

Prior law created the La. Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON) for the purpose of conducting research and promoting education in the marine sciences and marine technology, with a focus on coastal resources. Further provided that such functions be performed primarily at the LUMCON center on the La. gulf coast.

New law retains the purpose specified in prior law but specifies that LUMCON is a statewide entity and removes the restriction that such functions be performed primarily at the LUMCON Center.

Prior law provided that the LUMCON executive board be composed of:

1. The chancellor and one vice chancellor, chosen by the chancellor of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College in Baton Rouge.
2. The president and one vice president, chosen by the president of Nicholls State University.
3. The president and one vice president, chosen by the president of the University of Southwestern Louisiana.

New law reconfigures the membership of the LUMCON executive board and provides for voting and non-voting members as follows:

1. The vice chancellor of research for Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, who shall serve as a voting member.
2. A vice chancellor or dean, appointed by the chancellor of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, who shall serve as a non-voting member.
3. The vice president of research for Louisiana Tech University, who shall serve as a voting member.
4. A vice president or dean, appointed by the president of Louisiana Tech University, who shall serve as a non-voting member.
5. A vice president, appointed by the president of Nicholls State University, who shall serve as a voting member.
6. A vice president or dean, appointed by the president of Nicholls State University, who shall serve as a non-voting member.
7. The vice president of research for Tulane University, who shall serve as a voting member.
8. A vice president or dean, appointed by the president of Tulane University, who shall serve as a non-voting member.
9. The vice president of research for the University of New Orleans, who shall serve as a voting member.
10. A vice president or dean, appointed by the president of the University of New Orleans, who shall serve as a non-voting member.
11. The vice president of research for the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, who shall serve as a voting member.
12. A vice president or dean, appointed by the president of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, who shall serve as a non-voting member.
13. A vice president or dean, appointed by the president of the University of Louisiana at Monroe, who shall serve as a voting member.

14. A vice president or dean, appointed by the president of the University of Louisiana at Monroe, who shall serve as a non-voting member.
15. The chair of the board's Science and Education Advisory Council, who shall serve as a voting member.
16. A member of the staff of the Board of Regents, appointed by the commissioner of higher education, who shall serve as a non-voting member.
17. A representative from BESE, appointed by the president of the board, who shall serve as a non-voting member.

Further provides that only voting members will be counted for purposes of constituting a quorum for the transaction of business.

Prior law provided that the executive board be chaired for a one-year term by one of the postsecondary institution chief executive officers and provides for a vice chair and second vice chair.

New law retains the one-year term for the board chair but specifies that the chair shall be either a vice president or vice chancellor of research. Restricts members to no more than two consecutive terms as board chair and deletes provisions relative to additional offices.

Prior law required the executive board to create an advisory council composed of representatives from member institutions and public and private agencies that use the consortium's facilities. Further provided for representation from each four-year postsecondary institution offering a baccalaureate degree in science and engineering and one representative from the La. Assoc. of Independent Colleges and Universities. Provided that the advisory council would meet as necessary at the request of the executive board to respond to requests and provide perspective.

New law retains the advisory function of the council but repeals the remaining provisions and instead statutorily creates the Science and Education Advisory Council with the following membership:

1. One faculty representative from each four-year public college and university, appointed by the president or chancellor of each institution.
2. One faculty representative from each of the member institutions of the La. Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, appointed by the president or chancellor.
3. One representative from the La. Community and Technical College System, appointed by the president of such system.

Prior law required the LUMCON executive director to submit an annual report of the consortium's activities to the executive board by Dec. 31st of each year.

New law retains these provisions and additionally requires that:

1. The executive board, in consultation with the board's advisory council, formulate a five-year master plan for the consortium's program and initiatives and make revisions as warranted and necessary. The initial master plan must be submitted to the Bd. of Regents not later than February 1, 2013.
2. The chair of the executive board, the board's executive director, and the chair of the advisory council shall annually make a joint report to the Bd. of Regents regarding the consortium's efficacy in achieving its overall mission through implementation of the master plan.

Effective August 1, 2012.

(Amends R.S. 17:3451, 3453(B), (D) and (E), and 3456; adds R.S. 17:3453.1; repeals R.S. 17:3453(F))

