

Presidential Search Updates

The McNeese State University Presidential Search Committee is accepting applications with an eye towards selecting semi-finalists for interviews at the end of April or beginning of May.



The Grambling State University Presidential Search Committee decided to pause search activities to allow time for its interim president to continue to stabilize the university.



To learn more about the searches, visit www.ulsystem.edu/McNeeseSearch or www.ulsystem.edu/GramblingSearch.

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Dr. Randy Moffett
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- 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

Board Endorses Louisiana GRAD Act

The Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System today unanimously voted to support the Louisiana GRAD Act as proposed in House Bill 1171 by Speaker of the House Jim Tucker and Senate Bill 570 by President of the Senate Joel Chaisson.

"This is the single most important piece of legislation for higher education," said UL System President Randy Moffett. "It allows for long overdue financial autonomy in exchange for performance, and provides a light at the end of the tunnel for our universities."

Part of Governor Bobby Jindal's legislative package, the GRAD Act grants col-

leges and universities authority to raise tuition 10 percent each year until they meet the average tuition rates of their peers along with other financial flexibilities, but only if they meet certain performance measures.

"Our sister state, Mississippi, charges almost \$1,000 more in tuition than our universities, while per capita income is \$1,000 less than Louisiana and they have a higher poverty rate," said Moffett.

"No one likes to increase fees for students, but we must keep our universities competitive, and, quite frankly, survive the tremendous financial challenges facing our state," said UL System Board Chair Winfred Sibille.

[State Comparisons on Pages 2 and 3](#)

First Five Apply for McNeese Presidency

The University of Louisiana System has received the first five applications for the position of president at McNeese State University. Advertisements are running nationwide with an April 5 priority date for applications.

The five candidates and their most-recent

positions are listed below:

Kwo-Sun Chu, Senior Executive at Sowell Technical Community College. Chu earned a Doctor of Philosophy from Kent State University.

State Comparisons

Public 4-Year 2008-09 Undergraduate Tuition and Fees (SREB)

- \$5,992—Texas
- \$5,835—Arkansas
- \$5,594—Alabama
- \$5,389—SREB
- \$4,605—Mississippi
- \$3,782—Florida
- **\$3,771—Louisiana**

Public 4-Year 2008-09 State Dollars Per FTE Student (SREB)

- \$7,652—Florida
- **\$6,955—Louisiana**
- \$6,847—SREB Avg.
- \$6,766—Mississippi
- \$6,651—Texas
- \$5,926—Arkansas
- \$5,474—Alabama

Public 4-Year 2008-09 Total Funding Per FTE (SREB)

- \$14,810—Mississippi
- \$14,604—Texas
- \$14,155—SREB Avg.
- \$12,768—Alabama
- \$12,620—Arkansas
- **\$12,577—Louisiana**
- \$12,407—Florida

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McNeese Search *continued from page 1*

John M. Garic, Dean of the College of Technology at Montana Tech. Garic earned a Juris Doctorate from Loyola University.

Bahman Ghorashi, Dean of the College of Engineering at Cleveland State University. Ghorashi earned a Doctor of Philosophy from Ohio State University.

Ashok K. Roy, Assistant Vice President for Finance and Associate Professor of Asian Studies at Kennesaw State University. Roy earned a Doctor of Philosophy from Sardar Pael University in India.

Martin M. Shapiro, Professor of Marketing, Management and International Business at Berkeley Colleges. Shapiro earned a Doctor of Philosophy from New York University.

The full applications can be found on the special presidential search website, www.ulsystem.edu/McNeeseSearch.

McNeese's fifth president, Robert Hebert, will retire

in June after 23 years at the helm. A 13-member search committee is charged with recommending at least two candidates to the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System.

