

**MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM
February 22, 2024**

A. Call to Order/Roll Call

On Thursday, February 22, 2024, the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System met in Room 100, The Louisiana Purchase Room, of the Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was called to order by Chair Clarke at 10:05 a.m.

The roll was called.

PRESENT

Mr. Barry Busada
Dr. Jimmy Clarke
Mr. Steve Davison
Ms. Lola Dunahoe
Dr. John Noble, Jr.
Mr. Dana Peterson*
Ms. Elizabeth Pierre

Mr. Virgil Robinson
Mr. Mark Romero
Ms. Kristine Russell
Mr. Joe Salter
Mr. Brad Stevens
Ms. Julie Stokes*
Ms. Bailey Willis

**arrived after roll call*

ABSENT

Ms. Jo'Quishia "Jo" Lethermon

Mr. Alejandro "Al" Perkins

A quorum was established. Also present were System President Rick Gallot, System staff, University Presidents, and Attorneys Brandon DeCuir and Corey Pierce.

B. Invocation

Mr. Joe Salter opened the meeting with an invocation.

Dr. Clarke requested a motion to meet as a Committee of the Whole. On motion of Mr. Romero, seconded by Mr. Robinson, the Board unanimously approved a motion to conduct business as a Committee of the Whole.

C. Approval of Minutes of December 7, 2023 Board Meeting and ratification of action taken at January 4, 2024 Executive Committee Meeting

Upon motion of Ms. Dunahoe, seconded by Ms. Pierre, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the December 7, 2023 meeting and ratified the actions taken at the January 4, 2024 Executive Committee meeting.

D. **Administration of Oath to Dr. John Noble, Jr., newly appointed Board Member**

Dr. Clarke announced that Dr. John Condos had resigned in January after having served as an at-large Board Member since 2013. Governor Jeff Landry appointed Dr. John Noble, Jr. also from Lake Charles to complete Dr. Condos' unexpired term.

Dr. Clarke said he looked forward to working with Dr. Noble and asked Mr. Brandon DeCuir to administer the Oath of Office. Dr. Noble said he was grateful to be appointed and he was excited to serve.

E. **Academic and Student Affairs Committee**

Committee Chair Lola Dunahoe asked Dr. Jeannine O'Rourke, UL System Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, to present the items under consideration.

Dr. O'Rourke discussed the Academic items listed on the agenda. Upon motion of Mr. Salter, seconded by Mr. Davison, the Board unanimously approved Items E.1.-E.7.

E.1. **Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to offer a Doctoral Program in Engineering and Technology Management.**

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to offer a Doctoral Program in Engineering and Technology Management.*

E.2. **McNeese State University's request for approval to award an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to the Honorable James D. Cain at the Spring 2024 Commencement Exercises.**

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves McNeese State University's request for approval to award an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to the Honorable James D. Cain at the Spring 2024 Commencement Exercises.*

E.3. **McNeese State University's request for approval to award an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Mr. Doug Thornton at the Spring 2024 Commencement Exercises.**

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves McNeese State University's request for approval to award an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Mr. Doug Thornton at the Spring 2024 Commencement Exercises.*

E.4. **Nicholls State University's request for approval to name the College of Business Administration the "Al Danos College of Business Administration."**

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Nicholls State University's request for approval to name the College of Business Administration the "Al Danos College of Business Administration."*

Dr. Jay Clune, Nicholls State University President, gave a little background on this item.

- E.5. University of Louisiana at Monroe's request for approval of a Bachelor of Applied Science in Organizational Leadership.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of Louisiana at Monroe's request for approval of a Bachelor of Applied Science in Organizational Leadership.*

- E.6. University of Louisiana at Monroe's request for approval to resume the development of the Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD).

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of Louisiana at Monroe's request for approval to resume the development of the Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD).*

- E.7. University of New Orleans' request for approval to name the College of Business Administration "The Henry Bernstein College of Business Administration."

