Minutes
Board of Regents’ Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission
September 10, 2019

The Louisiana Board of Regents’ Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission met on Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 10:05 a.m., in Room 1-190 of the Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge. Vice Chair Amrhein called the meeting to order and the roll was called.

Commission Members Present
Melanie Amrhein, Vice Chair
Sherrie Despino
James Dorris
Theresa Hay
Mary Lou Potter

Commission Members Absent
James Fontenot, Chair
Raymond Lalonde
Carmen Million

Guests Present
(See Appendix A.)

The Board of Regents is an Equal Opportunity and ADA Employer
The first item of business was approval of the minutes from its meeting of July 9, 2019.

On motion of Ms. Despino, seconded by Ms. Potter, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously adopted the minutes of the July 9, 2019 Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission meeting.

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was an initial license application from Joshua Career Institute of Louisiana, located in Shreveport, Louisiana, and represented by the school’s owner, Mr. Emmanuel Ike.

Ms. Marabella reviewed the materials for the Commission noting that Mr. Ike owns a proprietary school in Dallas, Texas, that is licensed by the Texas Workforce Commission. The Texas school offers all of the thirteen (13) online programs of study in the areas of business, healthcare, and technology that are proposed to be offered at the Shreveport Campus. The Accounting Clerk, Accounting Specialist, Administrative Assistant, Bookkeeping Specialist, Customer Service Specialist, Executive Administrative Assistant, Healthcare Information Technician, Legal Assistant, Medical Office Assistant, Medical Record Technician, and Office Management programs are each 750.0 clock hours in length, whereas the Cisco Network Associate and CompTIA programs are 910.0 clock hours in length. The estimated completion time for each of the thirteen programs is ten months for full-time students and twelve months for part-time students. Joshua Career Institute of Louisiana had met all of the legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion regarding the owner’s background and reason for locating a school in Shreveport, the number of students currently enrolled in the sister school in Texas and
the most popular program offering at that location, the projected enrollment for the Shreveport
Campus, potential salaries for graduates, qualifications of instructors, and the school’s priority of
providing job placement assistance to graduates,

On motion of Ms. Hay, seconded by Ms. Potter, the Proprietary Schools Advisory
Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents approve an initial
operating license for Joshua Career Institute of Louisiana, located in Shreveport,
Louisiana.

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was an Associate in Occupational
Studies (AOS) Degree application from Digital Media Institute at InterTech, located in
Shreveport, Louisiana. Mr. John J. Miralles, Executive Director, was in attendance to
represent the school.

Ms. Cheatham reminded the Commission members that the Proprietary Schools Law
requires that AOS degrees be offered only by schools that hold recognized accreditation and that
the Board of Regents must approve all AOS degree program offerings. Digital Media Institute
at InterTech has been licensed as a Louisiana proprietary school since August 27, 2014, and is
accredited by the Council on Occupational Education.

The AOS Degree in Advertising Design (Online) is 81.0 semester credit hours/1,845.0
clock hours in length with an estimated completion time of 24 months for full-time students.
Digital Media Institute at InterTech's proposed AOS Degree program had met all the legal and
administrative requirements to be approved by the Board of Regents.

Following further discussion regarding the school administration’s reason for offering the
proposed online version of a currently approved program, the length of the program, the history
of the school and its future goals, enrollment criteria and projections, the director’s background, and potential salaries for graduates,

On motion of Mr. Dorris, seconded by Ms. Despino, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents approve the Associate in Occupational Studies Degree in Advertising Design (Online) for Digital Media Institute at InterTech, located in Shreveport, Louisiana.

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was operating license renewals.

Ms. Marabella informed the Commission members that there were twenty-nine (29) 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 Ms. Potter, seconded by Ms. Hay, 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 (Baton Rouge) (08/26/15)
Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy (Denham Springs) (08/24/11)
Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy (Lafayette) (08/26/15)
Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy (Monroe) (08/26/15)
Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy (Slidell) (08/26/15)
Advance Nursing Training, LLC (08/27/14)
Ark-La-Tex Dental Assisting Academy (08/26/10)
Aspire Medical Training Academy, Inc. (08/24/16)
Baton Rouge School of Computers (08/28/97)
Camelot College (08/28/86)
Coastal College--Alexandria (08/28/97)
Crescent City School of Gaming & Bartending (09/14/83)
Digital Media Institute at InterTech (08/27/14)
Fortis College (08/26/10)
Healthcare Training Institute (08/27/08)
Life Care, LLC (08/21/13)
Medical Training College (08/22/96)
Ms. Marabella informed the Commission that there were two institutions that chose not to renew their licenses this renewal cycle: Louisiana Medical Certifications, LLC, Avoyelles Campus (08/23/17) and Maritime Services Group of Louisiana, LLC (08/24/16). Staff will follow up with each school in an effort to secure the student records for safekeeping by the Board of Regents.

The next item on the agenda was an update on program approvals. Vice Chair Amrhein 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 of the Board of Regents’ Finance Division 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 2018-2019. Ms. Marabella shared with the Commission a numerical summary of proprietary school activities for the past fiscal year.
Under Other Business, Ms. Marabella distributed to the Commission a schedule of proposed meeting dates for calendar year 2020 to review for formal adoption at the November 2019 meeting of the Commission. In addition, Ms. Marabella regretfully informed the Commission that Ms. Theresa Hay had submitted notification of her pending resignation from the Commission effective after the November 12, 2019 Commission meeting.

The next meeting of the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, November 12, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., in Room 1-190 of the Claiborne Building. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.
APPENDIX A
GUESTS

Emmanuel Ike  
Joshua Career Institute of Louisiana

Denise Kirkland  
LA Board of Regents

John Miralles  
Digital Media Institute at InterTech