The 13-member search committee is comprised of UL System Board Members Paul Aucoin, Elsie Burkhalter, E. Gerald Hebert, Renee Lapeyrolerie, Jimmy Long, Sr., Russell Mosely, Carl Shetler, Winfred Sibille, Student Board Member Steven Jackson and McNeese faculty representative Linda Larson. Non-voting members are McNeese Student Government Association President Tim Rye and community representative Bob Davidson. UL System President Randy Moffett serves as the non-voting chair.

The search process involves committee members selecting semi-finalist candidates to interview publicly on the campus and recommending at least two candidates to interview with the full Board before a final selection is made.

Established in 1939, McNeese is classified as a Carnegie Master's University.



Nicholls State University teaches students about the impact of marine hurricane debris on Louisiana barrier islands while performing a "beach sweep" at Grand Isle State Park.

Other Board Action

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

ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS

- Grambling: Award an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree to Dr. Muriel A. Howard at the Spring 2010 Commencement Exercises.
- La Tech: Letter of Intent and Proposal to establish a Post Baccalaureate Certificate program in Rural Development in the Department of Agricultural Sciences of the College of Applied and Natural Sciences.
- La Tech: Letter of Intent and Proposal to establish a Post Baccalaureate Certificate program in Dietetics in the School of Human Ecology in the College of Applied and Natural Sciences.
- McNeese: Combine/delete academic majors in French and Spanish to form a B.A. degree program in Foreign Languages.
- McNeese: Increase undergraduate admissions standards for first-time freshmen effective with the Spring 2011 semester.

Universities Garner National Accolades for Service

Grambling State University, Louisiana Tech University and Nicholls State University made the 2009 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. Grambling was one of only two Louisiana schools to make the Honor Roll with Distinction.

Created in 2006, the Honor Roll annually recognizes higher education institutions for commitment and achievement in community service. The program is overseen by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Department of Education, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Campus Compact and the American Council on Education.

Institutions are evaluated on a number of criteria including scope and innovation of service projects, percentage of student participation, incentives for

- Nicholls: Award an Honorary Doctor of Science degree to Mr. Kerry St. Pé at the Spring 2010 Commencement Exercises.

FACILITIES PLANNING

- Grambling: Name the Performing Arts Center the "Conrad Hutchinson, Jr. Performing Arts Center."
- La Tech: Proposed land exchange agreement between Louisiana Tech University and the North American Islamic Trust.
- Southeastern: Demolish the Recreation Center located on the main campus.

FINANCE

- McNeese: Increase in certain self-assessed fees and the creation of additional self-assessed fees effective Fall 2010.

PERSONNEL

- Northwestern: Appoint Dr. Lisa Abney as Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs effective April 1, 2010.

service and amount of service-learning courses offered at the institution.

In 2006, the University of Louisiana System was awarded a three-year, \$1.2 million grant by the Corporation's Learn and Serve America Division to enhance service-learning efforts at all eight universities. To date, those programs have yielded almost 115,000 service hours, over 13,400 college student participants, 836 faculty and staff participants, and 323 community partners.

For more information about UL System service activities, visit www.ulsystem.edu/service.

For more information about the Honor Roll, visit http://www.learnandserve.gov/about/programs/higher_ed_honorroll.asp.

State Comparisons

Persons Below Poverty in 2008 (U.S. Census)

- 13.2%—U.S. Avg.
- 13.3%—Florida
- 15.8%—Texas
- 15.9%—Alabama
- 17.3%—Arkansas
- **17.6%—Louisiana**
- 20.8%—Mississippi

Per Capita Income in 1999 (U.S. Census)

- \$21,587—U.S. Avg.
- \$21,557—Florida
- \$19,617—Texas
- \$18,189—Alabama
- **\$16,912—Louisiana**
- \$16,904—Arkansas
- \$15,853—Mississippi

Median Household Income in 2008 (U.S. Census)

- \$52,029—U.S. Avg.
- \$50,049—Texas
- \$47,802—Florida
- **\$43,635—Louisiana**
- \$42,586—Alabama
- \$38,820—Arkansas
- \$37,818—Mississippi