

**MINUTES
LOUISIANA OPTICAL NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

November 15, 2022

The Louisiana Optical Network Infrastructure (LONI) Management Council (MC) met at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, November 15, 2022, in the Arkansas Room, Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA. Chair Ramu Ramachandran called the meeting to order.

I. ROLL CALL

Ms. Michelle Brandon called the roll, and a quorum was established by those present.

<u>Council Members:</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present / Absent</u>
Kenneth Boe	LSU System	Present
Joseph Bull	Tulane University	Absent***
Clarence Copeland	LETA/LPB	Absent**
Gabriel Fagbeyiro	SU System	Present
Gene Fields	UL System	Present
Paul Helton	LED	Present
Richard Howze	DOA	Present
Matthew LaBruyere	Board of Regents	Present
Lonnie Leger	LONI	Present
Ramu Ramachandran	UL System	Present
Ram Ramanujam	LSU System	Absent
Eric Setz	LCTCS	Absent
Rachel Vincent-Finley	SU System	Present
Noel Wong	Tulane University	Absent
Craig Woolley	LSU System	Present
** Denotes two consecutive absences		
*** Denotes three or more consecutive absences		

II. SECRETARY REPORT

Mr. Lonnie Leger informed the Council that the August 23rd meeting minutes had been delayed and won't be available for adoption until the meeting on February 14, 2023.

III. CHAIR BUSINESS

a. Remarks

1. Chair Ramu Ramachandran informed the Council of the numerous representative member vacancies, including LAICU, LCTCS, Tulane, and the UL System, to this body. Chair Ramachandran delegated the implementation of filling these vacancies to the Executive Director. Mr. Lonnie Leger informed the Council that the Board of Regents staff anticipates issuing the appointment and advisor letter before the Thanksgiving Holiday Break.
2. Chair Ramachandran notified the Council that he would be rolling off as Chair on December 31, 2022. Chair Ramachandran expressed how LONI has developed into a great asset and that with the bylaw improvements, the Council has increased the continuity of operations going forward. Chair Ramachandran said he looked forward to returning as a regular representative member and watching the Chair-Elect Gabriel Fagbeyiro take the reign of his forthcoming role.

b. Governance and Responsibility

1. Officer Nominations Committee Report

1. Mr. Gene Fields provided an update on the process to fill the upcoming Chair-Elect and Secretary positions, which would begin their term on January 1, 2023. Unfortunately, there was no nomination for the position of Secretary; thus, the incoming Chair and Chair-Elect, along with the

Nominations Committee and Executive Director, will continue to seek nominees.

2. Mr. Fields confirmed with Mr. Kenneth Boe, and he has accepted to be nominated as the upcoming Chair-Elect for 2023.

3. On a motion by Mr. Gene Fields, second by Mr. Lonnie Leger, the LONI Management Council unanimously voted to accept the nomination of Mr. Kenneth Boe as the Chair-Elect beginning on January 1, 2023.

c. Motion to modify the Bylaws Article 3.4 for Secretary

1. Mr. Lonnie Leger presented how the Council approved the motion at the previous meeting to remove the title of Treasurer from the Secretary Officer's role because there were no current or future responsibilities for financial matters since that was transferred to the Executive Director.
2. Mr. Lonnie Leger continued by explaining that after that action by the Council, the responsibility for the role needs to reflect a forward vision for the position.

3.4 Secretary.

The Secretary shall be responsible for working with Regents staff, Officers, and Executive Director to coordinate the timely establishment and distribution of meeting minutes.

3. **On a motion by Mr. Lonnie Leger, second by Mr. Kenneth Boe, the LONI Management Council unanimously voted to approve the following bylaw change to section 3.4 for the position of Secretary.**

3.4 Secretary.

The Secretary shall be responsible for the parliamentary function of the Council and assist Council Officers and Executive Director in the drafting and interpretation of bylaws and rules of order, and the planning and conduct of meetings. The Secretary shall be responsible for working with Regents staff, Officers, and Executive Director to coordinate the timely establishment and distribution of meeting minutes. The Secretary shall be responsible for tracking Council Officers, Appointments, and Advisor's vacancies and terms for appropriate filling and renewal.

d. Motion to modify the Bylaws Article 2.3 for Advisors

1. Mr. Lonnie Leger presented how the Council approved the motion at the previous meeting based on the recommendation of the Cybersecurity Task Force to recommend to the Commissioner of Higher Education to create a new advisor role within the Council to be known as the Chief Cybersecurity Advisor.
2. Mr. Lonnie Leger continued by explaining that after that action by the Council, the newly created advisor position needs to be codified in the bylaws as the other advisors.

2.3 Advisors.

The Council shall include the following Advisors: a. Chief Scientist, b. Chief Technology Advisor, and c. Chief Economic Development Advisor. The Chief Scientist and Chief Technology Advisor shall be appointed to the Council by the Commissioner of Higher Education for a term of two years, renewable at the discretion of the Commissioner. The Chief Economic Development Advisor shall be appointed to the Council by the Secretary of the Department of Economic Development for a term of two years, renewable at the discretion of the Secretary.

