



Louisiana Board of Pharmacy

3388 Brentwood Drive
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809-1700



MINUTES

The **Tripartite Committee** of the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy convened a regular meeting on **Wednesday, November 15, 2023** at the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy located at 3388 Brentwood Drive in Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809. The meeting was held pursuant to public notice, each member received notice, and public notice was properly posted.

CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of Chairman Robert LeBas, Dr. Raymond Strong substituted as Chairman and called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m.

QUORUM CALL

Committee Members Present: Ms. Jacqueline L. Hall (substitute), Mr. W. Charles Jones, Mr. Kevin LaGrange, Dr. Raymond Strong, Mr. Anthony Mercante (substitute), Mr. Rhonny K. Valentine (substitute) and Mr. Marty R. McKay (Ex-Officio).

Committee Members Absent: Mr. Robert LeBas, Mr. Richard Mannino, and Mr. J. Troy Menard.

Ex-Officio: Mr. Scott Black (for LPA President), Ms. Julie Fuselier (LPA Executive Director), Dr. Michael Cockerham (ULM-COP Associate Dean), Dr. Kristi Isaac Rapp (XU-COP Associate Dean).

Guests: Mr. Malcolm J. Broussard (Hygeia Solutions).

CALL FOR ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS & ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Dr. Strong asked if there were any additional agenda items to be added; none were requested. Without objection, the members adopted the posted agenda dated November 3, 2023.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None offered.

REPORTS FROM EDUCATORS

On behalf of Xavier University College of Pharmacy (XU-COP), Dr. Rapp reported 331 students enrolled as of the fall 2023, 58 - P1 students and 104 students in their fourth year set to graduate in 2024. Dr. Rapp noted the previous graduating class had 143 students. XU-COP completed a recent accreditation site visit in April 2023, and their accreditation continued until June 30, 2031. Dr. Rapp also reported on XU-COP residency, research, and grant funding activities.

On behalf of the University of Louisiana at Monroe College of Pharmacy (ULM-COP), Dr. Cockerham reported that enrollment dropped in the last 2 years, but he indicated signs of an increase in 2024. ULM-COP has seen a decrease in faculty due to retirement and resignations, so they are trying to find replacements. Dr. Cockerham reported that in calendar year 2022 the COP received an 8-year accreditation. Dr. Cockerham also reported on residencies and new organizational activity.

A conversation followed regarding low pharmacy school enrollment numbers. Comparisons were made between pharmacy school programs and that of physician assistant and nurse practitioner programs. It was said that physician assistant and nurse practitioner programs have a lower cost of overall tuition and fewer years for completion when compared with pharmacy school programs. There was also discussion regarding the issue of pharmacists' job satisfaction due to working conditions which has led to a negative view of the profession by prospective students.

There was some discussion regarding reducing the pharmacy school program by one year and regarding pharmacists being able to practice at the top of their license.

REPORTS FROM PRACTITIONERS

On behalf of the Louisiana Pharmacists Association (LPA), Ms. Fusilier presented a historical summary of continuing pharmacy education offered by the association.

PHARMACY WORKFORCE DISCUSSION

The discussion was incorporated into the above agenda items.

NEW AGENDA ITEMS ADDED DURING MEETING

No new agenda items were added.

ADJOURN

Having completed the tasks listed on the posted agenda, with no further business pending before the committee and without objection, Dr. Strong adjourned the meeting at 1:53 p.m.

Minutes approved by the Committee at subsequent meeting held on February 24, 2026.