

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Meeting will be held via Video Conference

Meeting can be viewed at:
<https://regents.la.gov/live/>

Public comments can be made at:
<https://regents.la.gov/publiccomments>



*The meeting may begin later contingent upon adjournment of previous meeting. Meetings may also convene up to 30 minutes prior to posted schedule to facilitate business

BOARD OF REGENTS

P. O. Box 3677, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-3677
 Phone: (225) 342-4253 and FAX: (225) 342-9318

Tuesday, September 22, 2020 Budget Hearings

Event	Time	Location
➤ Introduction	9:00 a.m.	Meeting will be held via Video Conference Meeting can be viewed at: https://regents.la.gov/live/
➤ Revenue Outlook and Statewide Overview	9:05 a.m.	
➤ Board of Regents Budget	9:40 a.m.	
➤ Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON)	10:00 a.m.	
➤ Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA)	10:30 a.m.	
➤ Louisiana Community and Technical College System	11:05 a.m.	
➤ Lunch Break	12:05 p.m.	
➤ Southern University System	1:00 p.m.	
➤ Louisiana State University System	2:15 p.m.	
➤ University of Louisiana System	3:15 p.m.	

Wednesday, September 23, 2020 Board of Regents Meeting

Event	Time	Location
(Meeting as a Committee of the Whole) <i>Board of Regents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Master Plan Year One Review and the Path Forward ➤ Finance ➤ Facilities and Property ➤ Academic and Student Affairs ➤ Planning, Research & Performance ➤ Statewide Programs 	10:30 a.m. Please note time change.	Meeting will be held via Video Conference Meeting can be viewed at: https://regents.la.gov/live/

If you plan to attend any meeting listed on this notice and need assistance at that time because you are disabled, please notify this office seven (7) days in advance and arrangements will be made to accommodate you.

INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE AGENDAS MAY BE FOUND ON THE INTERNET AT – <https://regents.la.gov>

Marty J. Chabert
Chair

Collis B. Temple III
Vice Chair

Blake R. David
Secretary

Kim Hunter Reed, Ph.D.
Commissioner of
Higher Education



Claudia H. Adley
Randy L. Ewing
Robert W. Levy
Phillip R. May, Jr.
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Sonia A. Pérez
Wilbert D. Pryor
T. Jay Seale III
Gary N. Solomon, Jr.
Gerald J. Theunissen
Felix R. Weill
Chandler C. Vidrine, Student

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AGENDA
BOARD OF REGENTS*
Meeting as a Committee of the Whole
Wednesday, September 23, 2020
10:30 a.m.

Meeting will be held via Video Conference

Meeting can be viewed at: <https://regents.la.gov/live/>

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Certification for Virtual Meeting
- IV. Public Comments
- V. Approval of Minutes from August 13, 2020
- VI. Master Plan Year One Review and the Path Forward
- VII. Reports and Recommendations
 - A. Finance
 1. Review and Acceptance of FY 2020-2021 Operating Budgets
 - B. Facilities and Property
 1. Hurricane Laura Update
 - C. Academic and Student Affairs
 1. Consent Agenda
 - a. Termination of the Institute for Advanced Materials – LSU A&M
 - b. Reauthorization of Existing Research Unit
 - i. Center for Advancement of Meat Production & Processing – McNeese
 - ii. National Center for Advanced Manufacturing – LSU A&M
 - iii. Precision Agriculture & Unmanned Aircraft Systems Research & Applications Center – ULM
 - iv. Pugh Institute for Justice – LSU A&M
 - c. Progress Reports for Conditionally Approved Academic Programs

- d. Routine Staff Approvals
 - 2. Academic Programs
 - a. Program Proposals
 - i. OTD Occupation Therapy – LSU HSC-S
 - ii. PhD Construction Management – LSU A&M
 - 3. Centers and Institutes
 - a. Full Authorization of Conditionally Approved Research Units
 - i. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center – UL Lafayette
 - ii. Urban Entrepreneurship & Policy Institute – UNO
- D. Planning, Research and Performance

- 1. Consent Agenda
 - a. R.S. 17:1808 (Licensure)
 - i. License Renewals
 - (a) Remington College – Garland, TX
 - b. State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) State Renewal (Louisiana)
 - c. State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA)
 - i. Initial Applications
 - (a) LSU Health Sciences Center -New Orleans
 - (b) Nicholls State University
 - (c) Southern University at New Orleans
 - ii. Renewal Application
 - (a) Xavier University of Louisiana
- 2. Defining Postsecondary Quality Credentials of Value

E. Statewide Programs

- 1. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of TOPS Exceptions
 - b. Approval of Exception to provide documentation of initial TOPS eligibility no later than January 15 of the year following the student's final FAFSA deadline
 - c. Approval of Emergency Rules to provide exceptions for TOPS, Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship, and GO Youth Challenge recipients who were affected by Hurricane Laura and to provide deferments for those students who are currently in repayment status for Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship Program Recipients and TOPS Teacher Recipients
 - d. Other Business

VIII. Chairman's Comments

IX. Other Business

X. Adjournment

*Note: The Board of Regents reserves the right to enter into Executive Session, if needed, in accordance with R.S. 42:11 *et seq.*

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LA-R.S. 42.17.1 CERTIFICATION

I certify that the September 22-23, 2020 Louisiana Board of Regents (BoR) meeting will be held via videoconference in accordance with La. R.S. 42.17.1.

The State of Louisiana continues to operate under a state of public health emergency declared by the governor, as most recently renewed in Proclamations 171 JBE 2020 and 118 JBE 2020 (September 11, 2020). As a result, a traditional public meeting would be detrimental to the health, safety and welfare of the public. The BoR meeting concerns, and is limited to, matters that are directly related to its response to the public health emergency and are critical to the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Pursuant to La. R.S. 42.17.1, BoR will provide for attendance by the public at the meeting of September 22-23, 2020 via video or teleconference, in a manner that allows for observation and input by members of the public, including a mechanism to receive electronic comment both prior to and during the meeting, as set forth in this notice, posted on September 17, 2020.

Members of the public can view the meeting and make public comment as follows:

The meeting can be viewed at: <https://regents.la.gov/live/>.

Public comments can be made prior to the meeting (until 5:00 pm on Monday, September 21, 2020 for the Budget Hearings and until 5:00 pm on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 for the Board meeting) via email to: bor.publicaffairs@laregents.edu or online at: <https://regents.la.gov/publiccomments>.

Public comments can be made during the meetings via open conference call at: 888-204-5984; access code 1755460#.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marty J. Chabert", is written above a horizontal line.

Marty J. Chabert, Chair
Louisiana Board of Regents

DRAFT
MINUTES
BOARD OF REGENTS

August 13, 2020

The Board of Regents met as a Committee of the Whole at 10:17 a.m., Thursday, August 13, 2020, via video conference. Chair Marty Chabert called the meeting to order. Chair Chabert introduced and welcomed new student Board member Chandler Vidrine.

ROLL CALL

Board Secretary Christine Norton called the roll, and a quorum was established.

Present for the meeting were:

Marty Chabert, Chair
Collis Temple III, Vice Chair
Blake David, Secretary
Randy Ewing
Robert Levy
Phillip May, Jr.
Charles McDonald
Darren Mire
Wilbert Pryor
T. Jay Seale III
Gary Solomon, Jr.
Chandler Vidrine, Student
Felix Weill

Mgt. Board Representatives present:

Paul Price, LCTCS System
Mary Werner, LSU System
Lola Dunahoe, UL System

Absent from the meeting were:

Claudia Adley
Sonia Pérez
Gerald Theunissen

CERTIFICATION FOR VIRTUAL MEETING

Chair Chabert referenced the Board of Regents' certification of inability to operate due to the lack of an in-person quorum. The certification is available on the Board of Regents website and was included with the meeting materials. He indicated that all votes during the meeting would be done by roll call.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Chabert asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 17, 2020

On motion of Regent Temple, seconded by Regent May, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the minutes of June 17, 2020.

COVID-19 OVERVIEW

Commissioner Kim Hunter Reed gave an overview relative to the safe reopening of campuses, which included plans for developing guidance and working with public health and emergency officials, while listening to the concerns of students and maintaining safety protocols. Dr. Reed stated that as the fall semester begins, plans are in place and students are beginning their classes through a hybrid approach, with some courses online and others in person.

Dr. Reed shared some of the latest updates from the Office of Public Health. She stated that emergency exercises were held last week to test campus plans for dealing with positive cases and outbreaks. She said that it was important for campus leaders to receive the latest data from the Louisiana Department of Health, with a specific focus on 18-29-year-olds. Since 40% of infected people are asymptomatic, minimizing face-to-face instruction and working hard to maximize compliance with all safety protocols should help to mitigate the spread.

COVID-19 is very contagious and is spread via water droplets from sneezing, coughing and speaking. An infectious dose occurs when someone is exposed to COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes within a six-foot distance. Infected people can easily spread COVID-19 to two to three people, and individuals can be infected for two or more days before they experience symptoms. Dr. Reed said that there are students and faculty in Louisiana institutions who are at high risk and we are making sure they have online access so they can continue learning or teaching while staying safe.

The behavior of students aged 18-29 can greatly increase the spread not only on campus but also across a community. Campuses are messaging to students that they must be responsible partners in keeping campus safe. In order to remain open, colleges and universities must be able to demonstrate they can reliably stop the spread on campus. Campuses are engaging students, explaining how the virus is spread, and helping them to understand their roles and responsibilities.

Dr. Reed was impressed by some of the best practices that she heard during the tabletop discussions including: a Positive Case Guide and Pelican Pledge being used at Nunez Community College; Student Leader tabletop exercises being hosted at Dillard University; and Student Community Health Advocates at Xavier University. In addition, Dr. Reed thanked GOHSEP and the Governor's Office for their assistance in distributing more than 70,000 masks across all SGA offices at both public and private institutions. In addition, she thanked Regent Vidrine for joining her in the Safe Back-to-School segment on Channel 9. Dr. Reed said that by masking up, keeping six feet apart, washing hands and cleaning surfaces, and staying home when feeling sick, we can stop the spread.

She also said that more information regarding safety protocols, enrollment numbers and the impact on higher education budgets will be available next month during the budget hearings.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

AUDIT

Regent Seale introduced Ms. Laura Soileau from Postlethwaite and Netterville (P&N) to present the Audit reports.

CONTRACT YEAR THREE UPDATE

Ms. Soileau stated that year three of the contract covers the period March 1, 2020 through February 28, 2021. She stated that activities to date include a completed internal audit risk assessment, development of an initial internal audit plan, and completed review of the internal audit charter. In addition, P&N has received management responses to observations and finalized the personnel and human resources internal audit completed in contract year two.

