A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, higher education in Louisiana is called upon to address unprecedented revenue and budget shortfalls; and

WHEREAS, on every such occasion the State has balanced the budget with funding reductions to the State colleges and universities, and;

WHEREAS, after the previous funding reductions, any inefficiencies in the administration of the State’s Colleges and Universities have in large part been eliminated, and;

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of this Board that any additional funding reductions to the State’s Colleges and Universities would cause significant and long term harm to the State’s higher education system and to the future of our State and its students, and;

WHEREAS, funding cuts to the State Colleges and Universities have a negative impact on the economic development of this State, and;

WHEREAS, a plan of action is required to ensure such cuts and revenue declines are made as a part of an overall strategic plan to ensure quality of institutions and student success in higher education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System proposes that the Governor and the Legislature, working with the appropriate Higher Education Board, adopt a strategic plan for Louisiana higher education that includes, but is not limited to, the following components:

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.

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

Winfred Sibille, Chair
Board of Supervisors
University of Louisiana System