

# System Matters



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Joe May  
System President

### Officers:

Stephen C. Smith  
Chair

Vincent J. St. Blanc, III  
First Vice Chair

Michael Murphy  
Second Vice Chair

### Members:

E. Edwards Barham  
Robert Brown  
Helen Bridges Carter  
Keith Gamble  
Deni Grissette  
Tim Hardy  
Brett Mellington  
N.J. "Woody" Ogé  
Paul Price, Jr.  
F. "Mike" Stone  
Allen Scott Terrill  
Stephen Toups

### Student Members:

Valerie Gaspard  
Ivy Poreé-Marco

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## LCTCS Board Announces Officers for 2010 – 2011

Today, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System Board of Supervisors met for its monthly meeting. During the meeting, the board announced its selection of Board officers for the 2010 - 2011 year, electing Vincent St. Blanc III of Franklin as Board chair, Michael Murphy of Bogalusa as first vice chair and Woody Ogé of Avondale as second vice chair. Board officer positions will be effective July 1, 2010.

Vincent St. Blanc III, a resident of Franklin, currently is a manager for Steward Building Materials. He previously served as Mayor of the City of Franklin (2004) and as owner and president of St. Mary Hardware & Gifts. He brings an extensive knowledge of technical education to the Board, having been previously employed as a vocational adult education teacher, vocational agriculture teacher, and Future Farmers of America advisor. St. Blanc presently is a member of numerous organizations, including the St. Mary Parish Chamber of Commerce, and chairman of the West St. Mary Industrial Park. St. Blanc is a graduate of the University of Southwestern Louisiana, where he obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in vocational agriculture education. He also holds a certificate for teaching from the State of Louisiana, and is a graduate of Hanson Memorial High School in Franklin. St. Blanc has served on the board since 2005 and served as first vice chair from 2008-2010.

Michael Murphy is the former dean of the Sullivan Campus of Louisiana Technical College. During his professional career, spanning 40 years, he served as a secondary school teacher, technical college instructor, university assistant director for job placement, technical college campus director and dean. He is licensed to practice mental health counseling in Louisiana. Active in school accreditation, he has routinely served as a team member and chair to several states for the Commission on Occupational Education for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and its successor the Commission of the Council on Occupational Education. By currently serving as president of the Washington



*Vincent St. Blanc III of Franklin*



*Michael Murphy of Bogalusa*



*Woody Ogé of Avondale*

Economic Development Foundation and as a member of the Workforce Investment Board SDA20, Murphy remains active in advancing economic and workforce development initiatives on the Northshore. Murphy has served on the board since 2005 and served as second vice chair from 2008-2010

N.J. “Woody” Ogé is the director of business affairs for Northrup Grumman Ship Construction. Ogé has a Louisiana contractor’s license in both legal and program management and is on the Foundation Board at Delgado Community College. He is on the Board of Directors of United Way, Boy Scouts of America, GNO, Inc as well as Chairman of their Workforce Development Committee, JEDCO and Jefferson Business Council. He is a member of Louisiana Workforce Commission’s Louisiana State Apprenticeship Committee, Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, American Society of Naval Engineers, and Surface Navy Association. Ogé is a graduate of Southeastern University. Ogé has served on the board since 2008.

## Smith Honored for Leadership and Service In Board Chair Position



*Stephen Smith (center) is presented with an award of appreciation for his leadership and commitment to the Board during his term as Board chair, 2008-2010. Presenting the award to Smith are newly elected Board chair Vincent St. Blanc III., and LCTCS President Joe D. May (right).*

During the monthly meeting of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System Board of Supervisors, Stephen Smith was honored for his leadership and service to the board. Smith was presented with an award which recognized his two years of leadership as chair of the board. Smith began service as an officer in 2004 when he was elected second vice chair. Smith has served on the LCTCS Board since 2003, and previously served two consecutive terms as first vice chair ('06-'08) and second vice chair ('04-'06).

“We’re so pleased to honor Supervisor Smith today. He has done a stellar job in his role as Board chair for the last two years. The Board chair position calls for a tremendous amount of work and a serious commitment to leadership. Stephen absolutely exceeded his duties and went beyond what anyone would have expected from him. He is such an asset to our board,” said Joe D. May, LCTCS president.

Board member Edwards Barham also commended Smith on his role as Board chair, saying “You did an outstanding job representing the system as Board chair. You put your heart and soul into this thing, spending countless hours

away from your family and devoting your time to our colleges. We truly appreciate your service.”

As chair, Smith dedicated himself to being a voice for community and technical education in the state. Throughout his service as board chair, he was committed to creating a world-class system for the students, faculty, and staff of the state’s community and technical colleges and to working with the state’s administration to transform Louisiana’s workforce. Smith will continue to serve the board of supervisors as an active member. His service end date is July 1, 2015.

Smith works as an attorney. He holds law and accounting degrees from Louisiana State University and he has served on the board of the Houma Terrebonne Chamber of Commerce, South Central Industrial Association and Bayouland YMCA.

## LCTCS Board Welcomes New Student Members

Today, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System Board of Supervisors welcomed two new student members, Valerie Gaspard from South Central Louisiana Technical College and Ivy Poreé-Marco from Delgado Community College. Both students currently serve as Student Government Association presidents at their respective campuses.

Valerie Gaspard will serve as the technical college student representative on the Board. She currently attends South Central Louisiana Technical College, River Parishes Campus in Reserve. She is pursuing her studies in both accounting and office systems technology. She is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and was one of 20 students recently recognized as part of the All-Louisiana Academic Team for 2010.

