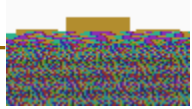


RODERICK L. SMOTHERS, Sr.



10, 2023

/
1201 , 70802 7-300
: _____

Dear Search Committee Members:

(). I believe that I am well-suited for this position because my professional journey of strategic advocacy for educational and economic justice and championing workforce innovations and their inherent connection to access and success in postsecondary education systems has prepared me for this defining moment.

In preparation for this process, I have read, with judicious introspection, the history and vision of GSU of , the institution made and it holds promise to reach even greater heights, as it self as a university that aspires to become a model of excellence

overlook the salient data points that paint a narrative that has been in

As an administrator,

,

,

,

.

;

,



Certificate in Fund Raising Management

The Fund Raising School, Lily Family School of Philanthropy Indiana University Indianapolis, IN March 2006

Doctor of Philosophy, Educational Leadership, Research, and Counseling

Concentration in Higher Education Administration Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, LA August 2004

Master of Public Administration

Concentration in Higher Education Administration Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, L



Center for the Study and Preservation of HBCUs, Virginia Union University (VUU)

Langston University Langston, OK

7/2006–12/2010

Only historically black college or university (HBCU) in the state of Oklahoma with 3,000 students across three distinct campuses.

Responsible with President, and three other Vice Presidents for overall direction and management of the University. Directly responsible for strategic planning, overseeing annual goals and objectives, management of fiscal and personnel resources, program development, assessment and evaluation, and development of policies and procedures for the newly



Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, LA
Public, four-year flagship institution of Louisiana with approximately 35,000 students.

11/1999–8/2003



United States Air Force Reserves Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, MS

5/1993–1/1997

United States Air Force Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, MS

12/1991–5/1993

Educational Research (EDFL 501); School/Community Relations (EDFL 456); Trends and Issues in Urban Higher Education Institutions (ED 4000); Educational Research (HE4100); Higher Education Issues (HE4900)

Foundations of Education (EDFL 106); Educational Psychology (EDFL 201); Classroom Assessment (EDFL 456); Special Topics in Education (EDUC 2000); Historical and Phil. Found. (ED 2212)

Chemistry; Physical Science

Smothers, Roderick. “Advancement Teams: Don’t Underestimate the Power of the Individual Donor.” *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*, September 14, 2023, [Di e e : Se embe 14, 2023 \(m digi al blica i .c m\)](#)! Accessed January 10, 2024.

Smothers, Roderick. “20/20 Vision in the Wake of a Crisis.” *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*, April 11, 2020, <https://diverseeducation.com/article/172905/>. Accessed January 10, 2024.

Louisiana Tuition Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS): Implications for Access and Quality by African American Students; Association for the Study of Higher Education Regional Meeting 2002
Understanding Multicultural Programming at Historically Black Colleges/Universities; Conducted at Southern University, Student Affairs Staff Retreat (Baton Rouge, LA) 2001
Difference Makes A Difference; South West Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators Diversity Forum (Alexandria, LA) 2001
The Rules of Engagement: Personal/Social Development for African American Male; Conducted at Drew Central High School, Special Student Population Development (Monticello, AR) 2000
Effective Leadership, Effective Followership; Conducted at the Louisiana State University Black Leadership Conference (Baton Rouge, LA) 2000–2002
Diversity in Our Kids, Families and Communities; Conducted at the YMCA Management Board Diversity Training (Baton Rouge, LA) 2000–2001
Campus Leadership and Diversity Go Hand in Hand; Conducted at the Summer Scholars Recruitment Program (Baton Rouge, LA) 1998–2002
Serving the Public: the Diversity Way; Conducted at the New Orleans Mayor’s Office Staff Retreat (New Orleans, LA) 1999-2000

Participant, National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU) National Conference & Advocacy Day 2/2023, 2/2021, 2/2020, 2/2019, 2/2018, 2/2017, 2/2016, 2/2015

Participant, Association of Governing Boards; Aspen Institute for Board Chairs and Presidents of Independent Colleges and Universities 6/2021

Senior Fellow, Higher Education Leadership Foundation’s Leadership Institute 6/2021, 12/2020, 12/2019, 12/2018, 6/2018