REVIEW OF INTERNAL AUDIT CHARTER

Ms. Soileau stated that an internal audit charter is required under the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing (Standards). Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 17:3138.6 requires the establishment of an internal audit function that adheres to the IIA Standards. P&N reviewed the Regents' internal audit charter and confirmed that the charter continues

to be in alignment with IIA Standards. Based on that analysis, P&N does not recommend any updates or changes to the current internal audit charter. Regent Seale concurred that no updates or changes are required.

On motion of Regent Weill, seconded by Regent May, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to accept the review of the internal audit charter.

BOR IT SECURITY AUDIT UPDATE

Ms. Soileau presented an update on the BoR IT security audit. She stated that as of July 27, 2020, P&N had obtained and analyzed documented policies and procedures, conducted interviews and performed process walkthroughs with IT personnel at Regents, performed testing of technical documents, provided a draft report of observations to management, and held a meeting with management to discuss the draft report observations. The next steps include obtaining management responses to observations, finalizing the report, and presenting the report and management responses to the Audit Committee.

Regent Seale noted that the contract with P&N was in its third and final year. He stated that there were additional funds available for further auditing activities, if required, in the third year.

OTHER BUSINESS: DISCUSSION OF THE LOUISIANA LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR MANAGEMENT LETTER DATED APRIL 29, 2020

Ms. Elizabeth Bourgeois, Assistant Commissioner for Audit and Compliance, presented the findings from the April 29, 2020 Legislative Auditor Management letter. There were two audit findings regarding payroll and purchasing cards. Ms. Bourgeois stated that there were no indications of fraud or misappropriations, all prior audit findings had been resolved, management has implemented corrective action, and she expects the new findings to be resolved in the next report.

FINANCE

FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 UPDATE

Mr. Terrence Ginn, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration, gave an update for informational purposes on the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget.

Regent McDonald asked if there were any federal funds designated for coronavirus testing on campuses. Mr. Ginn clarified that some campuses did have contracts with local health centers. He further stated that federal dollars were going directly to the state, not to individual campuses. Ms. Mary Werner, representative of the LSU Board of Supervisors, reiterated that the testing site at LSU was not a campus project, but rather part of the federal surge testing effort, which used the LSU location as a regional testing site. Dr. Reed stated that Senator Cassidy is working on securing federal funds for testing.

Regent Seale asked if the Board of Regents has considered the responsibility to develop a testing source vendor for all institutions of higher education. He said that this would be a service to the institutions and students. Dr. Reed stated that each campus had its own testing methods - the health sciences centers were testing and researching, other campuses were testing symptomatic individuals, and some campuses were hiring outside medical services to provide testing.

CARES ACT SUPPORT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION AND FEDERAL UPDATES

Mr. Matthew LaBruyere, Associate Commissioner for Finance and Administration, gave an update for informational purposes on the federal funding allocated to students and institutions as a result of the federal CARES Act Support for Higher Education.

LEGISLATIVE

Ms. Erin Cowser, Assistant Commissioner for Legislative and External Affairs, gave a recap for informational purposes on items affecting higher education taken up in the First Special Legislative Session. She highlighted HB59, SB10, and HCR12.

In addition, Ms. Cowser updated the Board on new legislative appointees as follows: HBCU Advisory Council: Rep. Jason Hughes; LaSTEM Advisory Council: Rep. Polly Thomas; and Louisiana Tuition Trust Authority: Sen. Cleo Fields and Rep. Buddy Mincey.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

Dr. Susannah Craig, Deputy Commissioner of Academic Affairs and Innovation, provided brief explanations of consent agenda items and program proposals, as well as the Master Course Articulation Matrix and the Louisiana Common Course Catalog, making recommendations after each agenda item.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Terminate AAS Helicopter Aviation - SLCC
- b. Continued Authorization to Offer Existing Programs 100% Online

On motion of Regent Temple, seconded by Regent Seale, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

- a. Letters of Intent
 - i. BMT Music Therapy – LSU A&M
 - ii. BS Occupational Therapy Assistant – UL Monroe
 - iii. MS Clinical Nutrition & Dietetics Leadership – Nicholls

On motion of Regent Temple, seconded by Regent May, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the letters of intent as presented.

- b. Program Proposals
 - i. AAS Surgical Technology – Delgado
 - ii. AS Health Sciences – LSU-E
 - iii. PBC Accounting – LSU-A
 - iv. GC Cloud Computing & Machine Learning – LSU A&M
 - v. GC Interprofessional Leadership – UL Monroe
 - vi. PhD Nursing – LSU HSC-NO
 - vii. PhD Justice Studies – UNO

On motion of Regent Seale, seconded by Regent McDonald, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the proposed certificate and degree programs as presented.

2020-21 MASTER ARTICULATION MATRIX

On motion of Regent Mire, seconded by Regent May, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the Academic Year 2020-2021 Master Course Articulation Matrix and the Louisiana Common Course Catalog, authorizing BoR staff to continue to work with the institutions to expand and update the Matrix and the Catalog throughout the year.

Chair Chabert had to depart early and presented his closing remarks before handing control of the meeting to Vice Chair Temple.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Before leaving the meeting, Chair Chabert noted the following:

- He thanked the BoR members and staff for their continued participation and efforts during difficult times.
- He thanked Regent Vidrine for his service to the BoR and as president of Southern University's SGA.

- He thanked Tyson Lee, SGA President from LSU-Shreveport, for his service to the Board of Regents as our Governor’s Fellow for the summer.
- Chair Chabert acknowledged Dr. Reed as the 2020 SHEEO Exceptional Leader Award recipient. He stated that he was proud of her and thankful to have someone of her caliber leading the state.

STATEWIDE PROGRAMS

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Sujuan Boutté, LOSFA Executive Director, presented the Consent Agenda items.

- a. Approval of Rulemaking – Acts from 2020 Regular Session
- b. Approval of TOPS Exceptions

On motion of Regent Levy, seconded by Regent May, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the items on the Consent Agenda as presented.

PLANNING, RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE

Dr. Craig and Dr. Randall Brumfield, Deputy Commissioner of Strategic Planning and Student Success, presented the Consent Agenda items for Planning, Research and Performance. Regent Temple asked if other states have reciprocity agreements with Louisiana institutions. Dr. Craig noted that Louisiana does have reciprocity agreements with other states. Regent Temple inquired as to how much revenue the institutions earn from out-of-state online learning. Dr. Craig said that she would research that information and provide it to Regent Temple.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. R.S. 17:1808 (Licensure)
 - i. Initial License
 - (a) Strayer University
 - ii. License Renewals
 - (a) Upper Iowa University
 - (b) Walden University
 - (c) Wiley College
 - (d) Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- b. Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission
 - i. Initial Licenses
 - (a) Cross Road CDL Academy, LLC (Harvey, LA)
 - (b) NOLA Institute of Gaming, LLC (New Orleans, LA)
 - ii. Renewal Applications
 - (a) Advance Healthcare Institute, LLC (05/26/11)
 - (b) BAR/BRI (Baton Rouge) (05/23/12)
 - (c) BAR/BRI (New Orleans) (05/23/12)
 - (d) Ben D. Johnson Educational Center, Inc. (06/19/19)

- (e) Blue Cliff College--Alexandria (05/25/06)
- (f) Delta College of Arts & Technology (06/25/92)
- (g) Diesel Driving Academy (Baton Rouge) (06/25/87)
- (h) Global Trucking Academy (06/29/16)
- (i) Holmes Healthcare Training Center Corp. (06/19/19)
- (j) Instructors for Life, LLC (06/19/19)
- (k) Integrated Education Solutions, LLC (05/23/18)
- (l) Lincoln College of Technology (05/22/03)
- (m) Louisiana Institute of Massage Therapy (05/22/13)
- (n) McCann School of Business and Technology (05/23/18)
- (o) Med-Advance Training (05/22/17)
- (p) Oak Park School of Dental Assisting (05/28/09)
- (q) Operation Spark (06/29/16)
- (r) Ouachita Truck Driving Academy, LLC (05/22/03)
- (s) Petra College, Inc. (05/27/15)
- (t) Precision Weld Testing & Training, LLC (05/23/18)
- (u) Remington College (Lafayette) (05/26/11)
- (v) Remington College (Shreveport) (05/26/11)
- (w) SIHAF Career Institute (05/21/14)

c. State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA)

i. Renewal Applications

- (a) Delgado Community College
- (b) Louisiana Tech University
- (c) Southern University at Shreveport
- (d) University of New Orleans

On motion of Regent McDonald, seconded by Regent Ewing, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the items on the Consent Agenda.

EXTENSION OF EMERGENCY POLICY FOR ADMISSIONS

Dr. Craig noted that the Emergency Policy for Admissions instituted in April 2020 was effective through Fall 2020.

On motion of Regent Ewing, seconded by Regent Solomon, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the extension of the Emergency Policy for Admissions through Summer 2021.

ADMISSIONS AUDIT PLANS FOR FALL 2019, FALL 2020, AND FALL 2021

Dr. Craig invited Ms. Bourgeois to present the proposed modifications to the current admissions audit plan. Dr. Craig stated that this plan was presented to campus and system Chief Academic Officers and all are aware of and/or in agreement with this plan.

On motion of Regent Ewing, seconded by Regent May, the Board, acting as a Committee of the Whole, voted unanimously to approve the revised admissions audit plans for Fall 2019

through Fall 2021, and to grant authority to the Commissioner to approve adjustments to the plans due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

OTHER BUSINESS

Regent Temple welcomed Regent Vidrine. He also thanked Dr. Reed for all that she does and congratulated her on the SHEEO award. He mentioned the upcoming staff retreat featuring a theme of Reboot and Reinvent. Regent Temple said that this theme is appropriate because challenging circumstances present great opportunities for adjustments and change.

Regent Vidrine thanked the Board of Regents for the work in moving students forward. Regent David asked how COVID-19 would affect Fall and Spring enrollment and our Master Plan. Dr. Reed said that it is more important than ever to work on talent development. She stated that we will have updated enrollment information at the September meeting as well as a Master Plan year-one review. She said that many are predicting that we are looking at a 30-month recovery period.

Dr. Reed stated that the systems (except LSU) are reporting modest to more significant decreases in projected enrollment. While LCTCS is down as of the day of the meeting, they have reminded staff that about one-quarter of their enrollment comes throughout the semester in 4-week, 8-week and 12-week sessions that have not begun. In addition, LCTCS is using \$10 million in Governor's Emergency funds to support its Reboot Louisiana program, which could drive up enrollment.

