LCTCS Board Announces Officers for 2012-2013

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 2012 - 2013 year. Michael Murphy of Bogalusa was elected as Board chair, Norwood “Woody” Ogé of Avondale as first vice chair and Timothy W. Hardy of Baton Rouge as second vice chair. Board officer positions are effective July 1, 2012.

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 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 2007 and served as second vice chair from 2008-2010 and first vice chair from 2010-2012.

Norwood “Woody” Ogé, of Avondale, is the director of business affairs for Ingalls Shipbuilding-Avondale Operations and is responsible for all functions at the shipyard in support of ship construction and all community, local, state and federal business relations. Ogé served as chairman of Governor Jindal’s workforce transition committee and currently sits on the Department of Education’s Tier 1 Committee on High School Redesign and their business and industry roundtable as well as the board of directors of the Delgado Community College Foundation. Ogé has a Louisiana contractor’s license in both legal and program management. He will serve as a representative of the 1st Congressional district, as required by statute. Ogé was appointed on July 10, 2008 and his service end date is July 1, 2014. Ogé has served on the board since 2008 and served as second vice chair from 2010-2012.

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Timothy W. Hardy is a native of Shreveport, Louisiana, a practicing attorney and a partner in the Roedel, Parsons, Koch, Blache, Balhoff & McCollister Law Firm. He heads the firm’s Environmental Law Practice Group and regularly represents clients in regulatory, litigation and transactional matters. He holds a B.S. Degree in Chemistry and a Juris Doctor Degree from the Southern University School of Law. He is married to the former Stacia Saizon and has two daughters, Nicole, a 2010 Biology graduate of Hampton University in Hampton, Virginia and currently attending Meharry Medical School in Nashville, TN, and Amanda, a 2010 graduate of the LSU Laboratory School and currently a sophomore and pre-med major at Tulane University. Hardy was appointed April 27, 2010 and his service end date is July 1, 2017. He has been appointed to serve as an at-large member, as required by statute.

Two new student members were also sworn in at today’s board meeting, Adrianna Garcia from South Central Louisiana Technical College and Jimmy Douglas from Baton Rouge Community College. Both students currently serve as Student Government Association presidents at their respective campuses.

Adrianna Garcia will serve as the technical college student representative on the Board. She currently attends South Central Louisiana Technical College, Young Memorial Campus in Morgan City. She serves as a technical college representative on the Council of Student Body Presidents (COSBP). Garcia is also a Skills USA member and recently received a silver medal for Medical Terminology. She is pursuing her studies in business administration and plans to enroll at Nicholls State University for business management after graduation.

Jimmy Douglas will serve as the community college student representative on the Board. Douglas currently attends Baton Rouge Community College. He is pursuing an Associate Degree in Entertainment Technology and Liberal Arts. He is a member of the Council of Student Body Presidents and served as the parliamentarian at BRCC. He plans to transfer to a four year university upon graduation and study sociology and business administration.

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, three technical community colleges and six regional technical colleges.

St. Blanc Honored for Leadership and Service in Board Chair Position

During today’s meeting, Vincent St. Blanc III was honored for his leadership and service to the board as chair. St. Blanc was presented with an award which recognized his two years of leadership as chair of the board. St. Blanc began service as an officer in 2008 when he was elected first vice chair. St. Blanc has served on the LCTCS Board since November 2005, and previously served two consecutive terms as first vice chair before becoming chair.

“Supervisor St. Blanc’s leadership, passion and commitment to the students of Louisiana’s Community and Technical Colleges and this board has been nothing short of stellar. He has been an advocate of higher education and the advancement of Louisiana.” said Joe D. May, LCTCS president.

“I am happy and proud to have served as board chair for one of the finest higher education systems the nation. I can honestly say that everyone I’ve been associated with in the LCTCS is a valued professional and is here for the sole purpose of..."

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changing the lives of our students and making Louisiana a better place. For that I salute you and I thank you for your support and everything you do,” St. Blanc remarked.

As chair, St. Blanc 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. St. Blanc will continue to serve the board of supervisors as an active member. His service end date is July 1, 2017.

St. Blanc is a resident of Franklin and is currently 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 was 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.

Garrett Honored for Years of Service as Regional Director

Today, the LCTCS Board of Supervisors honored Gregory Garrett for his leadership and service to South Central Louisiana Technical College. Garrett, who recently announced his retirement as Regional Director, was presented with a resolution naming him Regional Director Emeritus which recognized his more than 32 years of leadership in all aspects of education.

“I want to thank Greg for his thirty plus years of devotion and service to the campuses in South Central Louisiana,” said LCTCS President Dr. Joe D. May. “He’s spent a large portion of his life advancing career and technical education and his leadership has meant great success, growth and achievement for the college. He will be truly missed.”

Garrett has served a total of 32 ½ years in career and technical education including 28 years in leadership roles. In April of 1990, he was employed as the Campus Dean at South Central Louisiana Technical College, Young Memorial Campus (formerly Louisiana Technical College, Young Memorial Campus). Garrett has served in a variety of leadership roles at the college, but has served as the leader of South Central Louisiana Technical College since November of 2003.

During his six years as regional director of South Central Louisiana Technical College, he successfully led the evolution of the region’s campuses from LTC Region 3 into what is now known as South Central Louisiana Technical College, while undergoing a significant accreditation process. His most recent achievement includes helping orchestrate the new construction project for the Young Memorial campus in Morgan City.

Pictured from left to right are LCTCS President Joe May, Outgoing Board Chair Vincent St. Blanc III and Incoming Board Chair Michael Murphy.

