Grambling State University was the featured institution at today’s UL System Board of Supervisors meeting. GSU President Frank G. Pogue and Provost Connie Walton gave a presentation on their nationally ranked science, engineering, technology, and math (STEM) programs.

President Pogue opened his comments by alluding to the middle and high school students who showcased their projects to the Board. “My eight presidential colleagues are leading very good colleges, but I am glad the students stayed,” exclaimed Pogue. Grambling’s STEM programs are in biological sciences, chemistry, engineering technology, and mathematics. As a historically black university, GSU plays a critical role in supplying more minority graduates in these fields.

According to Diverse Issues in Higher Education, Grambling ranks nationally for the amount of African-American graduates in the following STEM fields: biology, chemistry, engineering, and math.

because they are going to hear about Grambling first,” exclaimed Pogue. Grambling’s STEM programs are in biological sciences, chemistry, engineering technology, and mathematics. As a historically black university, GSU plays a critical role in supplying more minority graduates in these fields.

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

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

- **Tech:** realign the School of Art and the School of Architecture into the School of Design.
- **Tech:** change the title of the Bachelor of Science degree program in Merchandising & Consumer Studies to the Bachelor of Science degree program in Fashion Merchandising & Retail Studies.
- **Tech:** terminate the Master of Arts in Teaching-Multiple Levels Gr K-12.
- **Tech:** terminate the Bachelor of Science Education Multiple Levels Gr K-12; and reinstate the Bachelor of Science Health & Physical Education Gr K-12.
- **Nicholls:** award an honorary Doctor of Letters (D.Litt.) degree to Lawrence “Sonny” Albarado, Jr. at Spring Commencement Exercises.
- **Northwestern:** award an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree to Bert B. Tussing at Spring Commencement Exercises.
- **UL Lafayette:** Proposal for a Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Accounting.
- **UL Lafayette:** Proposal for a Graduate Certificate in Business Administration.
- **UL Lafayette:** Proposal for a Graduate Certificate in Professional Writing.

JOINT FACILITIES PLANNING AND FINANCE

- **McNeese:** contract with Mr. Ronald P. Savoie, Head Women’s Soccer Coach, effective March 1, 2014.
- **McNeese:** place referenda on student self-assessed fees regarding (a) band, (b) spirit, (c) athletics, (d) theatre, (e) safety, (f) rodeo, and (g) student engagement on a student ballot.
- **Southeastern:** contract with Mr. Jim Smoot, Head Women’s Volleyball Coach, effective February 1, 2014.
- **ULM:** construct a new International Student Facility utilizing a 501(c)3, not-for-profit corporation, and acceptance of improvements.
- **ULM:** enter into a Grounds Lease Agreement and Agreement to Lease with Option to Purchase with ULM Facilities Inc., a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation, to replace the artificial turf at Malone Stadium Football Field and accept donation of improvements to the University.

SYSTEM PRESIDENT’S BUSINESS

- **UL System:** Personnel Actions

BOARD CHAIR’S BUSINESS

- **UL System:** cancellation of Board Rule Chapter III, Faculty and Staff, Section XVIII. Human Immunodeficiency Virus
- **UL System:** Cancellation of Board Rule Chapter II, Students, Section XVIII. Human Immunodeficiency Virus

The university is also among the top 50 institutions whose African-American graduates go on to earn a Ph.D. in a STEM area. One success story is 2008 mathematics graduate Talea Mayo, who became the first African-American to complete the University of Texas-Austin’s ICES Ph.D. program. She is currently conducting post doctoral work at Princeton University and credits Grambling for her success. “Choosing GSU remains one of the best decisions of my life,” Mayo wrote in her dissertation dedication.

Provost Walton concluded her comments by reinforcing the university’s motto: Where Everybody is Somebody. “We take students from disenfranchised backgrounds and help them overcome any deficiencies so that they will become successful.”

Other Board Action

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