Regent Temple noted that the budget hearings and next Board meeting will be held on September 22-23. He stated that the meetings for the remainder of the year will be held via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

Marty J. Chabert
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Board of Regents Meeting as a Committee of the Whole

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FINANCE

September 23, 2020

Meeting will be held via Video Conference
Meeting can be viewed at: <https://regents.la.gov/live/>

VII. Reports and Recommendations

A. Finance

1. Review and Acceptance of FY 2020-2021 Operating Budgets

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Finance Committee September 22-23, 2020

1. Review and Acceptance of FY 2020-2021 Operating Budgets

The September Board of Regents' budget hearings will provide an entire day for the Board to receive budget presentations from each of the management boards regarding their campus and system budgets as well as Board of Regents, which includes the programs of LOSFA and LUMCON. These hearings will focus on the FY 2020-2021 Operating Budgets. The budget hearings will allow for questions and discussion on immediate and long-term budget adjustments. Below is the schedule for the budget hearings.

Schedule of Budget Hearings for Tuesday, September 22, 2020 **Virtual via Zoom**

9:00 a.m.	Introduction
9:05 a.m.	Revenue Outlook and Statewide Overview
9:40 a.m.	Board of Regents
9:55 a.m.	Break
10:00 a.m.	Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON)
10:30 a.m.	Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA)
11:00 a.m.	Break
11:05 a.m.	Louisiana Community and Technical College System
12:05 p.m.	Lunch Break
1:00 p.m.	Southern University System
2:00 p.m.	Break
2:15 p.m.	Louisiana State University System
3:15 p.m.	University of Louisiana System

Following the hearings, the Board of Regents will meet on Wednesday, September 23rd to review and consider acceptance of the FY 2020-2021 operating budgets. At that time, BoR staff will present statewide summary information for the Board's consideration. This month's actions will complete the final step in the FY 2020-2021 budget cycle. Next month, staff will update and prepare a preliminary full formula funding request for FY 2021-2022.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends that the Board accept the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budgets.

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Board of Regents Meeting as a Committee of the Whole

**REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FACILITIES AND PROPERTY**

September 23, 2020

Meeting will be held via Video Conference
Meeting can be viewed at: <https://regents.la.gov/live/>

VII. Reports and Recommendations

B. Facilities and Property

1. Hurricane Laura Update

Executive Summary

Facilities and Property September 23, 2020

1. Hurricane Laura Update

Hurricane Laura struck the southwestern coast of Louisiana during the early morning hours on Thursday August 27th causing damage throughout the state. The most extensive damages to institutions occurred in Lake Charles; however, minor to moderate damages were reported across multiple institutions. A total of 12 institutions or their satellite locations reported incurring some level of damage as a result of the storm.

In Lake Charles, McNeese State University (MSU) sustained roof damage to approximately 90% of their buildings and every one of the 50 buildings on campus requires some level of repair. There was heavy damage to the trees on campus and large-scale debris removal will be required. The Office of Risk Management (ORM) has remediation crews on site securing and drying out buildings as well as securing the damaged roofing systems. ORM damage assessments are ongoing and the goal is to have the assessment completed within the next month. Classes will resume 100% online September 18th and MSU hopes to be back on campus for the beginning of the spring 2021 semester.

SOWELA Technical Community College (SOWELA) reported minor to severe damage to their 13 main buildings. The Arts & Humanities building suffered the most extensive damage and early indications are that this building will be a total loss. The other facilities had damaged roofs, water intrusion, broken windows, exterior damage, and missing rooftop equipment. SOWELA plans to resume online classes on September 25th. The goal is to have three to four buildings ready for students by October and four additional buildings ready by January 2021. Power restoration is a critical issue for both SOWELA and MSU, as well as the city of Lake Charles. No timetable for power restoration has been established as of yet.

With ORM already on the ground in Lake Charles, the Office of Facility Planning and Control (FP&C) plans to develop a short-list of architects and engineers (A/E) by September 17th to work with ORM on assessments and scopes of work for projects with an estimated construction cost of less than \$500,000. For projects with a construction cost higher than \$500,000, FP&C plans to have A/E firms on board by the end of September. ORM hopes to have their initial loss assessments completed by the beginning of October. Once the A/E firms develop a scope of work required to repair each damaged facility, a determination can then be made whether or not insurance (ORM) will cover all required repairs to a facility or if there is a difference between the insured amount and the actual amount required to make each facility whole. At this point the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) would be brought into the process to evaluate allowable costs in excess of the ORM covered damages. Currently, the state has met the threshold for FEMA to cover 75% of costs determined to be allowable in excess of ORM coverage.

In addition to the institutions in Lake Charles, damages were reported across the state. Institutions reporting damages include: Louisiana Tech University, Grambling State University, Northwestern State University (Natchitoches, Shreveport, and Leesville campuses), the University of Louisiana – Lafayette, Louisiana State University (LSU) – Alexandria, LSU – Eunice, LSU Agricultural Center's Pollack site, Louisiana Delta Community College's Ruston campus and Central Louisiana Technical Community College's Lamar Salter campus (Leesville). Damages reported include roofing damage, water intrusion, broken windows, damaged signage, significant debris clean-up, and other minor issues.

Commissioner Reed and staff met with the Governor and representatives from the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP), FP&C, ORM, the University of Louisiana System, and the Louisiana Community and Technical College System on Wednesday September 2nd to discuss plans for moving forward with damage assessments and repairs as well as to convey concerns related to issues experienced during Hurricane Katrina/Rita recovery efforts. GOHSEP stated that there have been lessons learned during the ongoing La Tech tornado recovery process that will be helpful in moving the Lake Charles recovery forward. Dialogue was established to meet on a regular basis once the damage assessments are complete to ensure recovery efforts move forward in a timely manner.

Lastly, Commissioner Reed and staff visited the MSU and SOWELA campuses on Friday, September 4th to meet with the President and Chancellor of each institution and expressed her support for the ongoing recovery effort. Subsequent to the Lake Charles trip, the Commissioner and staff visited LSU – Alexandria and LSU – Eunice to discuss storm damages and any outstanding needs each institution may have.

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Board of Regents Meeting as a Committee of the Whole

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

September 23, 2020

Meeting will be held via Video Conference
Meeting can be viewed at: <https://regents.la.gov/live/>

VII. Reports and Recommendations

C. Academic and Student Affairs

1. Consent Agenda
 - a. Termination of the Institute for Advanced Materials – LSU A&M
 - b. Reauthorization of Existing Research Unit
 - i. Center for Advancement of Meat Production & Processing – McNeese
 - ii. National Center for Advanced Manufacturing – LSU A&M
 - iii. Precision Agriculture & Unmanned Aircraft Systems Research & Applications Center – ULM
 - iv. Pugh Institute for Justice – LSU A&M
 - c. Progress Reports for Conditionally Approved Academic Programs
 - d. Routine Staff Approvals
2. Academic Programs
 - a. Program Proposals
 - i. OTD Occupation Therapy – LSU HSC-S
 - ii. PhD Construction Management – LSU A&M
3. Centers and Institutes
 - a. Full Authorization of Conditionally Approved Research Units
 - i. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center – UL Lafayette
 - ii. Urban Entrepreneurship & Policy Institute – UNO

AGENDA ITEM VII.C.1.a.

Termination of the Institute for Advanced Materials Louisiana State University and A&M College

Background Information

Louisiana State University and A&M College (LSU) has requested the termination of the Board of Regents (BoR) approved Institute for Advanced Materials (IAM). The institution submitted the request to BoR in May 2020.

Staff Summary

LSU has struggled to maintain a stable research unit for advanced materials with a previous Center for Advanced Materials terminated a few years before IAM was established. IAM received BoR Center/Institute designation on December 5, 2013 and was granted full authorization by the Regents in 2014. At present, the IAM group, with consensus from University leadership, has decided that the IAM is not an effective vehicle for supporting the LSU community. The IAM will not seek renewal as a BoR Center/Institute as it is currently being disbanded and will revert to a more informal, collaborative group of faculty at LSU – a veritable taskforce on how best to serve the materials scientists at LSU in the coming years. Therefore, we request that the IAM be removed from BoR designation.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends that the Board grant approval of the termination of the Institute for Advanced Materials at Louisiana State University and A&M College.

AGENDA ITEM VII.C.1.b.i

Reauthorization of a Previously Approved Research Unit McNeese State University Center for Advancement of Meat Production and Processing

Background Information

McNeese State University requests continued authorization of the Center for Advancement of Meat Production and Processing. The Center was originally approved in December 2011 and was most recently granted continued authorization by the Board of Regents in 2017.

Staff Summary

1. Description

The mission of the Center for Advancement of Meat Production and Processing (CAMPP) is to conduct applied research and provide education and outreach for students and professionals in agriculture. The University's farm and feedstock operation supports the Center's research objectives in animal science, harvesting, and production as well as the Center's objectives for creating activities to provide hands-on learning for meat production and processing. With the current livestock resources in Southwest Louisiana and the tradition of agriculture as a way of life, tremendous opportunity exists for applied research and training of workers for the meat processing and food service industry.

The facility remains the only Federally Inspected Meat Harvest Facility in the state of Louisiana. Over the past three years, CAMPP has processed more than 6,000 red meat animals. In alignment with the unit's objective to foster education, applied research, and economic development, CAMPP has become integrated into the Southwest Louisiana region as a resource for education, professional development, and extension activities. Its operations continue to evolve and generate positive public response and regional impact.

2. Activities & Plans

Since Center operations began in 2012, but particularly in the last three years, CAMPP activities have included supporting educational activities of McNeese's Harold & Pearl Dripps School of Agricultural Sciences; community outreach; collaboration and educational activities with high schools; marketing products; and conducting research. Specific activities have included:

- Each semester, students enrolled in any of eight courses ranging from *Livestock Judging* to *Field Experience in Nutrition* use the CAMPP facility for hands-on training and lab activities. In addition to gaining experience working in the facilities, students receive training to work in the US industry, including internships at Tyson foods, Pilgrims, and Smithfield.
- CAMPP has become the 'go to' source for information and education on meat harvesting and processing, hosting visitors from across Louisiana who are interested in learning more about how meat is produced. MSU also hosts field days and training for professional and community groups.
- CAMPP personnel and MSU agriculture faculty provide training for students preparing for meats evaluation teams for national and state meat judging competitions at the CAMPP facility. These Future Farmers of America (FFA) events draw more than 1,200 high school students to learn about meat identification, meat judging, and grading. In 2019, Jennings High School in Jefferson Davis Parish partnered with CAMPP personnel to consult, teach, and demonstrate processing techniques to promote the Meat Processing Certificate for students enrolled in agricultural science courses at Jennings High School.
- The store front on the McNeese campus now provides jobs for 3-4 students and markets CAMPP products to faculty, students, and the community. The Center has partnered with Sassy Oils, an

upstart food distributor at the Southwest Louisiana Entrepreneurial and Economic Development (SEED) Center in Lake Charles and is currently in negotiations with Calcasieu Parish to provide products for the parish school system.

