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## **PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, September 25, 2014**  
**1:00 p.m.**

**Louisiana Purchase Room • Claiborne Building • Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
  - A. R.S. 17:1808 (Licensure)
    1. Initial Licenses
      - a. Armstrong State University
      - b. Catholic University of America
      - c. Samford University
      - d. Stevens-Henager College
      - e. University of Texas - Arlington
    2. License Renewals
      - a. Indiana State University
      - b. University of North Carolina
      - c. Vanderbilt University
  - B. Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission
    1. Initial Licenses
      - a. Advantage Dental Academy, LLC
      - b. Coastal Truck Driving School of New Orleans, LLC
      - c. Dental Assisting Academy of Louisiana, LLC
      - d. Mia's Medical Academy, LLC
      - e. Oklahoma College of Construction
    2. License Renewals
- IV. GRAD Act
  - A. Additional GRAD Act Targeted Measures for Law Centers
  - B. GRAD Act Remediation Plans
- V. Other Business
- VI. Adjournment

**Committee Members:** Joseph Wiley, Chair; Joel Dupré, Vice Chair; Mark Abraham, Pamela Egan, Joseph Farr, William Fenstermaker, Robert Levy, Richard Lipsey, Roy Martin III.

## **Agenda Item III.A.1.a.**

### **Armstrong State University Savannah, Georgia**

#### **BACKGROUND**

Armstrong State University (Armstrong) is not incorporated in the State of Louisiana. The institution is a publically-supported regional university and part of the University System of Georgia. The institution traces its roots to Armstrong Junior College founded in 1935. Armstrong was conferred four-year status in 1964 and became Armstrong State University in 1996. Armstrong is located in Savannah, Georgia and is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

#### **ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

Armstrong is proposing to make available to Louisiana residents an online certificate in Advanced Imaging, undergraduate degree programs in Medical Laboratory Science, RN to BSN, Radiologic Sciences and Respiratory Therapy, and graduate certificates in Reading Endorsement, Special Education Transitional Specialist, and Cyber Crime. Typically, the online nature of the delivery system would not require licensure. However, since the health-related programs require clinical experiences/internships, licensure is necessary.

#### **FACULTY**

Armstrong employs 31 faculty in support of its online programs available to Louisiana residents. Of the 31 faculty, 28 are employed full time and 22 are trained at the doctoral level.

#### **FACILITIES**

Since Armstrong operates programs online with administrative and academic support in Savannah, there are no physical facilities in Louisiana. Students will complete clinical/internship experiences at various locations in Louisiana.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Given the credentials of its faculty, the institution's and academic programs' accreditation, and the general oversight by the home campus, the senior staff recommends that the Board of Regents issue an initial operating license to Armstrong State University, located in Savannah, Georgia.

## **Agenda Item III.A.1.b.**

### **Catholic University of America Washington, D.C.**

#### **BACKGROUND**

Catholic University of America (CUA) is not incorporated in the State of Louisiana. The institution is a Catholic comprehensive research university of approximately 7,000 students established in 1889 as a papally-chartered graduate and research center. CUA is the only higher education institution founded by the U.S. Bishops. The institution is comprised of twelve schools and is located near the heart of Washington, D.C. CUA is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

#### **ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

CUA is proposing to make available to Louisiana residents its online Masters of Science in Nursing and Masters of Social Work programs. Typically, the online nature of the delivery system would not require licensure. However, since both programs require clinical experiences/internships, licensure is necessary.

#### **FACULTY**

CUA employs 47 faculty in support of its online programs in nursing and social work being made available to Louisiana residents. Twenty-six of the faculty are employed on a full-time basis and 32 are trained at the doctoral level.

#### **FACILITIES**

Since CUA operates programs online with administrative and academic support in Washington, D.C., there are no physical facilities in Louisiana. Students will complete clinical/internship experiences at various locations within the State.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Given the credentials of its faculty, the institution's and academic programs' accreditation, and the general oversight by the home campus, the senior staff recommends that the Board of Regents issue an initial operating license to the Catholic University of America, located in Washington D.C.