- 3. On a motion by Mr. Lonnie Leger, second by Mr. Richard Howze, the LONI Management Council unanimously voted to approve the following bylaw change to section 2.3 for the position of Advisors.**

2.3 Advisors.

The Council shall include the following Advisors: a. Chief Scientist, b. Chief Technology Advisor, c. Chief Economic Development Advisor, and d. Chief Cybersecurity Advisor. The Chief Scientist, Chief Technology Advisor, and Chief Cybersecurity Advisor shall be appointed to the Council by the Commissioner of Higher Education for a term of two years, renewable at the discretion of the Commissioner. The Chief Economic Development Advisor shall be appointed to the Council by the Secretary of the Department of Economic Development for a term of two years, renewable at the discretion of the Secretary.

- e. Motion to approve the 2024 Meeting Schedule

- 1. On a motion by Chair Ramu Ramachandran, second by Mr. Paul Helton, the LONI Management Council unanimously voted to approve the 2024 Meeting Schedule.**

2024 LONI Management Council Meeting Schedule:

- *Tuesday, February 20, 2024, 1:30-2:30pm*
- *Tuesday, May 14, 2024, 1:30-2:30 pm*
- *Tuesday, August 27, 2024, 1:30-2:30pm*
- *Tuesday, November 19, 2024, 1:30-2:30pm*

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. Lonnie Leger provided the Council with an update on the progress of the 2022 Work Plan. During this timeframe, Mr. Matthew LaBruyere reported that the Board of Regents staff would encourage every public institution and college to participate in the FCC Rural Health Care (RHC) program. Under the Event and News item, Mr. Leger informed the Council that the LONI Summit would be held at Grambling State University in March 2023, and more details will follow. Under the Strategic Plan item, Mr. Leger informed the Council that the Board of Regents staff had issued a survey to the CIOs/CTOs/IT Directors for feedback to assist with the next step in our process of producing a strategic plan. Mr. Matthew LaBruyere informed the Council that the survey would close on November 29, 2022. Under the PaaS Update item, Mr. Leger reported to the Council of his assignment from the previous Council meeting on his progress to establish a cybersecurity framework with its managed service portfolio. Mr. Leger stated he saw a potential transition for LONI to become the “Security Platform” for its members. Mr. Leger explained the progress between the LONI and LSU staff toward implementing a Security Operations Center as a Service (SOCaaS). Mr. Leger continued by explaining the Service Portfolio and how SOCaaS would be layered into its managed service offerings. Mr. Leger reported on the progress of receiving the last payments for the FY23 invoices, which were due on September 30, 2022. In addition, Mr. Leger solicited the help of the representative members to encourage their respective campuses to return their signed FY24 Service Orders by December 15, 2022. Mr. Matthew LaBruyere informed the Council of the positive feedback to the initial thoughts regarding the SOCaaS through the recent Cybersecurity regional meetings. Mr. LaBruyere thanked the Council for helping to ensure every public institution and college attended one of these regional meetings. Mr. LaBruyere stated that Regents, along with Office of Technology

Services (OTS) and Emergency Support Function (ESF)17, is planning to develop and present another series of educational opportunities next year. Under the High-Performance Computing (HPC) Quarterly Update item, Mr. Leger informed the Council that the LONI Staff, in conjunction with the LSU HPC Staff, held a LONI HPC Forum – AI Exchange – on November 9, 2022, to communicate their strategy for the 4th Generation Supercomputer codename QB4. In addition, during this exchange, they requested that researchers post their AI stories at www.loni.org/research/research-initiatives/active. Mr. Leger pointed out that the updated Service Portfolio highlights the addition of artificial intelligence/machine learning (AI/ML) capabilities as part of the \$12.5 supplemental appropriations for a LONI AI Supercomputer. Under the Network Quarterly Update item, Mr. Gary Mumphrey gave the Council an update on the projects in their service design phase as well as an update on the working group’s participation. Mr. Mumphrey also reminded the Council that if anyone does not like where their campuses are ranked in the graphic, they should contact LONI to help address better participation. Mr. Mumphrey reiterated that LONI is a membership organization operating as a program within the Board of Regents and as an ecosystem between it and its members. The organization works best when the members are constructively engaged with the program and each other. Mr. Lance Neal provided the Council an update on the projects in their service transition and service operations phases. Under the Research Opportunities item, Mr. Leger stated there were no new opportunities to inform the Council regarding.

V. CHIEF ADVISORS REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

a. Chief Scientist

i. Mr. Ram Ramanujam was not present to give a report.

b. Chief Technology Advisor

i. Mr. Gene Fields continued his call for his fellow Council representative members and CIOs to join the various meetings and calls with LONI and members to unpack the details around each other's operational needs, pain points, and discoveries.

c. Chief Economic Development Advisor

i. Mr. Paul Helton stated he didn't have anything to announce publicly.

d. Chief Cybersecurity Advisor

i. Mr. Craig Woolley stated he had nothing new or different than was already presented on cybersecurity.

VI. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

a. There was no discussion on this topic.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Lonnie Leger thanked the members for their attention, partnership, and being a friend. There being no further business to come before the LONI Executive Management Council, Mr. Lonnie Leger motioned to adjourn, seconded by Craig Woolley, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:13 p.m.