- Ongoing research projects at the plant include bacteria testing of beef, lamb, and pork; the effect of lairage time and location on meat quality; temperature and wool growth on meat quality; and consumer perception of meat processing. In 2019, a National Pork Board funded research project was completed to evaluate meat quality of pigs fed diets consisting of cricket powder as an alternative protein source. Data from these projects have been presented by faculty and students at national meetings, including the American Meat Science Association Reciprocal Meat Conference, International Food & Technology Conference, and the International Congress of Meat and Technology.

3. Resources and Administration

The administration of the Center is coordinated by the Dean of Agricultural Sciences with a manager and assistant manager responsible for research, education, and day-to-day operations of CAMPP. In addition, five undergraduate and graduate students work an average of 30 hours per week throughout the year in support of Center operations. The Center is housed in the meat processing facility, which is located on 16 acres of land in Jefferson Davis Parish. The facility has equipment and facilities to accommodate research, education, and processing activities.

4. Budget

Funding for Center activities is derived from institutional resources and custom processing. Self-generated funds and the University's \$54,300 investment of operating funds lead to projected revenue of \$285,000 in custom processing, which covers the \$269,000 cost to support operations.

Staff Analysis

CAMPP supports education initiatives and workforce development in agriculture and food science related professions and is a valuable addition to the community. The potential for the growth and positive partnerships are gaining momentum as the faculty operations continue to be implemented. With an established vision and sufficient funding in place to support the Center's functions, CAMPP should continue to benefit many entities while playing a key role in economic development for the region.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends continued authorization of the Center for Advancement of Meat Production and Processing (CAMPP) at McNeese State University. A progress report and request for reauthorization shall be due by October 1, 2025.

AGENDA ITEM VII.C.1.b.ii

Reauthorization of a Previously Approved Research Unit Louisiana State University and A&M College National Center for Advanced Manufacturing

Background Information

Louisiana State University and A & M College (LSU) is requesting reauthorization of the National Center for Advanced Manufacturing (NCAM). The Center was originally granted one-year conditional approval in September 2001 at the University of New Orleans (UNO); granted full approval in 2002; and reauthorized in September 2009 through June 30, 2013. Prior to approval by the Board of Regents in 2001, NCAM was formed by a cooperative endeavor agreement (CEA) between UNO, the Louisiana Department of Economic Development (LED), and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Under the terms of the 2012 NCAM CEA (which is still in force) LSU was made managing partner of NCAM and charged with leading and managing NCAM activities and acting as administrator for the NASA funds to be shared and utilized by state-affiliated parties. A request for reauthorization was approved by the Board in October 2014, with an extension granted until 2020. LSU now seeks another five-year approval from the Board of Regents.

Staff Summary

1. Description

NCAM is a state-of-the-art research and production center focused on applying advanced manufacturing technologies to lightweight composite and metallic materials in support of the NASA space program and adjunct industries. Located at the NASA Michoud Assembly Facility (MAF) in New Orleans, NCAM is currently home to the partnership between NASA, the State of Louisiana, LSU, UNO, and the UNO Research and Technology Foundation. The NCAM mission has three components: (1) position NCAM as a service unit to NASA with the NASA mission being the primary priority of NCAM; (2) identify and nurture new research opportunities not previously available to the faculty at all institutions within Louisiana; and (3) establish NCAM as a premier resource for regional STEM and education outreach initiatives. NCAM partners strive to improve US competitiveness in aerospace and commercial markets and to enable the transfer of technology to industry partners and educational institutions within the partnership and across the nation.

2. Activities & Plans

Activities since the Center's last reauthorization, including ongoing activities, include:

- NASA Space Launch System (SLS): production support for the Boeing Core Stage and Lockheed Martin Orion Crew Module 1st crew module completed for the December 2014 test flight.
- NASA Commercial Crew Program: production support for the Sierra Nevada/Lockheed Martin Dream Chaser Space Vehicle.
- Supporting the training and certification of new equipment operators in support of NASA production programs.
- Sponsoring UNO Friction Stir Weld "Special Topics" engineering course taught at NCAM for both LSU and UNO engineering students.
- Sponsor STEM Outreach Initiatives such as the PrivatEEL summer camp that introduces local high school students to robotics and additive manufacturing technology.
- Sponsor Senior Design Capstone Projects focused on additive manufacturing, lean and composite materials.
- Work with LSU and UNO to continue their advanced manufacturing focused course offerings in additive manufacturing.

Planned activities include:

- Continue development and production support for the build of additional Boeing Core Stage and Lockheed Martin Orion Crew Modules.
- Support the purchase of a MELD development machine and the coordination of research projects with both university and industry partners.
- Expand the current Friction Stir Welding (FSW) engineering course to include Nunez Community College. Further expand both the current class and the additional Nunez class to include FSW additive manufacturing.
- Continue to lead advanced manufacturing technology summits that bring together educational institutions, economic development organizations, and industry. Develop research partnerships through commonly aligned activities.
- Continue and expand STEM outreach related projects and summer camps that encourage students to consider a STEM educational path.
- Continue to coordinate additional advanced manufacturing technology capabilities that enhance the existing NASA Michoud capabilities, support tenant requirements, and reduce risk of current NASA programs.

3. Resources and Administration

The NCAM administration includes the NCAM Advisory Committee, which oversees all operations of the Center and consists of the following members: NASA MAF Chief Operating Officer, NASA MSFC Materials Lab Manager, LSU Dean of Engineering, UNO Dean of Engineering, CEO of the UNO Research and Technology Foundation and LED Director of Federal Programs. The Office of the Dean of the College of Engineering at LSU provides the NCAM staff support to manage day-to-day operations. The staff includes the NCAM Director and NCAM Coordinator; both are located at the NASA MAF in New Orleans. Faculty from LSU, UNO and other institutions within Louisiana are utilized as needed to support research grant proposal efforts. Industry subject matter experts are utilized for conducting specialized training workshops and continuing education courses.

The NCAM facility occupies 85,000 square feet within the 1,700,000 square foot Main Production Building at the NASA MAF. The facility includes large scale, multi-axle robotic equipment. In addition, NCAM has access to MAF facilities and services such as advanced laboratory services, mechanical and chemical testing, machine shops, engineering and tool design, clean lines, and heat treatments.

4. Budget

The NCAM operating budget is funded by a federal grant. NASA, per the CEA, makes the NCAM equipment available to NASA projects, NASA contractors, and other tenants for a fee to recover costs for equipment maintenance and payments to LSU of \$600,000 per year. The NCAM budget is primarily used to fund research and educational outreach activities. The goal is to bring NCAM researchers from across the state and the nation to engage in advanced manufacturing research.

Staff Analysis

It appears to staff that NCAM is a valuable resource to both the State and the University. NCAM's close alignment with the operational needs of NASA's Michoud facility have resulted in research, education, and economic development benefits which would not have been possible otherwise. Appropriate funding is in place to support Center initiatives.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends reauthorization of the National Center for Advanced Manufacturing at LSU A&M for a period of five years. A progress report and request for reauthorization shall be due by December 1, 2025.

AGENDA ITEM VII.C.1.b.iii.

Reauthorization of a Previously Approved Research Unit University of Louisiana at Monroe Precision Agriculture and Unmanned Aircraft Systems Research and Applications Center

Background Information

The University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM) is requesting continued authorization of the Precision Agriculture and Unmanned Aircraft Systems Research and Applications Center (Precision Ag Center). The Center was given one-year conditional approval by the Board of Regents in April 2014, with full (5-year) authorization granted in April 2015.

Staff Summary

1. Description

The Precision Ag Center continues to be a multi-disciplinary group housed at ULM. Its mission has evolved from just assisting the agricultural community in the development and application of innovative methods involving the use of unmanned aircraft systems (UASs) to the improvement of the agricultural industry and citizens of Louisiana to include applications-based training to public service agencies (e.g., FBI, LA State Police, municipal police forces, and firefighters).

Since the establishment of the Center, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has released regulations related to commercial use of UASs. ULM has tailored its UAS curriculum to meet these requirements which include passing the Part 107 FAA exam. Now, more than before, the Center plays a key role in the expansion of research, applications, and education related to legal and ethical usage of UAS technology.

ULM is the only university in Louisiana to offer a degree program in UAS and an undergraduate certificate in UAS. ULM is also approved by the FAA under a “certificate of authorization” to fly its UAS in the national airspace system. ULM is positioned to meet the needs of Louisiana’s agricultural community because of its established program in UAS, having an agribusiness program, a state of the art toxicology laboratory, a computer science department, a complete soils analysis laboratory on campus, and an active risk management program that can address special needs of agricultural growers.

Specific objectives of the Precision Ag Center are as follows:

- Develop and implement a curriculum in precision agriculture methods, incorporating the use of UASs.
- Contribute to meeting the workforce demands for individuals trained in precision agriculture methods and the application of UASs to agriculture problems.
- Develop, conduct, and disseminate, in collaboration with the Louisiana agriculture community, innovative methods and applied research related to the application of UASs in precision agriculture.
- Provide hands-on training and information to prepare critical public service agencies in the applications of UASs to improve the lives and safety of Louisiana citizens.

2. Activities & Plans

Over the past five years the Precision Ag Center has become increasingly active.

Activities that have occurred since the Center was initially approved include, but are not limited to:

- Developed formal training program in conjunction with the Coordinator of Drones for the Louisiana State Police (LSP). Training used by LSP, North Louisiana Police and First Responders.

- Partnered with AeroVironment Inc., a long-time drone manufacturer for military drones. The Center was given two Quantix systems purposely built for crop analysis in exchange for a rigorous field trial of the system with a written summary of findings.
- Hired a Research Center Manager to maintain updated software and firmware, and process data.
- Continued to partner with the World Heritage site of Poverty Point in coordination with the resident Archaeologist to perform multi-spectral and thermal imaging of selected sites of interest.
- The Center's Director of Operations was designated by the State Attorney General's office as an expert witness in drone related matters and was utilized as an expert drone consultant to the FBI.
- Made several presentations to various civic groups such as the Lion's Club, Kiwanis Club, and Rotary Club.

3. Resources and Administration

The Precision Ag Center is now located in a larger, more secure space in Stubbs Hall on ULM's campus. The Center has two rooms, of which one provides a secure storage area for the drones while the other has ample space for workshops, displays, maintenance, etc. Two new faculty have joined the Center bringing the total to eight. The Center is also supported by an additional part-time staff member who helps manage the fleet of drones. Funding for this part-time position is provided by a student-approved fee to support the aviation program.

