

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

Smith-Brown Student Union ~ Cotillion Ball Room

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Committee of the Whole

Friday, November 20, 2020

9:00 a.m.

Minutes

The Committee as a Whole meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by board Chairman Atty. Domoine Rutledge.

The Invocation was provided by Rev. Samuel Tolbert.

Dr. Rani Whitfield introduced Miss Southern Lab, Miss McKayla Boudreaux who lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call by Dr. Ray Belton.

Present: Atty. Domoine Rutledge, Rev. Samuel C. Tolbert, Atty. Jody Amedee, Mr. John Barthelemy, Mr. Raymond Fondel, Jr., Mr. Bakari Garvey, Mr. Sam Gilliam, Mr. Richard Hilliard, Atty. Patrick Magee, Atty Edwin Shorty, Ms. Ann Smith, Dr. Leon Tarver II, Dr. Rani Whitfield, and Mrs. Arlanda Williams.

Absent: Dr. Leroy Davis and Dr. Curman Gaines

AGENDA ITEM 3: ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2021

**Nominations for chair and vice chair were unanimously closed because both candidates were unopposed.*

A. Chairman

Upon the motion by Mr. Sam Gilliam, Atty Domoine Rutledge was nominated as Chair of the Board of Supervisors. Dr. Leon R. Tarver II made a motion that was seconded by Atty Patrick Magee to close the nominations. Rev. Samuel Tolbert commented on Atty Rutledge being nominated as Chairman, “he mentioned that the Atty Domoine Rutledge is in a new Governor’s appointment which mean that the rules for the election do not need to be suspended”. Everyone was ready to vote.

Motion passed.

Atty. Rutledge expressed his gratitude for being selected to serve another year. He thanked the board members for their support. He’s looking forward to the new year.

B. Vice Chairman

Upon the motion by Ms. Arlanda Williams, Mr. Edwin Shorty was nominated as Vice chairman of the board. There was a motion that was seconded to close the nominations.

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM 4: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon the motion by Attorney Patrick Magee and second by Dr. Rani Whitfield the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM 5: PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Atty Rutledge acknowledged the public comments received.

Name: Elijah Crawford

Which Committee is your Public Comment in reference to?: SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Summary of Public Comment: Why hasn't the university released a statement letting the student know what the plan is for the Spring semester? We need to know if we are fully online again or hybrid, or in person.

Name: Keeli Pigg

Department: Student

Which Committee is your Public Comment in reference to?: FINANCE COMMITTEE, SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Summary of Public Comment: The \$100.00 charge per credit hour distance learning fee that is being proposed is uncalled for. It might not affect me, for I am an in-person student. However, if the pandemic continues to get worse, we might not be given the choice to be in-person. Therefore, to punish us with the fee for something that is clearly out of our control is outrageous. Further, Zoom is a free platform that classes are conducted through. I would like to know why it is more expensive to be in a virtual learning environment versus an in-person environment.

Name: Dr. Albert Samuels

Department: Faculty Senate

Which Committee is your Public Comment in reference to?: Agenda Item 8C

Summary of Public Comment: Discussion with faculty senate – The faculty tenure recommendations are done late. Board should receive these recommendations in April of every academic year. This cannot be allowed to happen again.

Name: Dr. Mostafa Elaasar

Department: Natural Sciences

Which Committee is your Public Comment in reference to?: SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Summary of Public Comment: Action item 8 R. The salary increases at SUNO failed to address the in justice in salaries and salary equity. We have Professors earning Assistance Professor salaries for years. In the past, Dr. Belton promised to do salary studies and to resolve these injustices, but he did not fulfil his promise.

Name: Dr. Mostafa Elaasar

Department: Natural Sciences

Which Committee is your Public Comment in reference to?: ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, FINANCE COMMITTEE, SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Summary of Public Comment: Would you please address the salary equity.

Dr. Belton said he and the staff will work to address concerns going forward.

AGENDA ITEM 6: ABOVE AND BEYOND AWARD

Chancellor Pierre introduced Mr. Michael Garrard (Professor at SULC) – he mentioned he was an extremely asset for SULC – He Assisted in the increase in enrollment.

Professor Garrard at SULC Thanked Chancellor Pierre and the board for the award and he appreciate the award.

Chairman Rutledge thanked Mr. Garrard for his service as well.

AGENDA ITEM 7: SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A. Microsoft Corporation (SUBR)

B. Verizon (SUBR/SULC)

The representatives were not able to attend the meeting. Presentations were done by Dr. Katara Williams and Chancellor Pierre (Verizon). A Special thanks to Ms. April Brumfield (SU alum)

AGENDA ITEM 8: ACTION ITEM(s):

There was a motion by Atty Patrick Magee and Second by Ms. Arlanda Williams to approve in global (items A – E).

Motion passed.