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of New Orleans' request for approval to name the College of Business Administration "The Henry Bernstein College of Business Administration."*

Dr. Kathy Johnson, President of University of New Orleans, commented on the rationale behind this request.

F. **Athletic Committee**

Vice Chair Brad Stevens asked Mr. Bruce Janet, System Executive Director for Compliance and Risk Management, to present the items. Upon motion of Mr. Romero, seconded by Mr. Robinson, the Board voted to approve Items F.1.-F.7.

- F.1. Grambling State University's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Robert L. "Mickey" Robert, Head Football Coach, effective January 2, 2024.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Grambling State University's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Robert L. "Mickey" Robert, Head Football Coach, effective January 2, 2024.*

- F.2. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Steve Voltz, Head Women's Soccer Coach, effective January 1, 2024.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Steve Voltz, Head Women's Soccer Coach, effective January 1, 2024.*

- F.3. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval of contractual agreements between various Assistant Football Coaches, Louisiana Tech University, and Louisiana Tech University Foundation.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University's request for approval of contractual agreements between various Assistant Football Coaches, Louisiana Tech University, and Louisiana Tech University Foundation.*

- F.4. McNeese State University's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Frank William Wade, Head Men's Basketball Coach, effective March 1, 2024.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves McNeese State University's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Frank William Wade, Head Men's Basketball Coach, effective March 1, 2024.*

- F.5. Northwestern State University's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Blaine McCorkle, Head Football Coach, effective November 27, 2023.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Northwestern State University's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Blaine McCorkle, Head Football Coach, effective November 27, 2023.*

- F.6. Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Christopher "Jay" Artigues, Athletic Director, effective January 1, 2024.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval of a contract with Mr. Christopher "Jay" Artigues, Athletic Director, effective January 1, 2024.*

- F.7. University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for approval of the amendments to the contract of Mr. Theodore Sliman, Head Golf Coach, effective February 22, 2024.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for approval of the amendments to the contract of Mr. Theodore Sliman, Head Golf Coach, effective February 22, 2024.*

G. **Audit Committee**

Ms. Julie Stokes asked Ms. Jennifer Oberthier, System Chief Audit Executive and Chief Compliance Officer, to update the Board.

- G.1. University of Louisiana System's report on internal and external audit activity for the period of December 5, 2023 through February 12, 2024.

This is a report only and no action by the Board is necessary.

H. **Facilities Planning Committee**

Mr. Busada asked Mr. Janet to present Items H.1.-H.8. Upon motion of Dr. Noble, seconded by Mr. Davison, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following items:

- H.1. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval for the execution of supplemental leases between the Board, on behalf of the University, and Innovative Student Facilities Inc., a private 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, in connection with the lease and leaseback of a portion of the University's campus to finance the cost of the development, design, renovation, construction, and equipping of a new parking facility for students, faculty, and staff.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University's request for approval of the form of and authorization to execute a Fourth Supplemental Ground Lease Agreement and a Fourth Supplemental Facilities Lease, each between the Board, acting on behalf of the University, and Innovative Student Facilities, Inc., in connection with the issuance of the Bonds described herein to finance the Project.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that Louisiana Tech University shall obtain final review from University of Louisiana System staff and legal counsel to the Board, and shall secure all other appropriate approvals from agencies/parties of processes, documents, and administrative requirements prior to execution of documents.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the President of Louisiana Tech University, and his or her designee, are hereby authorized and directed to execute the leases described herein and any and all documents necessary in connection with the issuance of the bonds described herein.*

***AND FURTHER,** that Louisiana Tech University will provide the University of Louisiana System office with copies of all final executed documents for the Board's files.*

Dr. Dickie Crawford, Vice President for Student Advancement, gave a brief update regarding fees and enrollment.