4. Budget

Funding for the Precision Ag Center mainly comes from grants and institutional resources. The Center completed a grant from the Delta Regional Authority (excess of \$150,000) to train public agency personnel to pass the Part 107 FAA exam. After completion, staff were requested to provide training for other agencies. This has become an additional source of revenue that ULM plans to expand upon. Given the Center's track record and success in delivering on grant expectations, staff believe chances for future grants are positive. Center staff are also working with private companies on possible MOU and contract opportunities. Revenue, actual and projected, is expected to cover the minimum expenditures of the Center.

Staff Analysis

The Precision Agriculture and Unmanned Aircraft Systems Research and Applications Center provides an innovative approach to a new era in precision agriculture research and UAS applications. Continuation of the Center allows ULM to keep up with UAS technology and provide an organized effort for research and UAS applications for the agricultural industry, a key industry for the State of Louisiana.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends continued authorization of the Precision Agriculture and Unmanned Aircraft Systems Research and Applications Center at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. A progress report and request for reauthorization shall be due by October 1, 2025.

AGENDA ITEM VII.C.1.b.iv.

Reauthorization of a Previously Approved Research Unit Louisiana State University and A&M College George W. and Jean H. Pugh Institute for Justice

Background Information

Louisiana State University and A&M College (LSU) is requesting continued authorization of the George W. and Jean H. Pugh Institute for Justice. The institute was granted initial approval by the Board of Regents in 2003 and was most recently granted continued full authorization in 2014. The LSU Board of Supervisors approved the request to seek continued authorization of the Pugh Institute at its December 2019 meeting. BOR staff granted continued authorization until Board approval is considered.

Staff Summary

1. Description

The George W. and Jean H. Pugh Institute for Justice was founded in 1998 to provide support for "research, educational and pro bono activities that will promote justice for individuals in the administration of the criminal and civil justice systems in the State of Louisiana and elsewhere." The need for support for such activities continues as suggested by controversies and public debate on several matters: interactions between citizens and the police; the death penalty; whether criminal punishment is too harsh and whether incarceration is overused; the treatment of juveniles in the criminal justice system; civil litigation reform; the pace of desegregation in public schools; and voting rights. The Pugh Institute continues to address such issues. Most events are open to the public as part of the mission of the LSU Law Center and the Pugh Institute. Mr. Pugh continued his active participation in the institute and on the advisory board through the end of his life when he passed away at 94 this past April.

2. Activities & Plans

Since its last reauthorization in 2014, the Pugh Institute has hosted several symposiums, lecture series, and community forums that drew hundreds of students, faculty, lawyers, judges, and other members of the broader community. The institute also offers a variety of courses for the Law Center and has started hosting an implicit bias workshop series.

- The Pugh Institute, in collaboration with the LSU Law Center and the Louisiana Law Review, has brought together leading scholars, judges, and legal practitioners to take part in annual symposiums on important topics concerning individual rights and public policy. These topics include voting rights, criminal reform, sports and gaming laws, and the 14th amendment, among others.
- The “Dialogue on Race and Policing” in late 2018 was designed to address the sometimes-dysfunctional relationship between police departments and the people they are sworn to protect. The Dialogue involved members from various stakeholder groups in the Baton Rouge community, including police forces, law reform and protest groups, the religious community, community organizers, and academia. Baton Rouge Mayor /President Broome committed to the proposed action plan, including the establishment of a Chief's Council to support and advise Baton Rouge Police Chief Murphy Paul, the mandate of a Procedural Justice Engagement Policy for the Baton Rouge Police Department and the City Constable's Office, and the implementation of a Community Policing Plus Program within the Baton Rouge Police Department.

Plans for the short-term and long-term future include the following:

- Bringing speakers to the campus of the Law Center to discuss trafficking and involuntary servitude and to discuss voting and elections in the context of the 100th anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment that constitutionalized women's suffrage.
- Continued co-sponsorship of the implicit bias series entitled "Enhancing Justice by Reducing Bias."
- Development of a student award program to recognize "outstanding works of scholarship involving individual rights" such as essays or published articles.
- Additional activities such as symposiums, lectures, and forums to engage scholars and the community in current issues of justice.

3. Resources and Administration

The Pugh Institute for Justice is administered through the Paul M. Hebert Law Center under the supervision of Executive Director Raymond Diamond. The institute also relies on the Advisory Committee, made up of nine internal and external members of the law community including Hon. James L. Dennis, Hon. Harim DeWayne Hale, and Hon. Jay C. Zainey.

The institute relies primarily on an endowment of \$425K and private donations. Over the next five years, the spending allocation from the endowment will total approximately \$55,000. Non-endowed support for Year 1 currently holds at approximately \$17,000 and pledges have been made for future donor support. Annual expenses for the Institute have averaged \$6,200 over the past five years, and the revenues approximated for the next five years are more than sufficient for continuation of the institute and allowance of the addition of student awards and other activities.

Staff Analysis

The Pugh Institute continues its long legacy of promoting scholarship and conversation in various aspects of justice, focusing on current issues most pressing for society. The expenses of the institute remain low and revenue remains strong and sustainable. The legacy of George W. and Jean H. Pugh and their commitment to issues of justice will live on through the Pugh Institute.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends continued authorization of the George W. and Jean H. Pugh Institute of Justice at Louisiana State University and A&M College for a period of five years. A progress report and request for reauthorization shall be due by October 1, 2025.

AGENDA ITEM VII.C.1.c.

**PROGRESS REPORTS for CONDITIONALLY APPROVED
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

Regular progress reports are required for every new academic degree program until the program can demonstrate sustainability. This is determined by information on enrollment, completion, accreditation, and other related factors. Progress report due dates have historically spanned the calendar year. Staff are working to revise these due dates to be either in July or October to better coordinate with academic year data availability including fall enrollment and spring graduation numbers. In some cases, a period longer than a year is recommended before the next progress report due date to allow for full implementation of the program or any significant programmatic changes that will affect outcomes in the following year.

Initial Approval	Program	Staff Analysis	Staff Recommendation for Board Action
LCTCS			
Nov. 2016	BRCC AAS Technical Studies CIP 47.9999 Implemented Spring 2017. Current progress report received 7.1.20.	Current program enrollment is 59 with eight graduates last year and eight expected this year. Planned curriculum revisions for Air Conditioning & Refrigeration, Welding and Drafting and Design concentrations will reduce total program completion time.	Receive and accept the progress report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.21.
LSU			
Sept. 2016	LSU A&M BSW Social Work CIP 44.0701 Implemented Fall 2018. Current progress report received 6.24.20.	Program completed the accreditation process and received official notice of accreditation in July. The first cohort of graduates, 14, finished the program May 2020. Of those graduates, 13 have been admitted to graduate programs. Total fall enrollment in the program is 84. To maintain accreditation requirements and sustain program growth, another full-time faculty member will be hired.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 7.1.22.
March 2015	LSU A&M GC Geographic Information Science CIP 45.0702 Implemented Fall 2016. Current progress report received 6.26.20.	Enrollment has grown since implementation, and the program currently has a 3-year average completer rate of 7 per year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the department has accelerated efforts to move the GC and associated MS to 100% online. A GIS certificate committee continues to manage and adjust the program leading to the recent addition of a programming course to the curriculum.	Receive and accept the report. No further reporting is required.
Aug. 2017	LSU A&M GC Instructional Coaching CIP 13.1399 Implemented Summer 2018. Current progress report received 3.17.20.	The program currently has 9 students enrolled and its 4 graduates completed the program this year. Marketing efforts are targeted specifically to in-service teachers, especially the Teach for America program of South Louisiana, and includes direct email and flyers.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.21.

Feb. 2017	LSU A&M GC Teaching in the Health Professions CIP 51.9999 Implemented Fall 2018. Current progress report received 3.16.20.	The program has struggled with retention to completion in the first year losing half of the first 8 enrolled students this year, but the remaining 4 completed the program. Low enrollment for the second year (3) has prompted active recruiting and marketing by LSU Online where the program is managed.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.21.
March 2015	LSU A&M GC Workforce Development CIP 52.1005 Implemented Spring 2016. Current progress report received 6.26.20.	The program has struggled to develop interest. Current enrollment is 6, 2 new students, with 1 graduate in each of the past 2 years. The program intends to increase marketing efforts linking the GC with the Human Resource Dev. Master's degree, and better track outcomes of graduates.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.21.
Aug. 2018	LSU A&M MS Athletic Training CIP 51.0913 Program will be implemented Summer 2021. Current progress report received 6.15.20.	The program will not be implemented until Fall 2021 as the department focuses on the teach-out plan for the existing bachelor's degree.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.22.
Sept. 2016	LSU A&M Doctor of Design (DDes) Cultural Preservation CIP 30.0000 Implemented Fall 2017. Current progress report received 6.4.20.	The program has had strong initial enrollment for a new doctoral program, about 5 per year for the first 3 years. The first graduate completed the program last year, and another 3 are expected next year. Most students are part time, increasing the time to degree. The program continues to work toward securing funding for student support, through increased development efforts.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 7.1.22.
ULS			
Aug. 2014	McNeese BS Health Systems Management CIP 51.2211 Implemented Fall 2015. Current progress report received 7.8.20.	The program has grown rapidly since implementation with 21 graduates last year and 60 students currently enrolled. Most of these recent graduates are either employed in the field or have been accepted to graduate school. Some employment searches were delayed due to COVID-19.	Receive and accept the report. No further reporting is required.
Aug. 2018	McNeese BS Mechanical Engineering CIP 14.1901 Implemented Fall 2018. Current progress report received 6.2.20.	The first graduating cohort of the new stand-alone program was 16, and 102 students are currently enrolled. Program faculty continue to actively seek external research funding and support undergraduate research.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 7.1.22.
June 2018	Northwestern BFA Dance CIP 50.0301 Implemented Fall 2018. Current progress report received 6.4.20.	The program's first 7 graduates are expected in spring 2021, and there are 36 students currently enrolled, some of whom may switch to the dance minor. The program will begin the process of seeking National Association of Schools of Dance accreditation in 2024 allowing the program time for growth. Faculty turnover and reassignment has resulted in the need for two replacement faculty. One position is in place for Fall 2020, and the other search has been postponed due to COVID-19.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 7.1.22.