“I am looking forward to a wonderful year working with the LCTCS Board of Supervisors. I believe this will be a great opportunity to address any concerns and issues that the technical colleges are faced with,” said Gaspard. “I will fulfill my duties and responsibilities to the best of my abilities. It is my honor and privilege to serve as a student advocate for the technical colleges in the State of Louisiana,” she added.

Ivy Poreé-Marco will serve as the community college student representative on the Board. Poreé-Marco currently attends Delgado Community College in New Orleans. She is majoring in criminal justice. Ivy is an active member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society. She recently served as the Regional Louisiana Representative for Phi Theta Kappa and was inducted into Who’s Who Among American Universities and Colleges in 2009 and 2010. She will graduate in May, 2011.

“I am very honored to have this position as a student member on the LCTCS Board of Supervisors. I am looking forward to having a new learning experience and trust that I will be able to a strong advocate for the students of Louisiana’s community colleges,” said Poreé-Marco.

The LCTCS Board of Supervisors has 17 members. The Governor of the State of Louisiana, with consent from the Senate, appoints 15 members - two from each of the seven congressional districts and one at-large member. In addition, a council of peers elects two student members who serve a one year term. The board oversees the operations of seven community colleges, two technical community colleges and seven regional technical colleges.

## LCTCS Oil Spill Response Training Leads to Over 3,000 Job Ready

### *Community and Technical Colleges Prepared to Respond to Gulf Crisis with Training*

Recently, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) has begun working diligently to provide trainers to supply oil spill response workers in light of the recent crisis on the coast. Four colleges within the system, Delgado Community College (New Orleans), Nunez Community College (Chalmette), South Central Technical College (Houma/Terrebonne Area), and Baton Rouge Community College (Baton Rouge) were quick to respond to the initial request for trainers in late May and provided a group of well-qualified instructors as needed, which has now led to more than 3,000 individuals being trained.

“As a system, we are deeply concerned about the incident that is affecting our Gulf coast and State. Our colleges are fully prepared to step up to the plate and offer the training needed to accelerate the clean-up process. We are pleased to provide our highly qualified instructors to conduct the training and are privileged to lend a hand in these critically necessary efforts. We are going to do all that we can to provide solutions for the people in the State of Louisiana during these difficult times,” said LCTCS Executive Vice President Monty Sullivan.



*Valerie Gaspard from South Central Louisiana Technical College and Ivy Poreé-Marco are all smiles after being sworn in as the new student Board members for the LCTCS Board of Supervisors. Pictured (l to r) are, LCTCS Board President Joe D. May, Gaspard, Poreé-Marco, and LCTCS Board Chair Stephen Smith.*

“We are going to do all that we can to provide solutions for the people in the State of Louisiana during these difficult times.”

—Monty Sullivan, LCTCS  
Executive Vice President

The first day of instruction on Wednesday, May 26 led to LCTCS instructors training 200-plus workers. By the end of the first day of training, that lasted until after midnight, a total of 333 were job-ready for employment in Grand Isle, thanks to the efforts of LCTCS and additional contracted trainers. In the first week, more than 1,000 individuals were trained by the LCTCS institutions. As of today, 3,000 individuals are now job-ready and will begin work on the damaged Gulf Coast.

Trained workers can potentially earn a starting salary of \$12 per hour for their clean-up efforts if they are hired by a local contractor.

The majority of these workers were already unemployed or underemployed, so their employment needs are now being met through these efforts.

“We’ve always been focused on putting people to work,” said Joe D. May, LCTCS President. “Now that Louisiana’s coast has been faced with this incredible need, we can actually work to solve two serious crises – coastal clean-up and providing our unemployed citizens with steady work. We are prepared to provide both excellent training and qualified workers for as long as it takes to restore our great state.”

Specifically, LCTCS trainers have been conducting the Module 3 class entitled Post-Emergency Spilled Oil Cleanup. The four hour class prepares individuals for the hazards of cleanup work in the contaminated shoreline environment. The trained individuals will directly assist in cleaning up the spill-contaminated shoreline and vessel operations during weathered oil recovery. In the near future, LCTCS trainers will begin conducting Module 2 training, the Contractor Expectations class. The class will provide contractors with a basic Health, Safety & Environmental (HSE) Orientation and expectations and focuses on pre-job safety meetings, job planning, risk identification and the right to ‘stop the job’ if things appear unsafe. Trainees will emerge ready to perform spill-related cleanup activities. LCTCS trainers will also begin providing Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) 40-hour training which will fully prepare trainees for safe and effective clean-up endeavors. This training is for those workers who will have direct contact with petroleum for shoreline and vessel operations.

Currently, the colleges continuing to participate in the training are Delgado Community College, conducting training in both Grand Isle and the New Orleans area, Nunez Community College, conducting training in Mobile, Alabama and Baton Rouge Community College, also conducting training in Mobile Alabama.

Classes are continuing and scheduled to continue for as long as it is necessary. LCTCS looks to continue the upward trend of producing qualified workers, as new trainers from the colleges are approved.

Individuals interested in participating in the training can call the LCTCS Call Center at 1-866-310-1586.



**Louisiana Community &  
Technical College System**

*Changing Lives, Creating Futures*

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Baton Rouge Community College  
Bossier Parish Community College  
Delgado Community College  
L.E. Pletcher Technical Community College  
Louisiana Delta Community College

Elaine P. Nunez Community College  
River Parishes Community College  
South Louisiana Community College  
Sowela Technical Community College

REGIONAL TECHNICAL COLLEGES

Acadiana Technical College  
Capital Area Technical College  
Central Louisiana Technical College  
Northeast Louisiana Technical College

Northshore Technical College  
Northwest Louisiana Technical College  
South Central Louisiana Technical College