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AGENDA
SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
Wednesday, February 19, 2019 at 11:35 a.m.

The Claiborne Building
Louisiana Purchase Room 1-100
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
 - A. Appointment of Endowed Chairholder without National Search: Tulane University Health Sciences Center
- IV. Renaming of Sponsored Programs Standing Committee
- V. FY 2018-19 Vacancy Report: BoRSF Faculty Endowment Programs
- VI. Other Business
- VII. Adjournment

Committee Members: Sonia Pérez, Chair, Gary Solomon, Vice Chair, Blake David, William Jewell, Phillip May, Charles McDonald, Darren Mire, T. Jay Seale III, and Felix Weill

Staff Member: Carrie Robison, Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs

AGENDA ITEM III.A.

Appointment of Endowed Chairholder without National Search: Tulane University Health Sciences Center

Background Information

At its January 12, 2015 meeting, the Board unanimously approved the following revision to the Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars policy:

Effective immediately, all campuses shall provide documentation to the Commissioner of Higher Education that each Chair vacancy is being filled – whether externally or internally – following a national search. Any request for waiver of this policy shall be made in writing to the Commissioner of Higher Education and reviewed by external consultants. Upon receipt of the consultants' response, the Commissioner will provide a formal recommendation for consideration and approval by the Board of Regents. Board approval of the waiver must be provided prior to appointment of the chairholder. The Board reserves the right to render a campus not in compliance with this policy to be ineligible for new Endowed Chairs funds.

Staff Summary

The Constance S. Kaufman Chair in Pediatric Pulmonary Research, a \$1 million Chair matched by the Board of Regents Support Fund in FY 1998-99, will be vacated in spring 2020 by its current holder, Dr. Robert Hopkins, upon his retirement. In accordance with current policy, Tulane University Health Sciences Center has requested waiver of the Endowed Chairs national search requirement to appoint Dr. Scott Davis, a highly accomplished clinician and educator, as well as a board-certified pediatrician and pediatric pulmonologist. Dr. Davis's qualifications were reviewed and determined to be appropriate to requirements outlined in the Endowed Chairs program policy.

Senior Staff Recommendation

Senior Staff recommend approval of Tulane University Health Sciences Center's request to appoint Dr. Scott Davis, Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, to the Constance S. Kaufman Chair in Pediatric Pulmonary Research without a national search. As stipulated in Board policy, the Letter of Appointment to Dr. Davis must be submitted to the Board within 90 days of this approval.

AGENDA ITEM IV.

Renaming of Sponsored Programs Standing Committee

Background Information

Section 5.2 of the “Bylaws for the Internal Operation and the Transaction of Business for the Board of Regents for the State of Louisiana” specifies that Sponsored Programs shall be a standing committee of the Board of Regents. Unlike some BoR standing committees, Sponsored Programs is identified in the Bylaws, but not statutorily required. Per Section 8.2 of the Bylaws, members of the Board were notified of a proposed change to the name of the Sponsored Programs standing committee at its January 9, 2020 meeting.

Staff Summary

The staff proposes a change to Section 5.2 of the BoR Bylaws to rename the standing committee called “Sponsored Programs” as “Research and Sponsored Initiatives”. The BoR Sponsored Programs Unit and its associated standing committee have, since inception, both managed state and federal programs (Board of Regents Support Fund and statewide federal programs held through the BoR) and served as policy development leaders for issues related to research taking place on campuses or with campus participation. Sponsored Programs staff works extensively with campus and system research officers at public and private campuses, a relationship formalized through the Advisory Committee for the Advancement of Research in Louisiana (ACARL), established in the 2012 Master Plan. When BoR action is needed, staff brings both policy and management items to the Sponsored Programs standing committee.

The current name of the standing committee does not represent the full scope of its work, and has contributed to a misperception that the Board does not fully recognize the critical importance of university-based research to accomplishing its ambitious goals for education, economic development and quality of life. A change in the name of the standing committee and unit from “Sponsored Programs” to “Research and Sponsored Initiatives” will formalize the BoR’s emphasis on university-based research and signal where related policy responsibilities lie within the organization.

The renaming will not change the current work of the Sponsored Programs unit, but will formalize the standing committee’s and the unit’s role in research issues and ensure that all parties across the BoR and the state are engaged appropriately when research questions are under consideration. This explicit focus will also underscore the BoR’s interest in convening stakeholders across the research spectrum, including by hosting an annual Research Summit, set to launch in 2020.

Senior Staff Recommendation

Senior Staff recommend approval of the revision of the BoR Bylaws to change the name of the Sponsored Programs standing committee to Research and Sponsored Initiatives. Per Section 8.2 of the Bylaws, this change will take effect on the 10th day after Board adoption.

AGENDA ITEM V.