## **Agenda Item III.A.1.c.**

### **Samford University Birmingham, Alabama**

#### BACKGROUND

Samford University (Samford) is not incorporated in the State of Louisiana. The institution is a private Christian institution which traces its roots to 1841 with the chartering of Howard College. Having survived two fires, the Civil War, a century of financial turmoil and two relocations, today Samford enrolls approximately 5,000 students on its campus in Homewood, a suburb of Birmingham, Alabama. Samford is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

#### ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Samford is proposing to make available to Louisiana residents online masters and doctoral degree programs in nursing with concentrations in practice and administration. Typically, the online nature of the delivery system would not require licensure. However, since the nursing programs require clinical experiences/internships, licensure is necessary.

#### FACULTY

Samford employs 31 faculty in support of its online nursing programs. Of the 31 faculty, 21 are employed full time and all are trained at the doctoral level

#### FACILITIES

Since Samford operates programs online with administrative and academic support in Birmingham, there are no physical facilities in Louisiana. Students will complete clinical/internship experiences at various locations in Louisiana.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Given the credentials of its faculty, the institution's and academic programs' accreditation, and the general oversight by the home campus, the senior staff recommends that the Board of Regents issue an initial operating license to Samford University, located in Birmingham, Alabama.

## **Agenda Item III.A.1.d.**

### **Stevens-Henager College Salt Lake City, Utah**

#### **BACKGROUND**

Stevens-Henager College (Stevens) is not incorporated in the State of Louisiana. The online operations of the private non-profit college are located in Salt Lake City, Utah. Stevens traces its roots to Intermountain Business College founded in 1891 by Professor J.A. Smith. The college was known over the following 68 years as Smithsonian Business College, Moench University of Business and Ogden-Westhaven Business College. In 1959, Stevens received its current name. Today, Stevens has multiple campuses in Idaho and Utah and is accredited by the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC).

#### **ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

Stevens is proposing to offer a variety of online associate (4), bachelor's (12) and master's (8) degree programs in business- and health-related areas. The required clinical activities in a few of the health-related curricula necessitate licensure.

#### **FACULTY**

Stevens employs 252 faculty to support its online programs, 104 on a full-time basis. Of the 252 faculty, 222 are trained at the graduate level.

#### **FACILITIES**

Since Stevens operates programs online with administrative and academic support in Salt Lake City, there are no out-of-state physical facilities in Louisiana. Depending on the academic program, students will complete clinical experiences at various locations in Louisiana.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Given the credentials of its faculty, the college's accreditation, and the general oversight by the home campus, the senior staff recommends that the Board of Regents approve an initial operating license for the online offerings of Stevens-Henager College, located in Salt Lake City, Utah.

## **Agenda Item III.A.1.e.**

### **University of Texas - Arlington Arlington, Texas**

#### **BACKGROUND**

The University of Texas - Arlington (UTA) is not incorporated in the State of Louisiana. The institution is a publically-supported research university and part of the University of Texas. The institution traces its roots to Arlington College founded in 1895. The college became a military academy in 1916 and became a branch of what is today Texas A&M University in 1917. Following three other name changes between 1923 and 1966, the institution received its present name in 1967. UTA is located in Arlington, Texas, enrolls in excess of 33,000 students and is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

#### **ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

UTA is proposing to make available to Louisiana residents online undergraduate degree programs in Nursing, Criminal Justice and University Studies and master's degree programs in Education (Education Leadership/Curriculum and Instruction), Nursing (Education/Administration/Neonatal Nurse Practitioner) and Public Administration. Typically, the online nature of the delivery system would not require licensure. However, since some of the nursing and education programs require clinical experiences/internships, licensure is necessary.

#### **FACULTY**

UTA employs 91 faculty in support of its online programs available to Louisiana residents. Of the 91 faculty, 53 are employed full time and 67 are trained at the doctoral level.

#### **FACILITIES**

Since UTA operates programs online with administrative and academic support in Arlington, there are no physical facilities in Louisiana. Students will complete clinical/internship experiences at various locations in Louisiana.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Given the credentials of its faculty, the institution's and academic programs' accreditation, and the general oversight by the home campus, the senior staff recommends that the Board of Regents issue an initial operating license to the University of Texas – Arlington, located in Arlington, Texas.