Participant, Virtual WPI 2021 HBCU Forum; Topic: Financial Stability in Uncertain Times: Emerging Opportunities for HBCU Boards and Administrative Leaders 4/2021

Participant, Higher Learning Commission Annual Conference, Presidents’ Track 3/2021, 3/2020, 3/2019, 03/2018, 3/2017, 3/2016

Participant, Fifth Annual HBCU Fly-In; Topic: HBCUs Redefining ‘CEO’: Cultivating Executive Opportunities 2/2021

Participant, Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) President’s Leadership Institute 1/2021, 1/2020, 1/2019, 1/2018, 1/2017

Host, Justice Con 2020: A Social Justice Forum 10/2020

Participant, UNCF National Alumni Council/Pre-Alumni Council Leadership Conference (Virtual) 2/2020, 2/2019, 2/2018, 2/2017, 2/2016, 2/2015, 2/2014, 2/2013

Participant, Fourth Annual HBCU Fly-In; Topic: “HBCUs Redefining ‘CEO’: Cultivating Executive Opportunities” 02/2020

Board Representative and Participant, National Association of Schools and Colleges of the United Methodist Church (NASCUMC) Conference 01/2020

Host, Annual Arkansas Legislative Forum/Reception at Philander Smith College 10/2019, 10/2017, 10/2016

Participant, Federal Student Aid Presidential Leadership Summit For Presidents/Chancellors of Minority-Serving Institutions 9/2019, 9/2017

Participant, White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities 9/2019, 9/2017, 9/2016, 9/2015, 9/2014

Participant, National Association of Schools and Colleges of the United Methodist Church, Summer President’s Leadership Conference 7/2019, 7/2018, 7/2017, 7/2016, 7/2015

Participant, Association of Governing Boards A10.9 (B)-6.9 (oa)9.2 1 6 (a)9.2 Td(0.457 0 Td()Tj (on)21.Tj (on)21.Tj (on) (n

Participant, Third Annual HBCU Fly-In hosted by Senator Tim Scott 02/2019
 Participant, Title IV Presidential Leadership Summit, President's Track 11/2018
 Participant, Inaugural Justice Con 2018: A Social Justice Forum 10/2018
 Participant, Second Annual HBCU Fly-In Hosted by Senator Tim Scott 02/2018
 Participant, HBCU STEAM Day Conference Hosted by Congresswoman Alma Adams 2/2018
 Participant, Auburn Institute Leadership Symposium: Developing the Social Justice Blueprint 10/2017
 Participant, First Annual HBCU Fly-In Hosted by Senator Tim Scott 2/2017
 Participant, The Gathering: A Fundraising Symposium for Presidents 10/2016, 10/2015
 Participant, California Community College System – HBCU Partnership Meeting /MOU Signing 4/2016
 Participant, UNCF Career Pathways Summit 2/2016, 2/2015
 Participant, Arkansas Transportation Summit Hosted by Governor Asa Hutchinson 10/2015
 Participant, UNCF Summer Capacity Building Symposium 7/2015
 Participant, Higher Learning Commission Annual Conference, New Presidents Orientation 3/2015
 Participant, Council of Independent Colleges President's Leadership Conference, New Presidents' Orientation
 01/2015
 Participant, NYU/HBCU Faculty Resource Network Annual Professional Development 7/2013
 Participant, UNCF Leadership Summit/Lessons Learned/Kresge Initiative 6/2013
 Participant, Louisiana Community and Technical College System Conference Day 8/2004
 Participant, Noel-Levitz Enrollment Management Conference 5/2004
 Participant, Brothers of the Academy National Conference Graduate Student Seminar 10/2003
 Participant, Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) Graduate Student Seminar 11/2002

2022–Present	Board of Directors Member, EIIAA Insurance Group
2016–Present	Member, Fifty for the Future, Little Rock Chamber of Commerce
2016–Present	Board of Directors Member, Arkansas Chamber of Commerce
2015–Present	Member, United Negro College Fund, Council of Member Presidents