- H.2. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to execute a Ground Lease with the Louisiana Tech University Foundation, Inc., for the purpose of improving Aspire Plaza, pursuant to La. R.S. 17:3361, and to rename the site "Aspire at Les Guice Plaza."

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to execute a Ground Lease with the Louisiana Tech University Foundation, Inc., for the purpose of improving Aspire Plaza, pursuant to La. R.S. 17:3361, and to rename the site "Aspire at Les Guice Place."*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that Louisiana Tech University shall obtain final review from University of Louisiana System staff and legal counsel to the Board and any other appropriate approvals as needed prior to execution of documents.*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of Louisiana Tech University or his designee is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Ground Lease and Donation described herein and any and all documents necessary in connection with the Ground Lease and Donation.

AND FURTHER, that Louisiana Tech University will provide the University of Louisiana System office with copies of all final executed documents for the Board's files.

- H.3. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to create the Origin Bank Center for Student Success at Joe Aillet Stadium.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to create the Origin Bank Center for Student Success at Joe Aillet Stadium.

- H.4. McNeese State University's request for approval to demolish the Equine Center.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves McNeese State University's request for approval to demolish the Equine Center.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of McNeese State University and his or her designee are hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents associated with said demolitions.

AND FURTHER, that the University will provide the System office with copies of approvals and recovery activities.

- H.5. Nicholls State University's request for approval to demolish the Swimming Pool Building (Pump House) located near the J.J. Ayo Pool.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Nicholls State University's request for approval to demolish the Swimming Pool Building (Pump House) located near the J.J. Ayo Pool.

- H.6. Nicholls State University's request for approval to name Suite 14 in the Student Union, the offices of the executive boards of the Student Government Association, and the Student Programming Association, the "Dolly Lafont McGeever SGA/SPA Suite."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Nicholls State University's request for approval to name Suite 14 in the Student Union, the offices of the executive boards of the Student Government Association and the Student Programming Association, the "Dolly Lafont McGeever SGA/SPA Suite."

- H.7. University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for approval to amend the Ground Lease with Ragin' Cajuns Facilities, Inc. (RCFI) of the property known as the University's Health Sciences Campus to allow RCFI to sublet the leasehold estate to subsidiaries of RCFI and to other third parties for the benefit of the Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of Louisiana at Lafayette's request for approval to amend the Ground Lease with Ragin' Cajuns Facilities, Inc. (RCFI) of the property known as the University's Health Sciences Campus, as authorized by La. R.S. 17:3361, to allow RCFI to sublet the leasehold estate, or portions thereof, to subsidiaries of RCFI, and to other third parties for the benefit of the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the University of Louisiana at Lafayette shall obtain final review from UL System staff and legal counsel, and shall secure all appropriate approvals from agencies/parties, of processes, documents, and administrative requirements prior to execution of documents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette or his or her designee is hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents associated with said Amendment to Ground Lease by the University of Louisiana System on behalf of and for the use of University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

AND FURTHER, that University of Louisiana at Lafayette will provide the System office with copies of all final executed documents for Board files.

- H.8. University of Louisiana at Monroe's request for approval to enter into a Grounds and Facilities Lease Agreement with ULM Facilities, Inc., to make safety and public access improvements to the softball complex, pursuant to La. R.S. 17:33671.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of Louisiana at Monroe's request for approval to enter into a Grounds and Facilities Lease Agreement with ULM Facilities, Inc., to make safety and public access improvements to the softball complex pursuant to La. R.S. 17:3361.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that University of Louisiana at Monroe shall obtain final review from UL System staff, legal counsel, and shall secure all other appropriate approvals from agencies/parties of processes, documents, and administrative requirements prior to execution of documents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of University of Louisiana at Monroe and his or her designee are hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents associated with said lease by the University of Louisiana System on behalf of and for the use of University of Louisiana at Monroe.

AND FURTHER, that University of Louisiana at Monroe will provide the System office with copies of all final executed documents for Board files.

