



Board Action Issue 06 December 2010



1201 N. Third Street
Suite 7-300
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
www.ulsystem.edu

ISSUE

06

December
2010

Official Action of the
Board of Supervisors
for the University of
Louisiana System

Board Action



Dr. Randy Moffett
President

Board of Supervisors

- Mr. Winfred F. Sibille, Chair
- Mr. D. Wayne Parker, Vice Chair
- Mr. Russell L. Mosely, Parliamentarian
- Mr. Paul G. Aucoin
- Mrs. Elsie P. Burkhalter
- Mr. Andre G. Coudrain
- Mr. Edward J. Crawford, III
- Dr. Mildred G. Gallot
- Mr. E. Gerald Hebert
- Mr. Jeffrey Jenkins
- Ms. Renee A. Lapeyrolerie
- Mr. Jimmy D. Long, Sr.
- Mr. Brook Sebren, Student
- Mr. Carl G. Shetler

Eight Universities Strong

- 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

Adopted this third day of December, two thousand ten by unanimous vote.



Winfred Sibille
Winfred Sibille, Chair
Board of Supervisors
University of Louisiana System

this issue

- Board Resolution for Strategic Plan **P.1**
- Measuring Performance **P.1**
- 2011 Officers Elected **P.2**
- Other Board Action **P.3**

Board Adopts Resolution Urging for Strategic Plan for Higher Education

The Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System today unanimously adopted a resolution urging the state to develop a strategic funding plan for higher education.

Specifically, the resolution asks for a plan to include:

1. A funding formula aligned with institutional role, scope and mission.
2. Enhanced student retention and completion programs.
3. Alternative course delivery systems,

including on-line and collaborative initiatives.

4. Appropriate adjustments to merit and need-based aid.
5. A recurring statutory dedicated fund for higher education.
6. Removal of the 12-hour tuition cap, currently in place.

"It is the opinion of this Board that any additional funding reductions to the State's Colleges and Universities would cause significant

Resolution Continued on Page 3

Measuring Performance

If a student takes longer than six years to graduate is he/she considered a failure? How about a student who started at a community college, transferred to a university and earned a bachelor's degree? According to the national graduation rate measurement those graduates are not a success for the institution.

"That is why you cannot gauge the effectiveness of an institution based on a single measure-

ment," UL System Vice President for Research and Performance Assessment Beatrice Baldwin told the board today.

Recently, the UL System released data that showed 52 percent of last year's undergraduate completers (students who received a degree) were not counted in a graduation rate.

Performance Continued on Page 2

Included in Grad Rate

NOT Included:

- Enrolled in Spring, Part-Time or Transfer Student

NOT Included:

- Took longer than 6 years for bachelor's degree

Performance Continued

The national graduation rate does not count part-time students, transfer students, students who start college in the spring or those who take longer than six years to earn a bachelor's degree.

An additional measurement called "completers" counts everyone who graduates with a degree, period. The downside to this measurement is that it is not indexed to be comparable across institutions as are graduation rates.

A third graduation measurement is called academic productivity. This calculation takes the students graduating and divides it by the number of students enrolled with the assumption that a university should be graduating a fourth of its enrollment every year.

"So, what is the single best measurement? None of the three. You need multiple measurements across time to effectively measure progress in student success. Luckily, the GRAD Act acknowledges this," said Baldwin.

At the conclusion of Baldwin's presentation, several board members voiced their displeasure with criticizing higher education performance strictly based on graduation rates.

"It is an unfair evaluation when you do not include completers. We cannot dictate how long it will take a student to complete because there are factors out of our control," said Board Member E. Gerald "T-Boy" Hebert.

"The bottom line is we are chasing a standard that is not applicable to our universities based on role, scope and mission. For some institutions it is an appropriate measure but not for most of ours," said Board Member Andre Coudrain.

For campus breakdowns of 2009-10 graduates not included in graduation rates, see the side bars.

Resolution Continued

and long term harm to the State's higher education system and to the future of our State and its students...a plan of action is required to ensure such cuts and revenue declines are made as part of an overall strategic plan to ensure quality of institutions and student success in higher education," states the resolution.

Since 2008, the UL System has lost \$83 million in state support and faces another \$95 million reduction when federal stimulus dollars expire July 1, 2011.

In introducing the resolution, Board Member Russell Mosely said, "We cannot afford as a state to lose any more gains in higher education. It is important to our citizens that higher education have proper funding."

Prior to the introduction of the resolution Board Member Paul Aucoin shared a letter from the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce "asking for support and attention to empower Nicholls to help itself" and citing similar solutions as outlined in the resolution. Aucoin said he is expecting additional letters from business leaders and groups.

UL System President Randy Moffett said, "I am proud of our Board for standing up for what they believe is important and articulating how best to protect higher education from future devastating cuts," said UL System President Randy Moffett. "The resolution is a combination of frustration that higher education continues to be on the chopping block and optimism that the Governor and Legislature will work with us on ways to solve the financial challenges."