Aug. 2016	Northwestern BS Applied Microbiology CIP 26.0502 Implemented Spring 2017. Current progress report received 5.26.20.	The program has graduated 2 students in each of the past 2 years, which is expected to increase as the program ages and the 21 currently enrolled students complete the program within next few years. Although there has been some faculty turnover & reassignments, adjuncts have supported program through the changes. Grants have supported acquisition of new equipment as needed.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 7.1.22.
Aug. 2018	Southeastern MS Child Life CIP 51.0000 Implemented Fall 2019. Current progress report received 6.22.20.	The program's current enrollment is approximately 18 with no graduates yet. Students have completed practicums and internships at Children's Hospital New Orleans, Our Lady of the Lake Children's Hospital in Baton Rouge, and UC Davis Children's Hospital. The program will be eligible to apply for endorsement from the Associate of Child Life Professionals in Fall 2021.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 7.1.22.
May 2012	UL Lafayette GC Teaching English as a Second Language (TESOL) CIP 13.1401 Implemented Fall 2014. Current progress report received 3.2.20. Additional information received 5.4.20.	Program completer numbers have remained extremely low with only 1-3 completers per year since program's implementation. Several Master's and PhD students from the English programs complete or nearly complete the requirements for the program UL plans to actively facilitate program completion for those students as well as increase marketing efforts.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report demonstrating significant increases in enrollment and completion is due 10.1.22 or program will be terminated.
Aug. 2018	UL Lafayette MAT Elementary Education, Grades 1-5 CIP 13.1202 Implemented Summer 2019. Current progress report received 6.29.20.	The program's current enrollment is 12 with the program's first graduates expected next year. Program faculty have gone through training to ensure quality online and hybrid course delivery in light of COVID-19. Specific marketing efforts continue to be implemented for the French immersion concentration.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 7.1.22.

AGENDA ITEM VII.C.1.d.

Routine Academic Requests & Staff Approvals

Institution	Request
McNeese	Request to terminate the Department of Accounting, Finance & Economics and merge the existing unit along with its programs and associated resources into the Department of Management, Marketing & Business Administration. Approved

AGENDA ITEM VII.C.2.a.i.

Proposed Doctor of Occupational Therapy Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center Shreveport

Background Information

Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center Shreveport (LSU HSC-S) has requested Board of Regents' approval to establish a Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD). The Letter of Intent (LOI) was approved by the LSU Board of Supervisors in May 2017 followed by the Board of Regents in August 2017. Although program proposals are typically required within 12 months of LOI approval, LSU HSC-S requested an extension of this deadline to adjust the proposal based on changes at the institution and changes in accreditation requirements. Board staff granted an extension to May 2020. The LSU Board of Supervisors approved the proposal in April 2020. An external review was conducted by Dr. Paula Kramer of the University of the Sciences' Department of Occupational Therapy who identified adequacy of faculty for the program as a concern. LSU HSC-S has addressed this concern with Regents staff.

Staff Summary

Accrediting agency guidelines state that faculty for the OTD must hold a doctorate degree to teach. Thus, offering the OTD at LSU Health Sciences- Shreveport would help close the faculty shortage gap in Louisiana and in the nation. 65% of institutions with occupational therapy programs have chosen to move towards the OTD as the entry-level program and have already made the transition. Therefore, students in the master's level programs in Louisiana who wish to pursue the OTD, which will become the entry-level degree for the discipline, are now pursuing degrees in other states including Texas and Arkansas.

1. Value:

- a. **Same or Similar In-State Programs:** UL Monroe received Board of Regents approval to transition its MS to a doctorate in December 2018 but has chosen to keep its program at the MS level at this time. Therefore, the proposed program will become the only OTD in the state.
- b. **Workforce Demand and Job Opportunities:** Graduates from the current MS program typically find employment quickly after graduation, and given projected growth in demand, this is expected to continue for the OTD.
 - US Bureau of Labor Statistics indicate that the job market for occupational therapists is expected to grow 18% from 2018 to 2028, and OT professionals with specialized treatment knowledge gained through doctoral study will have additional opportunities in healthcare and research.
 - US Glassdoor rated Occupational Therapist as #4 of Best Jobs in 2019; US News Report ranked Occupational Therapist #28 out of 100 top jobs in America; and Occupational Therapist tied with Physical Therapist for fifth place as CNBC's most meaningful career.
- c. **Student Enrollment and Completion:** Projected enrollment and graduation is based on the current MS.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
NEW Prog. Enrollment	26	26	26	26	26
TOTAL Prog. Enrollment	26	52	78	78	78
Prog. Graduates	-	-	26	26	26

2. **Resources:** The proposed program will be launched with current faculty, but the number of qualified faculty will be inadequate to support the program and meet accreditation standards after the first year. Two additional faculty, and one replacement for a retiring faculty member will be needed in year 2. Once the program is fully implemented with 3 full cohorts of students in year 3 (2024), tuition revenue is expected to cover the costs of additional faculty.

	Current	Needed	Additional Costs
Faculty	Current faculty, once 2 MS faculty complete the OTD and become qualified to teach at the doctoral level, will be adequate to launch the program.	Two additional faculty will be hired in Yr. 2.	Starting Yr. 2: \$292K/yr.
Physical (Facilities, Equipment, Library, & Technology)	Existing facilities and library, technology, and supply budgets are adequate to support the program.	No additional resources projected.	\$0
Student Support	Existing and future faculty will provide advising support as needed.	No additional resources projected.	\$0

3. **Master Plan Priorities:** The following aspects of the proposal directly address priorities or goals of the statewide attainment goal and 2030 Master Plan.
- Partnerships: The Ochsner-LSU Health System and the School of Allied Health Professions maintain a faculty clinic that works closely with the LSU HSC-S OT program to offer students hands on experience and access to simulation facilities.

Staff Analysis

Occupational Therapy is a high demand profession, and like many other allied health professions, is moving toward the doctorate as the requirement for entry. The program will serve the needs of the region and the state and expand the inventory of occupational therapy programs at all levels from associate to doctorate. The institution has worked directly with the accrediting body to address meeting faculty staffing requirements for the program and has received approval of the plan. Staff will monitor the program’s progress in faculty hiring and retention through the regular progress report process.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends conditional approval of the proposed Doctor of Occupational Therapy (CIP 51.2306) at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center Shreveport, with a progress report due July 1, 2022.

AGENDA ITEM VII.C.2.a.ii.

Proposed Doctor of Philosophy in Construction Management Louisiana State University and A&M College

Background Information

Louisiana State University and A&M College (LSU) has requested Board of Regents' approval to establish a PhD in Construction Management. The Letter of Intent (LOI) was approved by the LSU Board of Supervisors in January 2019. The LOI was then circulated to CAOs statewide for review. Regents approval of the LOI in April 2019 included a requirement that issues raised during the CAO review be addressed in the final proposal. The proposal was approved by the LSU Board of Supervisors in April 2020. An external review was conducted by Dr. John Schaufelberger of the University of Washington in July 2020. LSU then worked with staff to address issues raised in the external review.

Staff Summary

The PhD in Construction Management is intended for students with a bachelor's or master's degree in a construction discipline (e.g., construction management, construction engineering) or closely related discipline. The program allows a candidate to thoroughly study both broad knowledge of construction and in-depth knowledge of specialty fields in construction through faculty expertise in research areas such as construction management; (e.g., project planning, delivery, and controls); construction engineering; facility management; material science; sustainability; building science and technology; building analytics; and virtual construction and simulation. The objective of the program is the development of new technologies that allow for efficient and cost-effective construction. The proposed program was developed from the growing construction management concentration in LSU's PhD in Engineering Science.

1. **Value:** The proposed PhD will allow LSU to be visible and competitive with other leading construction programs around the country and internationally with terminal degree programs, while attracting highly qualified students and faculty.
 - a. **Same or Similar In-State Programs:** The proposed program at LSU will be the only doctoral level construction management program in the state.
 - b. **Workforce Demand and Job Opportunities:** All 15 recent graduates from the construction management concentration are employed in construction management positions either in academia as faculty or industry. University construction departments are increasingly looking for high quality candidates with a terminal degree in a construction field, and the program expects continued success in the job market.
 - c. **Student Enrollment and Completion:** Enrollment in the construction management concentration in the existing PhD in Engineering Science increased from 8 students in 2012 to 32 in fall 2019. The concentration has graduated approximately 2-3 students per year in the past 4 years, a number that is expected to grow given recent and anticipated future growth in enrollment.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
TOTAL Prog. Enrollment	32	35	40	45	45

2. **Resources:** The department has over \$15 million in active external grants that will contribute to the strong support of graduate students through GA and RA positions.

	Current	Needed	Additional Costs
Faculty	The program currently has 9 full time faculty plus 4 adjuncts, which is expected to be adequate to sustain the program in the first few years.	With anticipated growth, an additional faculty member may be needed in each of years 3 and 4 at a cost of \$100K per year.	Starting Yr 3: \$100K/yr Starting Yr 4: \$200K/yr
Physical (Facilities, Equipment, Library, & Technology)	Library resources supporting the undergraduate and graduate programs are adequate to support the needs of the program. Existing facilities and equipment are adequate to implement the program.	Each of the two new faculty members for years 3 and 4 will be allocated one time \$100K startup costs for equipment and supplies.	Yr 3: \$100K Yr 4: \$100K
Student Support	The department currently fully funds the construction management students in the engineering science concentration.	Two additional graduate assistant positions will be funded starting in year 3 at \$50K each per year.	Starting Yr 3: \$100K/yr
TOTAL			Yr 3: \$300K Yr 4: \$400K Yr 5+: \$300K

3. **Master Plan Priorities:** The following aspects of the proposal directly address priorities or goals of the statewide attainment goal and 2030 Master Plan.

- **Accessibility and Affordability:** The program will be offered in a hybrid format with both online and on campus courses available enabling working professionals to earn the PhD while employed. Transfer credits and prior learning assessments will be available for students with applicable credentials and/or experience.
- **Partnerships:** Industry was instrumental in the development of related programs at LSU and in the proposed program's curriculum to meet employer needs. The program will benefit from the department's affiliation with leading construction companies and through the LSU Construction Industry Advisory Council.

Staff Analysis

Success in LSU's related program including the BS, PBC, and MS in Construction Management along with growing enrollment in the PhD in Engineering Science construction management concentration are evidence of student interest and faculty strength in the field at LSU. The institution has presented a compelling case for the value of researchers in construction management at the doctoral level, and staff are confident in the program's ability to support students on their academic and career trajectories in the discipline.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends conditional approval of the proposed Doctor of Philosophy in Construction Management (CIP 44.0501) at Louisiana State University and A&M College, with a progress report due July 1, 2022.

AGENDA ITEM VII.C.3.a.i.

Request for Full Authorization University of Louisiana at Lafayette Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center

Background Information

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette (ULL) is requesting full authorization of the Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center (Blanco Center). The Center was granted one-year conditional approval by the Board of Regents in January 2019.