## **Agenda Item III.A.2.a.**

### **Indiana State University Terre Haute, Indiana**

#### **BACKGROUND**

Indiana State University (ISU) is not incorporated in the State of Louisiana. The institution is a public comprehensive university in the state of Indiana and is seeking license renewal. ISU is a state-supported institution and is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

#### **ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

Indiana State University offers approximately 20 undergraduate and 22 graduate programs online in a wide variety of disciplines. Typically, the online nature of the delivery system would not require licensure; however, since approximately 50% of the programs require clinical/internship experiences, licensure is necessary.

#### **FACULTY**

ISU employs 720 faculty to support its various online programs. Of the 720 faculty, 406 are trained at the doctoral level and 487 are employed on a full-time basis.

#### **FACILITIES**

Since ISU operates programs online with administrative and academic support in Terre Haute, there are no out-of-state physical facilities in Louisiana. Depending on the academic program, students will complete clinical experiences at various locations in Louisiana.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Given the credentials of its faculty, the college's and academic programs' accreditation, and the general oversight by the home campus, the senior staff recommends that the Board of Regents approve the application for license renewal from Indiana State University, located in Terre Haute, Indiana.

## **Agenda Item III.A.2.b.**

### **University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, North Carolina**

#### **BACKGROUND**

The University of North Carolina (UNC) is not incorporated in the State of Louisiana. The institution is a public comprehensive research university in the state of North Carolina and is seeking license renewal. UNC is a state-supported institution and is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

#### **ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

UNC offers a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate programs as would be expected at a major research university. The institution's online Masters in Public Administration (MPA) program requires a clinical component, and therefore licensure is necessary.

#### **FACULTY**

UNC employs 20 faculty to support the MPA program, all on a full-time basis. Of the 20 faculty, 14 are trained at the doctoral level.

#### **FACILITIES**

Since UNC operates programs online with administrative and academic support in Chapel Hill, there are no out-of-state physical facilities in Louisiana. Students complete MPA internship experiences at various locations in Louisiana.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Given the credentials of its faculty, the college's and academic programs' accreditation, the limited scope of offerings, and the general oversight by the home campus, the senior staff recommends that the Board of Regents approve the application for license renewal from the University of North Carolina, located in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.



## **Agenda Item III.A.2.c.**

### **Vanderbilt University Nashville, Tennessee**

#### BACKGROUND

Vanderbilt University is not incorporated in the State of Louisiana. The university was initially licensed by the Board of Regents in 2004. Vanderbilt is headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee and is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (COC/SACS).

#### ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Vanderbilt University offers clinical experiences in Louisiana for Louisiana students enrolled in its distance learning Masters of Science in Nursing (MSN) Nurse Practitioner program, its Post Masters Certificate programs for nurses, the Ph.D. in Nursing Science and the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program. Admission to the programs is selective and the programs are accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). Students enroll in the program primarily from a distance, attending extended weekends in Nashville twice a semester. Currently, there are seven Louisiana residents enrolled in the Masters of Science in Nursing program and one in the Ph.D. in Nursing Science program.

#### FACULTY

The institution utilizes four full-time faculty and one part-time faculty to support the clinical portion of the programs, four trained at the doctorate level and one at the master's level.

#### FACILITIES

Like other nursing programs, the institution utilizes various hospitals, clinics, special surgery centers, etc. to provide the necessary clinical training for nursing students.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Given the credentials of its faculty, the admissions criteria for the MSN and DNP programs, the university's recognized campus and program accreditation, the general oversight of the programs by the home campus, and the limited operations in Louisiana, the senior staff recommends that the Board of Regents approve renewal of the operating license for Vanderbilt University, located in Nashville, Tennessee.

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**Agenda Item III.B.**

**Minutes**

**Board of Regents' Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission**  
**September 9, 2014**

The Louisiana Board of Regents' Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission met on Tuesday, September 9, 2014, at 10:09 a.m. in Room 1-190 of the Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge. Chair Jones called the meeting to order and the roll was called.

**Commission Members Present**

Melanie Amrhein  
Richard D'Aquin  
James Dorris  
Keith Jones, Chair  
Raymond Lalonde

**Staff Members Present**

Nancy Beall  
Chandra Cheatham  
Kristi Kron  
Carol Marabella  
Larry Tremblay

**Commission Members Absent**

Ralph Bender, Vice-Chair  
James Fontenot  
Gloria Simmons

**Guests Present**

(See Appendix A.)