Other Board Action

The Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System approved the following requests:

ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS

- Nicholls: eliminate the Department of Finance and Economics effective July 1, 2011.
- UL Lafayette: award an Honorary Doctor of Humanities degree to Dr. Cindy L. Courville at the Fall Commencement Exercises.
- UL System: revise Board Rule Chapter II. Students, Section IV. Academic Status, B. Academic Probation.

FACILITIES PLANNING & FINANCE

- La Tech: authorize the Louisiana Tech University Foundation to solicit proposals from design professionals to develop plans and specifications for the construction of a multi-function facility in the south end zone of Joe Aillet Stadium.
- Nicholls: change the Harold J. Callais Endowed Chair in Economic Development to three endowed professorships: Harold J. Callais Endowed Professorship in Economic

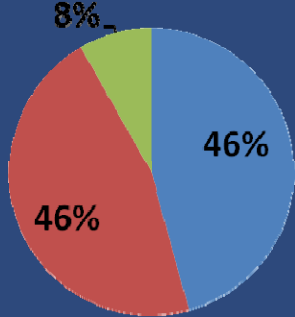
Development, Peter W. Callais Endowed Professorship in Business, and Paul A. Callais Endowed Professorship in Business.

- Southeastern: amend the food service lease with Aramark Educational Services, inc.
- Southeastern: proceed with student fee referendum.
- UL Lafayette: consolidate twenty professorships into two chairs titled: (1) Dr. Tommy Comeaux/Board of Regents Support Fund Eminent Scholar Chair in Traditional Music; and (2) The Acadiana Business Economist Eminent Scholar Chair.
- UL Monroe: charge a separate fee structure for its three-week mini-sessions, Wintersession and Maymester.

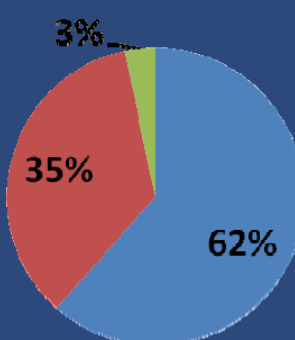
BOARD CHAIR'S BUSINESS

- Selection of Winfred Sibille as Board of Supervisors Chair for 2011.
- Selection of D. Wayne Parker as Board of Supervisors Vice Chair for 2011.

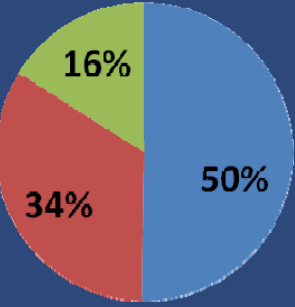
Grambling 726 Completers



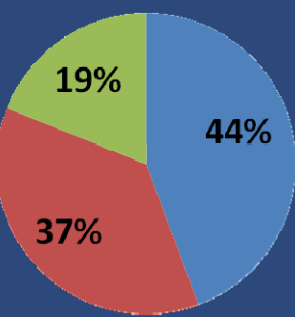
Louisiana Tech 1,354 Completers



McNeese 1,127 Completers



Nicholls 1,070 Completers

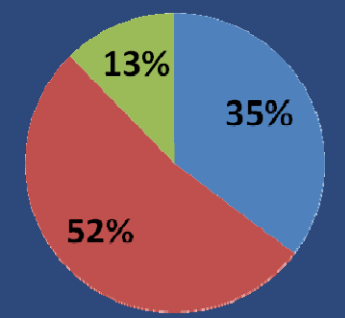


2011 Officers Elected

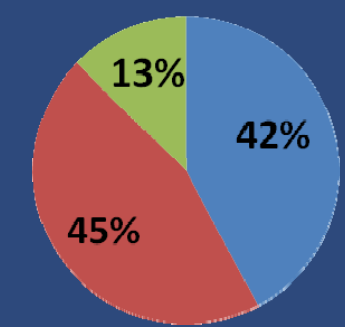
The Board of Supervisors elected to continue the leadership of its 2010 officers for the next year. Pictured from left are Russell Moseley appointed Parliamentarian by the Chair, Chair Winfred Sibille and Vice Chair D. Wayne Parker.



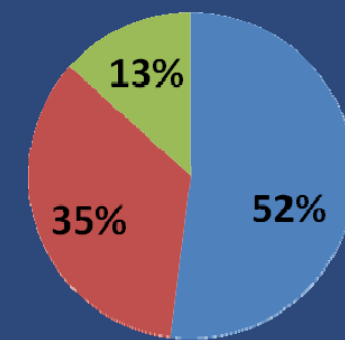
Northwestern 1,319 Completers



Southeastern 1,947 Completers



UL Lafayette 2,138 Completers



UL Monroe 1,091 Completers