Staff Summary

1. Description

Founded through a partnership between the ULL College of Liberal Arts and the Edith Garland Dupré Library, the Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center is an independent, non-partisan, interdisciplinary research center bringing together experts from different academic departments to conduct research, analyze data, and draw external funding (grants and contracts) while furthering the public interest by gathering and disseminating information and analysis.

The Blanco Center distinguishes itself from other university-based public policy centers and public agencies in Louisiana by combining faculty expertise in research areas such as economics, sociology, history, political science, archival research, and criminal justice with the rich resource of Blanco's public service records. Blanco donated the archives from her tenure as Governor to her Alma Mater in 2018, including those files pertaining to recovery efforts from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

2. Activities & Plans

Since initial approval, the center has secured multiple contracts, continues to apply for research grants, and seek donations. Construction on the center's permanent location started this spring; two of five professorships have been matched; and the director and assistant director position are filled. The center's objectives with full authorization remain the same as with initial approval last year:

1. Preserve and make available to the public the papers of the Kathleen Blanco gubernatorial administration housed in the Dupré Library archives, and promote research based on and related to the collection.
2. Conduct data-driven, evidence-based, non-partisan transformational research primarily in the public policy areas emphasized by Governor Blanco during her career in state government: governmental ethics, criminal justice reform, poverty, workforce and economic development and opportunity, the role of women in politics, and education.
3. Respond to the needs of state and local agencies, community leaders, lawmakers, and elected officials for data and analysis of current and pressing issues and problems in the above areas.
4. Offer lectures, seminars, workshops and training for professionals and public servants based on research and best practices in the Blanco Center's areas of interest.
5. Provide policymakers, academics, students, the media, and the public with the information necessary to improve lives and communities across Louisiana.

3. Resources and Administration

The Blanco Center Director reports directly to the Dean of Liberal Arts. Salaries for the Center's director and staff, including an assistant director, program coordinator, archivist, library specialist, and graduate assistant, are funded by the university; all future research staff will be funded through grants. The Center's Director is fully committed to the Blanco Center at 100% effort and leads the development and maintenance of the Center's research program and holds primary responsibility for extension and other activities of the Center. In addition, the Blanco Center will host five professorships, two of which have already been matched, with another three in final development.

Currently, the Kathleen Babineaux Blanco papers archive is in the Archives Department of Dupré Library, ULL's main library, while the Public Policy operation is temporarily housed in two large offices on the second floor of Abdalla Hall. A space of 6096 square feet on the third floor of Dupré Library has been allocated and vacated for the Blanco Center, to include the Kathleen Blanco archives and the Public Policy Center. The space will include offices for the director, assistant director, administrative assistant, and archivist, as well as a collaborative workspace and a public reading space.

4. Budget

The Blanco Center has been implemented and will continue to operate from \$2,295,650 in gifts and pledges; fundraising is ongoing. The construction on the Blanco Center space in the University's Dupré Library is estimated to cost \$710,000. The University has already committed \$500,000 from general funds toward the project. If necessary, the remaining \$210,000 will be taken from external gifts already in hand. Another \$100,000 in contracts and grants is anticipated over the Center's second year and \$100,000 in its third and fourth years. Once fully operational, the Center will maintain a primary focus on carrying out externally funded research, which will partially provide for the maintenance of the Center as well as future growth.

Staff Analysis

The acquisition of the Blanco administration archives, highly successful fundraising efforts, and dedication of institutional funds and space are evidence of the Blanco Center's potential for success. The Center's stated areas of research and policy analysis focus are relevant to the future of Louisiana's economy and communities. Grant support for the Center's research will be critical to its long-term success. Staff are confident in ULL's commitment to supporting the Center's efforts to secure funding and to conduct important research and education in areas of public policy that are important to the State.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends full authorization of the Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette for a period of five years. A progress report and request for reauthorization shall be due by October 1, 2025.

AGENDA ITEM VII.C.3.a.ii.

Full Authorization of a Conditionally Approved Research Unit University of New Orleans Urban Entrepreneurship & Policy Institute

Background Information

The University of New Orleans (UNO) is requesting full authorization of the Urban Entrepreneurship & Policy Institute. The institute was granted one-year conditional approval by the Board of Regents in December 2018. The request for full authorization was granted administrative approval by the UL System Office and submitted to Regents for final approval in January 2020. BOR staff extended conditional approval until full Board approval is considered.

Staff Summary

1. Description

The Institute for Urban Entrepreneurship provides a formal structure for research and academic programming that (1) supports activities connected to important issues relevant to entrepreneurship within urban communities, (2) coordinate interdisciplinary research efforts in this area on the UNO campus, and (3) executes interdisciplinary academic programs (degree, certificate, etc.) on the UNO campus. The institute aims to work at the intersection of philosophy, politics, and economics and to be a resource in New Orleans for those seeking experts in public policy issues related directly to ethics and entrepreneurship (addressing wealth inequality, how to fund public education, mass incarceration and criminal justice reform, etc.). In summer 2018, Dr. Chris Surprenant received a grant of just under \$1,800,000 from the John Templeton Foundation to support academic scholarship and community programming focusing on the topic of “urban entrepreneurship.” The Institute was launched last year utilizing these grant funds.

2. Activities & Plans

Since approval in 2018, Dr. Surprenant has raised \$1.5M in additional funding for institute programming, including a 3-year, \$1.4M grant from the Charles Koch Foundation. With these funds, the institute has hired five new faculty members, launched a handful of research projects, and several campus programming initiatives.

Over the past year and a half, the Institute has developed relationships with non-profit organizations, businesses, and entrepreneurs throughout New Orleans, all of whom have provided financial support to the project, internship opportunities for affiliated students, or other benefits to the organization and UNO. These organizations and people include the Urban League, New Orleans Business Alliance, Small Business Association, New Orleans Regional Black Chamber of Commerce, and New Orleans Angel Network. The institute plans to leverage the academic component to further partnerships with relevant community organizations and private businesses, as well as to increase the profile of UNO in the community by becoming a resource for public and private organizations seeking answers to relevant public policy questions.

Beyond generating additional opportunities for UNO students, the Institute plans to continue to utilize unique opportunities present in New Orleans. This institute aims to bring scholars to New Orleans who will work specifically on issues that affect the community and whose work can attract national attention for the university. The institute’s scholars will offer courses that further raise the profile of the university and will attract more public policy-oriented students to UNO.

3. Resources and Administration

Four faculty specializing in philosophy, economics, and political science focus 100% of their time on the institute and its activities and projects. As director, Dr. Surprenant reports directly to the Provost and coordinates institute academic programs and research, on-campus activities, and relationships with community partners. Three other faculty at UNO are involved with the institute. Additional faculty may be hired as additional grant funds become available. Space for the institute has been renovated in Milneburg Hall.

4. Budget

The institute, including its activities and salaries, is operated completely on external funding; no state funds are required at this time. The institute has secured nearly \$1.2 million in grant funding plus \$500,000 in pending donations for next year and expects similar annual revenue for the next five years. The cost of renovations was approximately \$150,000 and annual costs are expected to be \$800,000-\$900,000 over the next few years to cover salaries and other institute activities.

Staff Analysis

Over a relatively short period of time, Dr. Surprenant has generated an impressive amount of funding and quickly built the foundation for a robust center of research and education. The institute has tremendous potential to elevate UNO as a source of research and innovation in ethics and entrepreneurship in urban communities, particularly among underserved populations.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends full authorization of the Urban Entrepreneurship & Public Policy at the University of New Orleans for a period of five years. A progress report and request for reauthorization shall be due by October 1, 2025.

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Board of Regents Meeting as a Committee of the Whole

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
PLANNING, RESEARCH and PERFORMANCE
September 23, 2020

Meeting will be held via Video Conference
Meeting can be viewed at: <https://regents.la.gov/live/>

VII. Reports and Recommendations

D. Planning, Research and Performance

1. Consent Agenda
 - a. R.S. 17:1808 (Licensure)
 - i. License Renewals
 - (a) Remington College – Garland, TX
 - b. State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) State Renewal (Louisiana)
 - c. State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA)
 - i. Initial Applications
 - (a) LSU Health Sciences Center -New Orleans
 - (b) Nicholls State University
 - (c) Southern University at New Orleans
 - ii. Renewal Application
 - (a) Xavier University of Louisiana
2. Defining Postsecondary Quality Credentials of Value

AGENDA ITEM VII.D.1.a.i.(a).

Remington College

Garland, TX

BACKGROUND

Remington College (RC) is a non-profit, postsecondary educational institution with its main campus in Garland, TX. The College has campuses in Baton Rouge, Lafayette, and Shreveport. RC is accredited by the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC).

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Remington College (RC) offers 20 academic programs that lead to diploma programs and undergraduate degrees in a variety of fields (e.g. cosmetology, healthcare, criminal justice, business, electronics, and information technology). The institution currently has 543 students in its Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

Degree Level	Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment
Doctorate	0
Master's	0
Bachelor's	14
Associate	223
Technical Diploma	306
Other	0
Total	543

FACULTY

As of August 3, 2020, Remington College (RC) has 33 full-time and part-time faculty at various degree levels.

FACILITIES

Remington College (RC) offers online, classroom lecture/laboratory, and independent study instruction to Louisiana residents.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Given the scope of the programs and the credentials of its faculty, the institution's campus, program accreditation, and the general oversight by the home campus, Senior Staff recommends approval of the application for license *renewal* from Remington College (RC).

Agenda Item VII.D.1.b.

NC-SARA Application for State Membership Renewal 2020 Executive Summary

The State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) is a national initiative which seeks to establish comparable national standards for the interstate offering of postsecondary distance-education courses and programs. It is intended to make it easier for students to take online courses offered by institutions based in another state by reducing the cost and administrative burden on institutions seeking authorization in various states. SARA is a voluntary agreement among regional compacts (SREB, NEBHE, MHEC, and WICHE) and member states. The SARA application process through which a state is required to demonstrate its regional compact ensures that each institution meets the uniform standards established for participation in the interstate reciprocity agreement.

Current membership in SARA now includes 49 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. State membership renewal is required every two years after the initial approval.

Act 13 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature authorized the Louisiana Board of Regents to seek SARA membership on behalf of the State of Louisiana. In October 2014, Louisiana's initial application for SARA membership was approved by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) and the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA), effective December 2014. Louisiana's first renewal was completed in October 2016 and its second renewal completed in 2018.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends approval of the 2020 Renewal Application for Louisiana's Participation in NC-SARA and authorization for staff to submit the 2020 Renewal Application to the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) for final approval to continue membership in NC-SARA.