2022–Present Chairman, National Association of Methodist Schools, Colleges and Universities
 2021–Present Board of Directors Member, Council of Independent Colleges
 2018–2021 Board Member, National Association of Schools and Colleges of the United Methodist Church
 2019–2022 Chairman of the Council of Presidents, United Methodist Church Black College Fund
 2018–2022 Member of the Council of Presidents, National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics
 2016–Present HBCU Presidents Council Member, Association of Governing Boards
 2017–Present Member and Former Chair, Arkansas Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
 2018–2022 Chair of the Council of Presidents, Gulf Coast Athletic Conference
 2005–2008 Chairman, National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) Standard II

Huston-Tillotson University Austin, TX

1/2011–12/2014 Member, Executive Cabinet of the President
 1/2011–12/2014 Member, Administrative Council
 1/2011–12/2014 Member, Enrollment Management/Retention Committee

Langston University Langston, OK

6/2005–12/2010 Member, Administrative Council (President’s Cabinet)
 6/2005–12/2010 Member, Extended Council (Vice Presidents and Deans)
 6/2005–12/2010 Representative, University Senate
 6/2005–12/2010 Member, University Scholarship Committee
 8/2005-5/2007 Chair, Accreditation Criterion, NCA CASI Steering Committee
 *Sole Vice President appointed to serve as Criterion Chair
 8/2005-5/2007 Member, University-Wide Strategic Planning Committee
 8/2005-9/2006 Co-Chair, Inauguration Committee
 8/2005-8/2007 Member, University-Wide Assessment Committee
 8/2005-8/2007 Member, Faculty Institute Organizing Committee
 8/2005-8/2007 Member, Field Experience Committee, School of Education and Behavioral Sciences
 8/2005-12/2010 Member, School Assessment Committee, School of Education and Behavioral Sciences

University of Louisiana at Lafayette Lafayette, LA

10/2004–5/2005 Member, Field Experience Committee, College of Education
 9/2004–5/2005 Member, Diversity Subcommittee, College of Education
 9/2004–5/2005 Member, Assessment Committee, College of Education

South Louisiana Community College Lafayette, LA

8/2003–8/2004 Chair, Enrollment Management Team
 9/2003–5/2004 Member, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Accreditation Preparation Committee
 9/2003–7/2004 Member, Institutional Effectiveness Planning Committee
 9/2003–8/2004 Member, Academic Standards and Honors Committee

Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, LA

9/2002–8/2003 Member, Community/University Partnership Advisory Board
 8/2001–8/2003 Member, Community Advisory Board for Campus Diversity
 8/2002–8/2003 Member, Minority Recruitment Task Force
 8/2001–8/2003 Member, Admissions Selection Committee
 8/2001–8/2003 Member, Commission on the Status of Minorities and Campus Diversity
 7/2002–8/2003 Member, Greek Assessment Committee

8/2001–9/2002 Member, Equal Opportunity Program Advisory Board
9/2001–9/2002 Member, LSU Campus-Community Coalition for Change
1/1999–5/2000 Member, Vice Provost for Campus Diversity Search Committee
3/2001–8/2001 Chair, Multicultural Affairs Assistant Director Search Committee
5/1999–8/1999 Chair, Multicultural Affairs Coordinator Search Committee
8/2000–12/2000 Member, Provost's Seminar Planning Committee
8/2000–9/2001 Member, Sexual Assault Policy Committee
8/2001–8/2003 Governing Board Member, African American Cultural Center Governing Board
President, Black Faculty & Staff Caucus
Faculty Advisor, Men Against Violence
Faculty Advisor, Martin Luther King Commemorative Committee
Faculty Advisor, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Nu Psi Chapter
Faculty Advisor - Black Student Union
Faculty Advisor and Charter Member, Students Teaching About Tolerance & Respect (START)

Member, Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE)
Member, American Association of Governing Boards (AGB)
Member, Research Association for Minority Professors (RAMP)
Member, Louisiana Council of Professors of Educational Administration (LCPEA)
Member, North American Association of Summer Sessions (NAASS)
Member, Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)
Member, American Educational Research Association (AERA)
Member, American Society for Public Administration (ASPA)
Member, Black Graduate Professional Student Association (BGPSA)