- A. Request Approval of the Minutes from October 23, 2020 meeting of the Board of Supervisors
- B. Request Approval of Revised Spring 2021 Academic Calendar
 - 1. Southern University at Baton Rouge
 - 2. Southern University at New Orleans
 - 3. Southern University at Shreveport
- C. Request Approval of Faculty Tenure and Promotion Recommendations for the 2019-2020 Academic Year – See enclosed chart- (SUBR)
- D. Request Approval of Resolution to Certify Fall 2020 Graduates
 - 1. Southern University at Baton Rouge
 - 2. Southern University Law Center
- E. Request Approval of Revised SUSLA Connect / Cross Enrollment Agreements (SUSLA/SUNO/SUBR)

Mr. Sam Gilliam mentioned that “he supports the agreement but want clarification. He questioned the Revenue sharing and FTEs.”

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Dr. Ellis mentioned that “he wanted to clarify that SUSLA cross enrollment agreement was from 2010 and it had not reviewed since. The Revenue from the Connect Fee go to host campus and other fees go to SUSLA. Course fees go to SUSLA. He discussed the advisement and Freshman seminar/ First Year – for connect students and the process.”

Dr. Ammons mentioned “the SUSLA connect program is important to the system and it allow students to get an opportunity to experience other campuses.”

Dr. Belton echoed the chancellors. “He mentioned the Connect program is Pathway to enroll at any campus. It has grown for students. SUSLA connect program is wrapped around first year experience.”

Mr. Sam Gilliam thanked the gentleman for their clarification.

There was a motion by Atty Patrick Magee and Second by Dr. Tarver to approve in global items F and G. Motion passed.

- F. Request the Adoption of Reorganization Plan in Lieu of the Consolidation of Two Departments (SUSLA)
- G. Request Adoption of Reorganization Plan for the Division of Enrollment Management and Student Success (SUBR)

There was a motion by Atty Patrick Magee and second by Arlanda Williams to approve in global (Items H-Q)
Motion passed.

There was discussion around Items H and K from Mr. Bakari Garvey, Atty Jody Amedee and Mr. Gilliam. They had questions and comments for Dr. Belton. Dr. Belton entertained all questions and comments. Mr. Garvey is requesting continue feedback from Dr. Belton for the fees and asked that he prioritize funds for the program.

- H. Request Approval of Corona Virus Pandemic Special Grading Policy (SULC)
- I. Request Approval to Award a Posthumous Bachelor’s Degree - Miesha Melton (SUBR)
Dr. Belton yield to Dr. Sahoo – request by family -
- J. Request Approval to Initiate a Fee for Integrated Reading and Writing Course (SUSLA)
- K. Request Approval to Establish a Distance Education Learning Fee
 - 1. Southern University at Baton Rouge
 - 2. Southern University at New Orleans
 - 3. Southern University at Shreveport
 - 4. Southern University Law Center
- L. Request Approval of Policy for Additional Compensation Limitations for Faculty and Staff for Sponsored Projects (SUNO)
- M. Request Approval of Prior Learning Assessment Policy (SUSLA)

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- N. Request Approval for Return of Unearned Military Tuition Assistance Policy (SUSLA)
- O. Request Approval of Internal Audit Charter (SUS)
- P. Request Approval of Two-Year Audit Plan (SUS)
- Q. Request Approval of Internal Audit Self-Assessment and Independent Validation (SUS)

There was a motion and a second to approve in Global – (Items R - Y).
Motion passed.

R. Request Approval for Salary and Wage Increases – Faculty and Unclassified Employees (subject to the approval of the appropriate funding agency)

1. Southern University System
2. Southern University at Baton Rouge
3. Southern University at New Orleans
4. Southern University Law Center
5. Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center

S. Request Approval of One-Time Salary and Wage Adjustment for Unclassified Faculty and Staff (SUSLA)

T. Request Approval of Civil Service Wage Increases (SUS)

U. Request Approval of Revised Budget Adjustment - BA-7 (SUBR/SUSLA)

V. Acceptance of Interim Financial Reports (SUS)

W. Acceptance of Facilities Planning Project Updates (SUS)

X. Acceptance of Capital Enhancements Presentation (SUBR) – Dr. Belton asked Mr. Huey Lawson and Mr. Kestee Weir to present their power point presentation on all SUBR projects. Atty Rutledge thanked Dr. Belton for the presentation as well as Mr. Lawson and Mr. Weir. He also asked Dr. Belton to address the potholes around the FG Clark Activity Center.

Y. Request Approval of Personnel Action on Positions equal to or greater than \$60,000

	Name	Position/Campus	Salary	Funding Source
1.	Tracie Abraham	Director of Housing (Additional Duties) SUBR	\$80,000.00	State
2.	Tracey Barley	Assoc. V.P. for Online and Distance Education/Director of E-Learning (New Appointment) SUBR	\$120,000.00	State/Federal
3.	Tyra Davis-Brown	Assistant Professor / Veterinarian Agricultural Sciences (Replacement) (SUBR)	\$85,000.00	State