BoRSF Faculty Endowment Programs: Vacancy Rate Policy and Annual Calculations

A. Endowed Chairs

B. Endowed Professorships

Background Information

During September 2013, in response to data showing long-term vacancy rates for Chairs and Professorships above 30% statewide, the Board of Regents approved policy revisions to render ineligible for new matches any campus whose “percentage of vacancies of greater than two years’ duration in the Endowed Professorships subprogram [or Endowed Chairs program] exceeds 20%.” To determine eligibility, vacancy rates are calculated annually based on campus reporting.

Staff Summary

The vacancy rate policy was introduced in FY 2014-15, as the Board recognized a need to clarify that the intent of faculty endowments is consistent and regular use. Based on FY 2018-19 reporting, the statewide vacancy rates declined significantly after the policy change, with both programs well below the 20% threshold: Endowed Chairs at 9% and Endowed Professorships at 3%. Individual campuses continue to have vacancy issues, with four (4) over the 20% threshold in Endowed Chairs and three (3) in Endowed Professorships. Campuses continue to work to ensure that slots do not remain unused for long periods and are aligned with high-priority academic and research needs.

The staff notes that policy revisions adopted by the Board in 2016 and 2017 placed renewed emphasis not only on both filling faculty endowment slots, but also encouraging faculty holders to expend available endowment earnings in support of academic and research activities consistent with the intents of both the original non-state donor and the Board of Regents Support Fund. The rate of spending reported for FY 2019-20, calculated as a percentage of the aggregate market value of the Chairs and Professorships accounts, was 3%, significantly below expectations. This calculation will continue to be referenced to measure the success of new policy provisions in encouraging meaningful spending across BoRSF-matched faculty endowments to enhance education and research across the State, consistent with the constitutionally prescribed purposes of the Board of Regents Support Fund.

Senior Staff Recommendation

Senior Staff recommend that the Board accept the FY 2018-19 vacancy report. Requests for waiver of the vacancy rate policy shall be considered on a case-by-case basis, following submission by each affected campus of a request for exemption, including an explanation of current rate(s), plans to address, and rationale(s) for providing additional public funds before the vacancy rate for existing matched slots is lowered. Campus updates to vacancies reported will continue to be accepted and long-term vacancy rates recalculated until proposal/application deadlines have passed.

Campus Vacancy Rates in Faculty Endowments, FY 2018-19 Reporting Cycle

System/Campus	Endowed Professorships			Endowed Chairs		
	# EP Matched	# EP Vacant >2 Years	% EP Vacant >2 Years*	# EC Matched	# EC Vacant > 2 Years	% EC Vacant >2 Years*
UL System	873	32	4%	66	10	15%
GSU	29	1	3%	2	1	50%
LA Tech	144	2	1%	13	1	8%
McNeese	121	4	3%	0	0	0%
Nicholls	62	4	6%	2	0	0%
NSU	64	2	3%	3	0	0%
SELU	64	1	2%	1	0	0%
ULL	247	12	5%	22	5	23%
ULM	72	1	1%	7	**0	**0%
UNO	70	5	7%	16	1	6%
LSU System	933	10	1%	137	7	5%
LSU Ag	42	0	0%	3	0	0%
LSUA	25	0	0%	3	0	0%
LSU A&M	629	0	0%	66	0	0%
LSUE	7	0	0%	0	0	0%
LSUHSCNO	126	3	2%	41	**6	**15%
LSUHSCS	46	4	9%	11	1	9%
LSUS	51	3	6%	4	0	0%
Pennington	7	0	0%	9	0	0%
LAICU	565	17	3%	103	6	6%
Centenary	133	0	0%	12	0	0%
Dillard	29	11	38%	4	1	25%
FMOLU	29	0	0%	1	0	0%
LA College	17	0	0%	0	0	0%
Loyola	90	0	0%	10	0	0%
St. Joseph	15	0	0%	0	0	0%
Tulane	103	5	5%	36	1	3%
TUHSC	68	1	1%	33	4	12%
UHC	36	0	0%	1	0	0%
Xavier	45	0	0%	6	0	0%
Southern System	74	4	5%	3	1	33%
SUBR	46	2	4%	1	1	100%
SU Law	16	1	6%	0	0	0%
SUNO	5	0	0%	2	0	0%
SUS	7	1	14%	0	0	0%
LCTCS	49	5	10%	0	0	0%
BRCC	4	0	0%	0	0	0%
BPCC	2	0	0%	0	0	0%
CLTCC	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Delgado	17	1	6%	0	0	0%
Fletcher	3	1	33%	0	0	0%
LDCC	5	2	40%	0	0	0%
Northshore	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Nunez	10	1	10%	0	0	0%
RPCC	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
SLCC	6	0	0%	0	0	0%
Sowela	2	0	0%	0	0	0%
Statewide Total	2,494	68	3%	309	24	8%

* Percentage calculated as the number vacant more than 2 years (as defined in policy) divided by the total number matched.

** Campuses provided updated information on vacancies showing slots filled since the FY 2018-19 reporting period. Vacancy rates were recalculated using updated data.