The first item of business was approval of the minutes from its meeting of July 8, 2014.

**On motion of Ms. Amrhein, seconded by Mr. D'Aquin, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously adopted the minutes of the July 8, 2014 Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission meeting.**

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was five initial license applications, the first from Advantage Dental Academy, LLC, located in Port Allen, Louisiana, and represented by Mr. Ian Hennigan, Manager. Ms. Marabella reviewed the materials for the Commission, informing it that this proposed institution would be offering one program of study, Dental Assisting, which is an eight week, 32.0 clock hour program that is inclusive of both classroom and lab experience. The classes will be held after hours in a practicing dental office. Advantage Dental Academy, LLC, had met all the legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion regarding professional certification that is available to dental assistants, the school's scheduled hours of operation, competition within the market area, a comparison and contrast of the job duties of a Dental Assistant, Expanded Duty Dental Assistant, and Dental Hygienist, the pay range of dental assistants in the greater Baton Rouge area, and job opportunities available to graduates,

**On motion of Mr. D'Aquin, seconded by Mr. Dorris, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents approve an initial operating license for Advantage Dental Academy, LLC, located in Port Allen, Louisiana.**

The second initial license application considered by the Commission was from Coastal Truck Driving School of New Orleans, LLC, located in Harvey, Louisiana, and represented by Mr. Randi Reboul, Owner/President. Ms. Marabella informed the Commission that this would be the sixth truck driving school owned and operated by Mr. Reboul. Ms. Marabella reviewed the

materials for the Commission informing it that the institution would be offering three programs of study--Class A Entry Level Truck Driver Training (160.0 clock hours/4.0 weeks); Class B Entry Level Truck Driver Training (80.0 clock hours/2.0 weeks); and Truck Driver Refresher Course (40.0 clock hours/1.0 week). Coastal Truck Driving School of New Orleans, LLC, had met all the legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion regarding the lack of commercial truck driving schools currently domiciled in the greater New Orleans area, the current overall job placement rate of 80% for the Louisiana licensed proprietary schools owned by Mr. Reboul, and the great national demand for professional truck drivers,

**On motion of Mr. D'Aquin, seconded by Ms. Amrhein, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents approve an initial operating license for Coastal Truck Driving School of New Orleans, LLC, located in Harvey, Louisiana.**

The third initial license application considered by the Commission was from Dental Assisting Academy of Louisiana, LLC, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and represented by Ms. Jennifer Fortie, Administrator. Ms. Marabella reviewed the materials for the Commission informing it that the institution would be offering one program of study, Dental Assisting, which is a twelve week, 100.0 clock hour program that is inclusive of both classroom and lab experience. The classes will be held after hours in the practicing dental office of the owner, Dr. Justin Bonaventure. Dental Assisting Academy of Louisiana, LLC, had met all the legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion regarding the applicant's rationale for developing the program content, length and cost, the differences between the job duties of a Dental Assistant and Expanded

Duty Dental Assistant, and the entrance requirements for the program,

**On motion of Mr. Lalonde, seconded by Mr. D’Aquin, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents approve an initial operating license for Dental Assisting Academy of Louisiana, LLC, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.**

The fourth initial license application considered by the Commission was from Mia’s Medical Academy, LLC, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and represented by the school’s owner, Mr. Steven Prejean. Ms. Marabella reviewed the materials for the Commission, informing it that this institution would be offering one program of study, Certified Nursing Assistant, which is a three week, 80.0 clock hour program (inclusive of both classroom and clinical experience). The program has received the required approval from the Department of Health and Hospitals, Health Standards Section. Mia’s Medical Academy, LLC, had met all the legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion regarding the length of the CNA program, the average rate of pay for graduates in the greater Baton Rouge area, the location of the school and its accessibility to public transportation, the anticipated maximum class size, and the requirements of DHH for program approval,

**On motion of Ms. Amrhein, seconded by Mr. D’Aquin, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents approve an initial operating license for Mia’s Medical Academy, LLC, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.**