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4.	Anthony Jackson	Associate Vice-Chancellor of Student Affairs (New Appointment) SUBR	\$90,000.00	State
5.	Zackeus Johnson	Dean of University College Division of Enrollment Management and Student Success (New Appointment) SUBR	\$80,000.00	Federal
6.	Terry T. Kidd	Vice-Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development/ Professor of Computer Information Systems/Joint Appointment in Education (Title Change/New Appointment) SUSLA	No Change	--
7.	Runnell J. King	Director of Data and Assessment Division of Enrollment Management and Student Success (New Appointment) SUBR	\$64,000.00	State
8.	Janice Sneed	Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development/Assistant Professor of Human Services/ Joint Appointment in Business Studies (Title Change/New Appointment) SUSLA	No Change	--
9.	Michael Taylor	Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management Division of Enrollment Management and Student Success (New Appointment) SUBR	\$90,000.00	State/Federal

Z. Annual Evaluation of Southern University System President-Chancellor Dr. Ray L. Belton
(*Executive Session may be Required)

Upon Motion by Mr. John Barthelemy to have an executive session, the motion was seconded by Mrs. Ann Smith. Roll Call by Dr. Belton. Motion was approved for executive session.

The SUS Board of Supervisors reconvened and upon motion by Attorney Patrick Magee and second by Dr. Tarver, to start meeting.

Chairman Atty Rutledge congratulated Dr. Belton and his staff on a great evaluation.

There was a motion and a second to approve in Global – (Item AA – BB).
Motion passed.

AA. Request to officially name the Southern University at New Orleans Museum of Art
(SUNOMA) (SUNO)

Dr. Ammons mentioned that “on behalf of the SUNO family, he offers for Dr. Belton and the SUS Board of Supervisors consideration and approval the name: Southern University at New Orleans Museum of Art (SUNOMA). The name recognizes SUNO’s legacy in the community and honors the donors over the years who contributed to SUNO’s rich cultural heritage in the community. He mentioned that SUNOMA will further place SUNO in its earned standing as a cultural icon.”

Dr. Ammons mentioned that Dr. Tarver supported him with the project. He thanked him for all that he did to assist him.

BB. Request Approval of Agreement between Southern University Board of Supervisors, a Louisiana public corporation (“Owner”) and Premium Parking Service, L.L.C., a Louisiana limited liability company (“Operator”) for Southern University at Shreveport parking (SUSLA)

Dr. Ellis explained “he would like endorsement of the agreement from Dr. Belton and the SUS Board of Supervisors. The request is to enter into an agreement with Premium Parking Services, L.L.C., to manage the SUSLA automobile parking facilities consisting of approximately 68 parking spaces. The agreement details for a three-year term in which Premium and SUSLA will share the revenue at 50/50 split. The SUSLA Profit Projection of \$22K in year 1, \$36K in Year 2, \$40K in Year 3 based on 70% occupancy. Premium annual expense is estimated to be approximately \$11K. Revenue shall be disbursed to SUSLA in accordance with the agreement.”

CC. Resolutions

Dr. Katara Williams, Chief of Staff read resolutions and commendations for the following:

- Dr. Augustine Hange Nyikwagh
- Mr. Clifton Smith, Jr.
- Mr. Elvin A Sterling, Jr.
- Elder Bessie B. Vaughn
- Ms. Brittani Alexandria Ware
- Mr. Kerrone Williams

Commendations – Congressman Cedric Richmond

Upon motion from Atty Patrick Magee to approve the read resolutions and Dr. Rani Whitfield second the motion.

Motion approved.

Agenda Item 9: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s)

A. President’s Report

Dr. Belton “thanked the members of the board for their service to Southern University System. Thanked everyone for helping to save SUS and for their leadership and investment in institution.”

Mr. Chairman Thanked President Belton for all his work.

B. Chancellors' Reports

(SUNO) Dr. Ammons referenced the report in packet. He highlighted "NOLA native Peyton Manning and other icons who will play in a capital one golf match on Nov 27 in Arizona. This will be a exhibition game which SUNO has been selected to receive an endowed scholarship in honor of Davenport, the legendary track coach who received national coach of the year. The dollar amount will be announced after the match on Nov 27. He thanked Al Harrell and his team, Ms. Terrye Brayden and Ms. Laverne Toombs for their collaboration to secure the endowment."

(SUSLA) Dr. Ellis referenced the report in packet. He acknowledged "Atty Rutledge and Atty Shorty. He is looking forward to working with them. He is hoping that 2021 is going to be a good year after 2020. SUSLA's Coronation was on Wednesday. Dr. Ellis acknowledged Dr. Melva Williams who was honored last night as one of three leaders in the nation at the Clinton foundation gala."

(SUAREC) Dr. McMeans "congratulated Atty Rutledge and Atty Shorty. He extended thank you to the SUS Board members for approving salary increasing. He mentioned he has sufficient funding for Williams hall which now has a contractor who has a bid for the east wing."

(SULC) Dr. Pierre has nothing to add.

(SUBR) Dr. Sahoo referenced the report in packet. He "congratulated Atty Rutledge and Atty Shorty. He recognized two students that was selected for \$10k scholarship from IBM. "

Agenda Item 10: OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Atty Rutledge wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Holidays. He does not plan to have a December Board meeting. He reminded everyone that Election day is December 5. He explained the constitution item on the ballot for higher education board and asked everyone to look at the amendment and please go out to vote on December 5.

Agenda Item 11: ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Atty Rutledge made a motion to adjourn, there was a second. Motion passed.