

MINUTES

**LOUISIANA COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2008
2:00 p.m.**

**Louisiana Community & Technical College System Office
265 South Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806
~ 1st Floor Conference Room ~**

** The Board of Supervisors of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System reserves the right to enter into Executive Session in accordance with R.S. 42.6.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Stevie Smith called the meeting to order at 2:13 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Bonni Blouin, Coordinator of Board Services, called roll and a quorum was established. The following members of the Executive Committee were in attendance: Stevie Smith, Board Chair; Vincent St. Blanc, 1st Vice Chair; and, Michael Murphy, 2nd Vice Chair. Board members also in attendance for the meeting were: Kathy Sellers Johnson, Chair, Finance Committee, and Tommy Clark, Chair, Academic, Instruction, Workforce Training and Student Affairs Committee. LCTCS staff present for the meeting: Dr. Joe May, Jan Jackson, Dr. Robert Bell, Jim Henderson, Leah Goss, Kizzy Payton, Allen Brown, Patti Sollie, Joe Marin, and Bonni Blouin.

C. REPORT OF PLANNED BUDGET REDUCTIONS

Dr. Joe May presented a report outlining the LCTCS Mid Year Budget Reduction Options FY 08-09 and explained the process used to determine the proposed reductions.

Dr. May noted that he had been informed that the State would experience a \$340 million dollar shortfall for the current year, with \$1.9 million expected to be cut from higher education. The proposed reductions would represent approximately 7.7-8% impact on the higher education budget. He reported that he met with System CEOs and members of the Board of Regents to discuss strategies.

Dr. May stated that he conducted a conference call with LCTCS chancellors and regional directors on Monday, December 15th, to outline the principles to be followed while working through the situation. He noted that LCTCS campuses have already registered for the Spring semester and classes will begin early next year, resulting in restrictions in what and how the System responded. He noted that careful attention was paid to certain areas that focused on workforce development to ascertain that no cuts were made to areas where enrollment commitments have already been made. Dr. May stated that he asked chancellors/regional directors to do 2 things: 1) identify high performing programs that are essential to local workforce and economic development needs, and 2) target administrative costs first (as opposed to

those that would affect the classroom and/or workforce development), travel and supplies or activities that may be delayed that would not impact programs and services.

Dr. May stated that special consideration was given to 5 campuses that are currently involved in the SACS accreditation process – those being Sowela Technical Community College (SOWELA), Fletcher Technical Community College (Fletcher), Louisiana Delta Community College (LDCC), South Louisiana Community College (SLCC), and Nunez Community College (Nunez).

Dr. May stated that he asked each campus to provide a budget analysis at 5%, 7.7% and 9.7% reductions to establish a gauge of what the cuts would mean to each campus and to look at break-points along the way, on a campus by campus basis, where it would start to impact enrollment as, 1) a loss of opportunity to enroll, and 2) can no longer offer a course due to cost constraints. A handout was distributed providing information on how each campus would be affected with the proposed 5, 6-8, and 9.7% cuts.

A question and answer session followed.

Chair Smith asked for a timetable as to when the proposed cuts would go into effect.

Dr. May stated that the proposed cuts listed in the report would be submitted to the Board of Regents and would then be passed on to the Division of Administration. He added that he felt some changes would need to be made, but he anticipated the cuts going into effect in January 2009.

Chair Smith commented that it may be necessary to look at self-generated revenue to manage resources, i.e. raise tuition.

D. RESOLUTION IN RESPONSE TO 2008/2009 BUDGET SHORTFALL

Supervisor Murphy presented a motion to authorize the System President to make necessary budget reductions to FY 2008-2009 state budget for the colleges, regions and system office, in response to directives from the Division of Administration, the Board of Regents and Governor's Office according to the various needs of the students and the various areas of the State.

Supervisor St. Blanc seconded the motion.

Dr. May commented that it may be necessary to make adjustments to the information provided and he appreciated the flexibility to work with the colleges and the Board of Regents.

Chair Smith asked that the Board be informed of the final decisions. He noted that a January board meeting is not scheduled.

Dr. May confirmed that the Board is not scheduled to meet in January, but a meeting could be scheduled if deemed necessary.

Chair Smith stated that all board members present would be allowed to vote on the proposed motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Smith again asked that members of the board be notified if final decisions are made regarding the process for implementing the proposed budget cuts.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

Supervisor Sellers Johnson shared a newspaper article from an Alexandria newspaper where Dr. May made the front page in an article reporting on his visit with 100+ community leaders to discuss the LCTCS's commitment of meeting the workforce needs in Central Louisiana. The CENLA Advantage Partnership (an organization developed through the Rapides Foundation to determine the level of support for a new campus in Central Louisiana), will be meeting in Central Louisiana in the next few months and it is anticipated that the group will attend a board meeting in the near future to discuss the possibility of creating a new college in Central Louisiana.

F. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be considered by the Executive Committee, on motion of Supervisor St. Blanc, seconded by Supervisor Sellers Johnson, the Executive Committee adjourned at 3:06 p.m.