The fifth and final initial license application considered by the Commission was from Oklahoma College of Construction, located in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and represented by the school’s Campus President, Ms. Laurie Boyd. Ms. Kron informed the Commission that this school was approved by the Oklahoma Board of Private Vocational Schools. Ms. Kron reviewed the

materials for the Commission, informing it that this institution would be recruiting Louisiana students to its Oklahoma City campus and the school's five program offerings: Commercial Truck Driving (120.0 clock hours/3.0 weeks); Entry Level Ready-Mix Driver (120.0 clock hours/3.0 weeks); Heavy Equipment Operations Level I (120.0 clock hours/3.0 weeks); Heavy Equipment Operations Level II (240.0 clock hours/6.0 weeks); and Mobile Crane Operations (120.0 clock hours/3.0 weeks). Oklahoma College of Construction had met all the legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion regarding the school's recruiting strategies and its presence in thirteen states, the school's current 89% graduate placement rate, the comprehensive cost of each program offering which includes tuition, housing, meals, transportation, and certification fee, career placement strategies, and the average entry level pay for graduates,

**On motion of Ms. Amrhein, seconded by Mr. Dorris, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents approve an initial operating license for Oklahoma College of Construction, located in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.**

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was operating license renewals. Ms. Marabella informed the Commission members that there were twenty-four (24) schools seeking renewal. These schools scheduled for renewal were in complete compliance, having met all the legal and administrative requirements to be re-licensed.

Following further discussion,

**On motion of Mr. Lalonde, seconded by Mr. D'Aquin, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents renew the licenses of the following proprietary schools (initial license date in parentheses).**

- Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy (08/24/11)**
- Ark-La-Tex Dental Assisting Academy (08/26/10)**
- Art Instruction School (09/21/74)**
- Baton Rouge School of Computers (08/28/97)**
- Camelot College (08/28/86)**
- Coastal College--Alexandria (08/28/97)**
- College of Yoga Therapy, LLC (formerly Yoga School, LLC) (08/27/08)**
- Crescent City Career Institute (08/28/03)**
- Crescent City School of Gaming & Bartending (09/14/83)**
- Falck Safety Services--Houma (08/24/11)**
- Falck Safety Services--Maurice (08/24/11)**
- Fortis College (08/26/10)**
- Healthcare Training Institute (08/27/08)**
- Houston Marine Training Services (08/24/11)**
- Julian Certified Nursing Assistant Training School (08/27/08)**
- Lafayette General Medical Center School of Health Sciences (08/21/13)**
- Life Care, LLC (08/21/13)**
- Medical Training College (08/22/96)**
- New Horizons Computer Learning Center of New Orleans (08/21/13)**
- N.O.D.C. School for Dental Assisting (08/24/11)**
- OnTrac Academy, LLC (08/21/13)**
- Peach Tree School of Dental Assisting, Inc. (08/26/10)**
- River Cities School of Dental Assisting, Inc. (08/24/06)**
- Unitech Training Academy--Lake Charles (08/27/09)**

Ms. Marabella informed the Commission that there was one institution that chose not to renew its license--Dominion Technical College, LLC (08/24/11)--that was located in Shreveport, Louisiana. Staff will follow through to secure the student records from the school for safekeeping.

The next item on the agenda was an update on program approvals. Chair Jones reminded the Commission that staff approved these updates administratively and course approvals were being shared for informational purposes only.

Under Report from Staff, Ms. Denise Kirkland presented a financial summary of the proprietary school activities, as well as a summary of the Student Record Administration Account of the Student Protection Fund, for FY 2013-2014. Ms. Marabella shared with the Commission a

numerical summary of proprietary school activities for the past fiscal year. She also notified the Commission that staff had submitted the required paper work to The Register, for final publication on September 20, that would codify current practices and forms into administrative law to assist in the oversight of licensed proprietary schools. Ms. Marabella also distributed to the Commission a schedule of proposed meeting dates for calendar year 2015 to review for formal adoption at the November meeting of the Commission.

Ms. Marabella informed the Commission that its previously scheduled November 11, 2014 meeting falls on the Veterans Day holiday. Therefore, the Commission agreed to reschedule the meeting for November 18, 2014.

Dr. Tremblay provided follow-up on the disposition of Divine Touch Healthcare Training's appearance before the Planning, Research, and Performance Committee of the Board of Regents at its meeting on August 27, 2014, whereby the owner of the school appealed the Commission's denial of her request for reconsideration of the expiration of Louisiana Proprietary School License #2179. Dr. Tremblay reported that the Board of Regents upheld the Advisory Commission's action.