I. **Finance Committee**

Mr. Mark Romero asked Mr. Eddie Meche and Ms. Ashley McIntyre to present the campus requests. Upon motion of Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. Stevens, the Board voted unanimously to approve Items I.1., I.2., and I.4.

- I.1. Nicholls State University's request for approval to enter into a lease agreement with Sodexo Operations, LLC for the operation of Food Service Facilities on the campus of Nicholls State University.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Nicholls State University's request to enter into a ten- (10) year lease agreement with Sodexo Operations, LLC for the operation of Food Service Facilities on the campus of Nicholls State University.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Nicholls State University shall obtain final review and approval from UL System Staff, legal counsel, and shall secure all other appropriate approvals from agencies/parties of processes, documents, and administrative requirements prior to the execution of documents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Dr. John J. Clune, Jr., President of Nicholls State University, is hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to executive this agreement.

AND FURTHER, that Nicholls State University will provide the UL System Office with copies of all final executed documents for UL System and Board Files.

- I.2. University of Louisiana System's request for approval to establish LEQSF (8g) Endowed Professorships, Endowed First Generation Scholarships, Graduate Scholarships, and Endowed Chairs as follows:

McNeese State University

- a. Denis and Linda Husers Professorship #2
- b. Nancy and George Kuffel Professorship in Pre-Med
- c. Nancy and George Kuffel Professorship in Psychology

Northwestern State University

- d. G. Stanley Lewis Graduate Endowed Scholarship in Special Education
- e. Jack Brittain J. First Generation Endowed Scholarship
- f. Jerry Pierce First Generation Endowed Scholarship
- g. Richard Ware First Generation Endowed Scholarship

Southeastern Louisiana University

- h. Steve Cossé First Generation Endowed Scholarship #3
- i. Thelma Ryan First Generation Endowed Scholarship #2
- j. MHSF Endowed Cameron Barr Graduate Scholarship in Population Health Management

University of Louisiana at Lafayette

- k. Herbert Schilling Endowed Professorship in Management
- l. Larry E. Sides Endowed Professorship in Communication
- m. Senator Armand Brinkhaus Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarship in Computer Science
- n. Marsha J. Kramer Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarship in Computer Science

- o. Valery Ruby and Georgie Coco Endowed Chair in Education for Educational Innovation, Research and Policy*

University of New Orleans

- p. Amcare – University of New Orleans Foundation Endowed First Generation Scholarship
- q. Henry J. Singer Endowed First Generation Scholarships in Engineering
- r. Henry J. Singer Endowed First Generation Scholarships in the Sciences
- s. Twenty-First Century First Generation Scholarship I
- t. Twenty-First Century First Generation Scholarship II
- u. Twenty-First Century First Generation Scholarship III
- v. Twenty-First Century First Generation Scholarship IV
- w. Twenty-First Century First Generation Scholarship V
- x. Twenty-First Century First Generation Scholarship VI
- y. Twenty-First Century First Generation Scholarship VII
- z. Joseph Lee and Nola Michalik Endowed First Generation Scholarship II
- aa. Joseph Lee and Nola Michalik Endowed First Generation Scholarship III
- bb. Joseph Lee and Nola Michalik Endowed First Generation Scholarship IV

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the requests from System institutions to establish LEQSF (8g) Endowed Professorships, Endowed First Generation Scholarships, Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships, and Endowed Chair noted above.

I.3. University of Louisiana System’s report of LEQSF endowments.

Mr. Eddie Meche reported that for Fiscal Year 2023, two Endowed Professorships, nine Student Graduate Scholarships, and three Endowed Chairs were not matched by Board of Regents. A total of 962 Professorships, 179 First Generation Scholarships, 54 Graduate Scholarships, and 70 Endowed Chairs have been funded.