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The Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) Board of
Supervisors today unanimously approved the appointments of Dr. Jerry Ryan, Dr.
Michael Elam, and Jimmy Sawtelle. Ryan’s appointment is effective June 14 and all
others are effective immediately.

Ryan will assume the responsibilities of Acting Chancellor at Louisiana Delta
Community College and Acting Regional Director for Northeast Louisiana Technical
College. Ryan fills the vacancy created by Delta Chancellor Dr. Luke Robins who
recently accepted the position of chancellor at Peninsula College in Port Angeles,
Washington. Prior to serving as acting chancellor, Dr. Ryan was the Senior Vice
President for Workforce, Career and Technical Education for the LCTCS Office.

“We’re pleased that Dr. Ryan has agreed to take the reins at Delta and are confident
he’ll do a wonderful job as acting chancellor. He’s been a great asset to our office
thus far and he’ll definitely be a great benefit to Northeast Louisiana as well,” said Dr. Joe D. May, LCTCS President.

“I am eager to begin my service as acting chancellor to the merged college. I am confident that the merger represents a
commitment that we will be better together!,” said Ryan. “I pledge that the citizens of the Delta region will continue to
have access to an affordable, quality, comprehensive community college.”

Prior to joining LCTCS, Ryan led New Jersey’s largest junior college for four years as president of Bergen Community
College. Under his leadership, Bergen College grew in nearly every respect, including its academic offerings, faculty,
community programs and presence. Bergen’s enrollment reached record highs every year during his tenure, rising to
17,197 students in fall 2010 - a 17.7 percent increase from fall 2006, the year before Ryan was hired.

Elam Appointed as Interim Chancellor of Central Louisiana Technical Community College

Dr. Anthony Michael Elam was appointed as the interim Chancellor of Central Louisiana
Technical Community College (CLTCC). Recent legislation, Senate Bill 247 by Senator
Gerald Long, made CLTC a technical community college effective July 1, pending the
governor’s signature.

“Dr. Elam has been invaluable to our system over the last few months as a leader and he’s
truly been an asset to our leadership team,” said LCTCS President Joe D. May. “We’re
grateful that he is filling this role and know that he’ll do a remarkable job leading CLTCC
through this next phase of growth and expansion.”

Elam will assume responsibilities as the interim chancellor, filling the vacancy created by
Interim Regional Director Jimmy Sawtelle who was appointed Regional Director of South
Central Louisiana Technical College at today’s Board of Supervisors meeting.

“I am excited about the opportunity to serve as the interim chancellor of Central Louisiana
Technical Community College and I am looking forward to collaborating with the faculty, staff and the business and
industry partners to help build a comprehensive community college that will have a strong reputation for delivering
high quality educational programs, training and services that meet the economic development and workforce needs of
Central Louisiana and beyond,” Elam said.

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Elam most recently served as interim chancellor at Sowela Technical Community College from February 15, 2012 until June 1 when Dr. Neil Aspinwall assumed duties as chancellor after a national search. Before coming to Sowela, Elam served as President of College of the Mainland in Texas City, Texas, a single campus district serving the 13 cities of Galveston County with an approximate enrollment of 13,000 students. Prior to that appointment, he held numerous leadership positions at the university and community college levels acquiring more than 32 years of experience in higher education.

**Sawtelle Appointed as Regional Director of South Central Louisiana Technical College**

Today, James R. “Jimmy” Sawtelle III was appointed Regional Director of South Central Louisiana Technical College.

“Jimmy has been a great asset to our system for many years and we’re so proud to be naming him to this post today. He’s incredibly talented in the realm of technical education and is well respected throughout the state for his work in our colleges,” said LCTCS President Joe D. May. “We’re happy to bring Jimmy home to Morgan City and know that he’ll do an outstanding job leading South Central Louisiana Technical College.”

Sawtelle will assume responsibilities as the regional director, filling the vacancy created by longtime Regional Director Gregory Garrett who recently announced his retirement after an extensive and impressive career in technical education that spanned more than 32 years.

“I am truly honored and humbled by the opportunity to serve at South Central Louisiana Technical College. We are excited about returning to south Louisiana and being a part of such an innovative and successful college” said Sawtelle.

Sawtelle currently serves as Interim Regional Director of Central Louisiana Technical Community College and has led the college since April of last year. He also serves as vice president for career and technical education within the Louisiana Community and Technical College System office, a role he has held since 2006. Prior to joining LCTCS, Sawtelle served as a workforce development officer and campus dean at South Central Louisiana Technical College. In addition, he has served in the roles of interim regional director and, prior to that, electronic learning director at Acadiana Technical College.

During his tenure as interim director, he assisted in the oversight of the new Shelby M. Jackson and Huey P. Long campus developments. The Shelby Jackson Campus development is a $5.2 million project and will include a new 11,500-square-foot Nursing School addition along with a renovation to the existing 10,900-square-foot main classroom building. The Huey P. Long Campus development is an $11.5 million project that will include a new 51,000-square-foot building. Both projects are part of the Act 391 facilities project, which was passed during the 2007 Legislative Session and includes 23 projects for 14 community and technical colleges throughout the state and a total bond package of $173.7 million.
Today, Dr. Luke Robins (center) was presented with a resolution and a plaque in honor of his service as Chancellor of Louisiana Delta Community College. Robins recently announced he will be transferring to Port Angeles, Washington to become chancellor of Peninsula College. During his six years as chancellor Robins oversaw full initial accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), managed the oversight of the construction of Delta’s new campus and doubled enrollment. Pictured with Dr. Robins are Outgoing Board Chair Vincent St. Blanc III (left) and LCTCS President Joe May (right).