The next meeting of the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, November 18, 2014, at 10:00 a.m., in Room 1-190 of the Claiborne Building. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.



APPENDIX A  
GUESTS

Laurie Boyd	Oklahoma College of Construction
Jennifer Fortie	Dental Assisting Academy of Louisiana
Ian Hennigan	Advantage Dental Academy
Deesi Kirkland	Board of Regents, Finance Section
Cookie Prejean	Mia's Medical Academy
Steven Prejean	Mia's Medical Academy
Randi Reboul	Coastal Truck Driving School of New Orleans
Ryan Reboul	Coastal Truck Driving School of New Orleans
Patricia Wilton	LA Department of Justice

## **Agenda Item IV.A.**

### **Executive Summary**

The GRAD Act Agreements include Performance Objectives, Elements, and Measures. Under the GRAD Act law, the Board of Regents is authorized to add additional measures.

During the GRAD Act annual review and scoring process for Year 4, one area brought to light was the lack of targeted measures under the Student Success Objective for the two law centers. The law centers have 4 targeted measures which account for all possible points under this objective. Therefore, all measures must be reached in order to pass GRAD Act in any given year.

Following the end of Year 4 of GRAD Act, staff reached out to the law centers to provide them an opportunity to identify additional optional GRAD Act measures to more clearly assess the performance of their institutions in meeting their assigned missions. After a meeting with Regents' staff regarding this matter, the Chancellors met to develop suggested additional optional targeted measures and appropriate validation sources.

A list of four additional optional targeted measures for the law centers was presented to and adopted by the Board of Regents in August 2014. From the list of measures, both law centers informed Regents' staff of their decision to add the following 2 measures:

1. The percentage of second and third year law students enrolled in live client clinical courses and externship courses.
2. The percentage of student participating in advocacy skills development programs and/or competitions.

Regents' staff is continuing its work with the law centers to establish appropriate benchmarks and targets for the selected measures for consideration by the Board at its September 2014 meeting. The completed benchmarks and targets will be distributed to Board members prior to the meeting.

The Senior Staff recommends that the Planning, Research and Performance Committee approve the benchmarks and targets for the selected measures by the LSU Law Center and Southern University Law Center.

## **Agenda Item IV.B.**

### **Executive Summary**

At the conclusion of the GRAD Act annual scoring process, if an institution fails to pass GRAD Act, it cannot raise tuition and loses 15% performance funding. Under the Board of Regents' GRAD Act Intervention Policy, the performance funding is retained by the respective management board and held in a GRAD Act Remediation and Performance Improvement Fund Escrow Account. The institution can earn up to 75% of the withheld performance funding upon approval of a remediation plan by the Commissioner of Higher Education and by entering into a GRAD Act Performance Improvement Contract.

Once the Board of Regents determined that Southern University A&M (SUBR), Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA) and Southern University Law Center (SULC) did not pass Year 4 of GRAD Act, Regents' staff worked closely with Southern University System and campus staff throughout the summer of 2014 to finalize a remediation plan which outlines initiatives and activities designed to improve performance for those measures failed by the 3 campuses. Following numerous revisions, the Senior Advisor to the Board approved the final remediation plans for SUBR, SUSLA and SULC on Friday September 5, 2014. Following this approval, each of the 3 institutions and the Southern University System entered into GRAD Act Performance Improvement Contracts with the Board of Regents. Copies of the approved remediation plans and contracts are attached. According to the timeline included in the contracts, Regents' staff is scheduled to present the first quarterly report related to the Southern System remediation plans at the October Board of Regents' meeting.

With a plan approved by the Commissioner of Higher Education, the management board can award any other member institution without a failing GRAD Act designation up to the remaining 25% (of the 15% performance funding) for initiatives designed to improve retention, graduation or completions. Working with Regents' staff, the Southern University System and campus staff at SUNO will prepare a plan outlining how SUNO will use a portion of these resources to improve GRAD Act related activities on its campus. In addition, the plan will include activities coordinated at the Southern University System level that will impact and further improve performance at all system campuses. That plan is forthcoming.