I.4. University of Louisiana System’s request for approval of payments made by nonprofit organizations to employees of the University of Louisiana System during Fiscal Year 2023 in accordance with provision of Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 17:3390(F).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the University of Louisiana System’s request for approval of payments made by nonprofit organizations to employees of the University of Louisiana System during Fiscal Year 2023 in accordance with provisions of Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 17:3390(F).

I.5. University of Louisiana System’s financial status of alternatively financed projects for the six months ended December 31, 2023.

Ms. McIntyre presented the report, and no Board action is necessary.

I.6. University of Louisiana System’s report of Fiscal Year 2023-24 second quarter financial reports and ongoing assurances.

Ms. McIntyre presented the report, and no Board action is necessary.

Mr. Robinson asked whether the campuses have plans to reduce athletic deficits. Mr. Meche indicated that plans have been provided to him from the campuses, but deficits continue to exist. Mr. Stevens commented that a Southeastern contract had included a deficit reduction incentive provision and possibly including such incentives in future contracts could assist in addressing the athletic deficits.

J. **Personnel Committee**

Mr. Dana Peterson asked Ms. Kecia Neal, System Business Operations Director, to describe the campus requests. Upon motion of Mr. Salter, seconded by Mr. Busada, the Board voted unanimously to approve Items J.1.-J.6.

- J.1. Grambling State University's request for approval to appoint Mr. Terrance Lilly as Dean of Students effective January 1, 2024.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Grambling State University's request for approval to appoint Mr. Terrance Lilly as Dean of Students effective January 1, 2024.*

Interim President Connie Walton introduced Mr. Lilly and indicated that he has had a variety of titles on campus over the span of years. Mr. Lilly thanked the Board for his appointment as Dean of Students and voiced his desire to help Grambling students to achieve their goals.

- J.2. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to appoint Ms. Camilla Geisman as Executive Vice President for External Affairs effective January 15, 2024.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to appoint Ms. Camilla Geisman as Executive Vice President for External Affairs effective January 15, 2024.*

Louisiana Tech University President Jim Henderson recognized Ms. Geisman, who had worked at the System Office for several years before moving to Ruston. Ms. Geisman said she was already enjoying being on campus and additionally appreciates the entire community.

- J.3. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to appoint Dr. Donna Thomas as Provost effective March 1, 2024.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to appoint Dr. Donna Thomas as Provost effective March 1, 2024.*

Dr. Henderson introduced Dr. Donna Thomas. She said she was happy to serve her alma mater in this new role. She also indicated her appreciation for having been a participant in the Management and Leadership Institute.

- J.4. Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to appoint Dr. Collin Wick as Dean of the College of Engineering & Science (COES) effective October 11, 2023.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Louisiana Tech University's request for approval to appoint Dr. Collin Wick as Dean of the College of Engineering & Science (COES) effective October 11, 2023.*

Dr. Henderson introduced Dr. Collin Wick, who focused on the area of service to the University.

- J.5. Northwestern State University's request for approval to appoint Dr. Aimee Badeaux as Interim Dean of the College of Nursing and School of Allied Health effective February 5, 2024.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Northwestern State University's request for approval to appoint Dr. Aimee Badeaux as Interim Dean of the College of Nursing and School of Allied Health effective February 5, 2024.*

- J.6. Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval to appoint Dr. Christy Montgomery as Assistant Vice President/Dean of Students and Senior Compliance Officer effective January 16, 2024.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves Southeastern Louisiana University's request for approval to appoint Dr. Christy Montgomery as Assistant Vice President/Dean of Students and Senior Compliance Officer effective January 16, 2024.*

President William Wainwright asked Dr. Eric Summers to introduce Dr. Montgomery. Dr. Christy Montgomery has a background in higher education and student leadership. She said that she will do her best to encourage students and help them become the best they can be.

K. System President's Business

- K.1. Personnel Actions

President Gallot said that System staff had reviewed the personnel action requests and recommends approval.

Upon motion of Mr. Salter, seconded by Mr. Peterson, the Board unanimously voted to approve the System personnel actions.

