Join UL System Board; Woods Continues as Chair

The Board of Supervisors for the UL System swore in two new members and one existing member and accepted the resignation of six-year board member David Wright.

Governor Kathleen Blanco appointed Robert Hale of Lake Charles and Jeff Jenkins of Baton Rouge to fill positions on the board. The governor also reappointed 12-year board member Elsie Burkhalter of Slidell.

Hale is the president and general manager of Lee Dee Wholesale Distributing and Hale Wholesale Distributing in Lake Charles.

Jenkins is vice president of special projects at The Shaw Group, where he is responsible for the identification and development of special projects, particularly mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and business development.

Hale and Jenkins were appointed to replace board members Bob Davidge of Baton Rouge and Carl Shetler of Lake Charles. Davidge had served since 1999, and Shetler had been on the board since 1993.

The board also learned of the resignation of board member David Wright, who served a full six-year term.

In a letter to Governor Blanco, Wright cited health concerns: “My family and physicians have urged me to once again consider retiring from public office. As much as I love my colleagues and respect Dr. (Sally) Clausen for her leadership, I know that my family and doctors are right.”

In other business, the board re-elected Board Chair Mike Woods and selected Jimmy Long as its vice-chair. Gordon Pugh was retained as parliamentarian.

The board also heard preliminary results from the financial and compliance audits of the UL System and the UL System Foundation. Legislative Auditor Steve Theriot said his office expects to issue an unqualified audit for the system that will contain no reportable findings.

ULS Foundation Board Chair Rev. Chris Andrews reported the foundation review was similarly positive.

For more board action, see page two.
University Spotlight – McNeese State University

Music Professor is Official Voter for the Grammys

LAKE CHARLES — The 47th Annual GRAMMY Awards to be broadcast Feb. 13 will be of special interest to McNeese associate professor of music Dave Scott.

Scott is a first-time voting member of the National Academy of Arts and Sciences that selects the annual Grammy Award winners. He cannot wait to see if any of the choices that he marked on his ballot and mailed before the Jan. 14 deadline will follow "...and the winner is...."

Scott became a member of the academy upon the suggestion of the record producer for Boston Brass, a Grammy-nominated music ensemble that is coming to McNeese this spring.

After ascertaining that he met the criteria, Scott—who has recorded two CDs as a member of Pastiche, a quartet of McNeese faculty members—became an official voting member and began wading through the hundreds of potential winners in all types of music.

As a member of the academy, Scott was invited to the awards ceremony; however, a gig with the Lake Charles Symphony will prevent him from attending. "But I'll be watching."

McNeese Associate Professor of Music Dave Scott checks song selections for the Grammy awards.

University Spotlight – Northwestern State Univ.

Professor Completes Math Book While in Iraq

NATCHITOCHES — CPT Thomas A. “Andy” Field, an assistant professor in the Department of Military Science at Northwestern, has written and published a resource book for math teachers that he completed while serving with the U.S. Army in Iraq.

Field began working on the book, “The Great Math Experience: Engaging Problems for Middle School Mathematics” in the fall of 2002 and nearly completed it in one semester. In the spring of 2003, he was deployed to Iraq to participate in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

“The book was 98 percent done, except for final editing and submission to the publisher,” Field said. “Once the stress of the initial war subsided and our quality of life improved, I moved to a decent barracks with electricity and was able to sit on a laptop computer and finish it. I even got a fellow soldier to do some illustrations while I was there.”

The book is a collection of word problems and ideas to stimulate discussion and critical thinking for students in fifth through ninth grade.

Field developed the problems while teaching math in middle and junior high schools. He left public schools last June to teach ROTC at NSU.

NSU Asst. Professor Andy Field with the book he completed while on duty in Iraq

Board Action

The Board of Supervisors for the UL System took the following action during its January 2005 meeting:

Academic and Student Affairs

- McNeese: approved the request to award honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Mr. William J. Dore', Sr.
- Nicholls: approved contract between Institut Paul Bocuse of Ecully, France and the Chef John Folse Culinary Institute

Joint Audit and Finance

- UL System: approved Centralized Cash Management and Investment Policies for six ULS institutions
- UL System: approved Accounts Receivable Policies for all universities
- UL System: authorized the Louisiana Dept. of the Treasury to conduct a referendum to allow eligible employees of the UL System and its universities to pay Medicare-only tax in order to be eligible for Medicare coverage upon retirement

Facilities Planning

- Gambling: granted approval to begin the process of selecting a firm to develop and implement a comprehensive student housing plan utilizing a 501(c)3, not-for-profit corporation
- McNeese: granted approval to acquire and install new scoreboards at the university athletic complex through Cowboy Facilities, Inc.
- McNeese: granted approval to demolish a biology greenhouse located on the main campus

Personnel

- McNeese: approved appointment of Dr. Wayne R. Fetter as Dean of the Burton College of Education
- Southeastern: approved appointment of Dr. Daniel R. McCarthy as Interim Dean of the College of Science and Technology, currently in development

Full Board

- ULS Foundation: accepted the audit report for years ended December 31, 2001-03

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