- K.2. System President's Report

President Gallot said that he has visited some campuses, particularly during the Management and Leadership Institute sessions, since he was hired as President of the System. He intends to visit all the nine campuses within his first 100 days.

For Our Future Conference

President Gallot reported that the *Leading Women Pre-Conference* is scheduled for Sunday, February 25, with Congresswoman Julia Letlow and Mrs. Gayle Benson as highlighted participants. Monday and Tuesday, February 26-27, will offer programming in the following topic areas: Enhance, Develop, and Advance. All events are scheduled at the New Orleans Marriott and Board Members are invited to attend.

Mental Health

President Gallot thanked Dr. Katie Dawson, System Assistant Vice President for Academic Innovation and Learning, for coordinating online programming on mental health issues. The current semester's sessions are separated into three groups: Suicide Prevention Awareness programming in partnership with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention; Managing Anxiety Series; and Financial Wellness programming.

Academic Summit

President Gallot reported that the Academic Summit will be held on Louisiana Tech University's campus on April 11-12. This event highlights academic achievements across the System. He thanked Dr. Calais for her leadership in ensuring the success of the event.

Trip to Washington/Legislation

President Gallot indicated that he had traveled to Washington, D.C. for Committee of 100 meetings as well as to participate in Washington Mardi Gras activities. He said that he also connected with members of the Council of Student Body Presidents while there. He found the visit an effective way to create new relationships as well as to renew longstanding ones. Additionally, he intends to coordinate with the Presidents regarding the upcoming state legislative session.

K.3. Update on Grambling State University Presidential Search

President Gallot reported that the Grambling search was nearing its conclusion as the Board would be meeting at 1:00 p.m. for a Special Meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to interview the finalists for the Grambling presidency. He indicated that the Search Committee had interviewed the semifinalists on campus the previous week. He thanked the Board members and advisory members who had served on the Committee.

K.4. Update on McNeese State University Presidential Search

President Gallot said that the inaugural meeting of the McNeese State University Presidential Search Committee had taken place on campus earlier in the month. He stated that there was a high level of engagement among members, faculty, students, staff, and community. He indicated that advertising for the position has already begun, with March 22 as the preferred application deadline.

L. **Board Chair's Business**

L.1. **Board Chair's Report**

Washington Trip

Chair Clarke stated that he had the opportunity to attend some meetings in Washington, D.C. the week of Washington Mardi Gras. He also enjoyed meeting with the Council of Student Body Presidents and pointed out that they were a talented group of student leaders and thanked Dr. Erica Calais for her leadership.

M&LI

He further acknowledged Dr. Caprice Ieyoub, who coordinates the Management and Leadership Institute, and who had included him on the program at Nicholls earlier in the week. Dr. Clarke thanked Dr. Clune and his team for an outstanding visit to the campus.

Opportunities in March

Dr. Clarke invited the Board members to attend two events in March. He announced that he was scheduling a Board Development on March 22 in Alexandria. Discussions at the training will include finance and enrollment issues.

In addition, Dr. Clarke invited members to participate in this year's annual Board of Regents Trusteeship Conference to be held on March 26 at the Pennington Center in Baton Rouge. As the Regents are celebrating their 50th year, a reception will also be held that evening.

Standing Committee Assignments

Dr. Clarke said that copies of the new Committee assignments were included in Board member folders and thanked members for their service.

Training

Dr. Clarke announced that all Board members as well as the entire System Office staff had completed the required (1) Ethics and (2) Preventing Sexual Harassment trainings as required by state law. He indicated that Mr. Janet will again distribute links to the courses this year and plans to schedule a live Ethics session later in the year.

M.-N. **Other Business/Adjournment**

Chair Clarke reminded members that the next meeting will be held in Baton Rouge on April 25.

There being no other business, upon motion of Mr. Salter, and seconded by Ms. Stokes, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 11:30 a.m.