Agenda Item VII.D.1.c.i.(a)(b)(c)

State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) Initial Applications

LSUHSC-NO, Nicholls and SUNO

The State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) is a national initiative which seeks to establish comparable national standards for the interstate offering of postsecondary distance-education courses and programs. SARA makes it easier for students to take online courses offered by institutions based in another state by reducing the cost and administrative burden on institutions seeking authorization in various states. SARA is a voluntary agreement among regional compacts (SREB, NEBHE, MHEC, and WICHE) and member states. Each member state approves their in-state institutions on an annual basis for SARA participation. Once approved, SARA member institutions may offer distance education programs in other SARA member states without additional authorization.

Act 13 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature authorized the Louisiana Board of Regents to seek SARA membership on behalf of the State of Louisiana. In October 2014, Louisiana's application for SARA membership was approved by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) and the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA), effective December 1, 2014.

To date, the Board of Regents has approved applications for institutional participation in SARA from thirty-one institutions. LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans, Nicholls State University and Southern University at New Orleans submitted applications for Regents' consideration. Regents' staff have reviewed and determined that they meet all requirements for initial membership in SARA.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends approval of the Initial Applications for Institutional Participation in NC-SARA for LSU Health Sciences Center-New Orleans, Nicholls State University, and Southern University at New Orleans and authorize staff to submit the approved applications to NC-SARA for final approval of SARA membership.

Agenda Item VII.D.1.c.ii.(a).

**State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA)
Renewal Application**

Xavier University of Louisiana

The State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) is a national initiative which seeks to establish comparable national standards for the interstate offering of postsecondary distance-education courses and programs. SARA membership makes it easier for students to take online courses offered by institutions based in another state by reducing the cost and administrative burden on institutions seeking authorization in various states. SARA is a voluntary agreement among regional compacts (SREB, NEBHE, MHEC, and WICHE) and member states. Each member state approves their in-state institutions and renews their membership annually. Approved SARA member institutions may offer distance education programs in other SARA member states without additional authorization.

Act 13 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature authorized the Louisiana Board of Regents to seek SARA membership on behalf of the State of Louisiana. In October 2014, Louisiana's application for SARA membership was approved by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) and the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA), effective December 1, 2014. Since then, 31 Louisiana institutions have joined SARA. Institutions must renew with NC-SARA annually to maintain their membership.

One institution has submitted a SARA renewal application: Xavier University of Louisiana. Regents staff have reviewed the renewal application and determined that it meets all requirements for continuing membership in SARA.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends that the Board of Regents:

- a. Approve the Renewal Application for Institutional Participation in SARA for Xavier University of Louisiana and authorize staff to submit the approved application to NC-SARA for final approval of SARA membership renewal; and**
- b. Grant authority to Planning, Research and Performance staff to approve all future routine NC-SARA renewal applications. Annual updates on approved renewals will be provided to the Board.**

Agenda Item VII.D.2.
Board of Regents Policy for Quality Postsecondary Credentials of Value
Executive Summary

Master Plan Goal: Mapping and Stacking Credentials

“Reaching the goal of 60% attainment requires us to accelerate talent development aggressively through identification of new pathways, leaving incremental progress behind. For many, and particularly underserved populations with limited exposure to higher education, these paths to market-relevant credentials are often poorly marked or altogether inaccessible. Intentionally designed and well-marked pathways, showing all steps and possible outcomes, will enable students to see the process, see their way forward, and make informed decisions.” Louisiana Prospers

Background

Currently there is no consistent taxonomy used to identify quality postsecondary credentials that prepare graduates for occupations that are in demand and/or provide a living wage. This leads to a lack of transparency and clarity concerning the value of certain credentials in the marketplace. To address the state’s need to define a quality postsecondary credential of value, a leadership team comprised of representatives of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS), Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC), Louisiana Economic Development (LED), and Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE), along with various other agencies and organizations, has developed criteria to define these credentials for Louisiana. Technical support for this effort was provided by National Skills Coalition.

Scope

Throughout this year, Board of Regents staff have convened stakeholders from education partners, public agencies, and organizations involved in workforce development and training to craft a definition of credentials that lead to meaningful jobs and career paths. This is necessary to ensure that Louisianans are provided with a comprehensive understanding of the array of postsecondary programs that lead to gainful employment and a viable wage. In addition to academic credentials, non-academic credentials such as technical certificates and industry-based certifications can provide entry to well-paying jobs and meaningful occupations. These credentials not only enable the state to meet industry and economic demands, they also empower individuals to pursue careers that most closely align with their interests and abilities. While this definition provides a mechanism for assessing a diverse range of credentials for measuring postsecondary attainment, its more important function is to recognize the role that academic and non-academic credentials play in the Master Plan goal of expanding opportunity and social mobility for all citizens. In sum, increasing awareness of and engagement around these credentials will yield greater access to prosperity for all communities across the state.

Two categories of credentials have been developed through this process: “Quality Postsecondary Credentials of Value” and “On-Ramp Credentials.” They are defined in the attached policy.

Summary

The standards aligned to these definitions are consistent with national practice, adjusted to account for the unique needs and circumstances of Louisiana. Upon adoption of these definitions, credentials of value will be included, in addition to academic degrees, in the Board's postsecondary completion calculations. In order to facilitate this process, Regents staff will work with LED, LWC, and postsecondary systems to collect relevant jobs and earnings data, which will be used to collect and validate data related to non-academic credentials that meet the standards for a quality postsecondary credential of value in Louisiana. This will enable the Board to track progress more clearly and comprehensively toward Master Plan goals, while also recognizing the role and value of non-academic credentials in attainment efforts.

In addition, regular reports will be provided to the Board regarding the completion of on-ramp credentials, which will serve as a leading indicator of the rate at which students are pursuing pathways to programs that provide access to sustainable careers.

The Board's adoption of definitions of quality postsecondary credentials of value and on-ramp credentials will acknowledge the impact that technical and industry-based education has on changing life trajectories across the state, which ultimately leads to meaningful prosperity for all Louisianans.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends approval of the Postsecondary Quality Credentials of Value Policy, which recognizes the role of academic and non-degree credentials in Louisiana's economy and workforce, and will provide the Board with clarity and transparency related to tracking completers in the Master Plan.



Board of Regents Policy: Quality Postsecondary Credentials of Value

While the Master Plan speaks to the importance of increasing attainment of credentials of value by Louisiana residents, it does not provide a clear definition of these credentials. Louisiana has counted academic degrees – two-year and four-year academic programs – as well as an undefined and incomplete scope of non-academic credentials toward completion and attainment goals. Adoption of the definition below ensures that non-academic credentials leading to competitive employment and wage outcomes are uniformly counted toward these goals.

Quality Postsecondary Credentials of Value:

The Board recognizes that additional market-relevant credentials exist and should be valued. National efforts are underway to define those high-quality credentials and to include them in state attainment rates. For Louisiana, a certificate or industry-based certification will also be considered a quality postsecondary credential of value if it meets the following criteria:

- 1.) It provides valid, reliable, and transparent evidence of the competencies mastered by credential holders and is conferred by an entity recognized by business and industry and/or the State of Louisiana.
- 2.) It directly aligns to an occupation that has a 3-, 4-, or 5-star rating as defined by the Louisiana Workforce Commission. These ratings are assigned to occupations based on job demand, projected job growth and earnings. Specific metrics include long- and short-term annual demand; long- and short-term percent growth; total prior-year recorded openings; and a weighted measure of median wages for each occupation (as defined by the Louisiana Star Occupations methodology and derived from Regional Labor Market Areas).
- 3.) It leads directly to an occupation that, at a minimum, maintains a 20% wage premium over a high school diploma in Louisiana.
- 4.) Evidence can be provided for employment and wage outcomes.
- 5.) It meets these criteria as a stand-alone credential, independent of another credential.

On-Ramp Credentials:

Though an on-ramp credential does not meet credential of value standards, it is an industry-based training credential and/or college credit-based curriculum that meets these criteria:

- 1.) It provides specific skills that are mapped to higher-level credentials which meet credential of value standards.
- 2.) It provides specific skills that are recognized by industry partners and/or lead to a set of pre-determined standards.

- 3.) Pre-determined standards are assessed to award either an industry-based certification (IBC), state licensure or state-recognized certification, and/or a degree or diploma from an entity recognized by business and industry and/or the State of Louisiana

The standards aligned to these definitions are consistent with national practice, adjusted to account for the unique needs and circumstances of Louisiana. Upon adoption of these definitions, credentials of value will be included, in addition to academic degrees, in the Board's postsecondary completers calculations. This will enable the Board to more clearly and comprehensively track progress toward Master Plan goals, while also recognizing the role and value of non-academic credentials in attainment efforts. In addition, regular reports will be provided to the Board regarding the completion of on-ramp credentials, serving as a leading indicator of the rate at which students are pursuing pathways to programs that provide access to sustainable careers.

The Board's adoption of definitions of a quality postsecondary credential of value and on-ramp credential will acknowledge the impact that technical and industry-based education has on changing life trajectories across the state, which ultimately leads to meaningful prosperity for all Louisianans.

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Board of Regents Meeting as a Committee of the Whole

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
STATEWIDE PROGRAMS
September 23, 2020

Meeting will be held via Video Conference
Meeting can be viewed at: <https://regents.la.gov/live/>

VII. Reports and Recommendations

E. Statewide Programs

1. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of TOPS Exceptions
- b. Approval of Exception to provide documentation of initial TOPS eligibility no later than January 15 of the year following the student's final FAFSA deadline
- c. Approval of Emergency Rules to provide exceptions for TOPS, Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship, and GO Youth Challenge recipients who were affected by Hurricane Laura and to provide deferments for those students who are currently in repayment status for Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship Program Recipients and TOPS Teacher Recipients
- d. Other Business

Agenda Item VII.E.1.a.

Consent Agenda: TOPS Exceptions

Requests for exception to the TOPS regulatory provisions that require students to remain continuously enrolled and to earn the annual credit hours required during the academic year.

Background:

Sections 705.A.6 and 7 of the TOPS administrative rules require TOPS recipients to continue to enroll in the fall and spring semesters of each academic year, to remain enrolled throughout the semester, and to earn the annual credit hours required by the end of the academic year. Section 2103.E authorizes the governing body to grant an exception to these requirements when the “student/recipient has exceptional circumstances that are beyond his immediate control and that necessitate full or partial withdrawal from or non-enrollment in an eligible postsecondary institution.”

Fifteen requests for exception were reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meeting of August 18, 2020 and September 17, 2020. The students have presented facts and circumstances that the students believe justify the granting of an exception as an exceptional circumstance.

LOSFA Advisory Board Recommendation:

The LOSFA Advisory Board recommends approval of TOPS requests for exception as presented.

Agenda Item VII.E.1.b.

Consent Agenda: Exception to the Deadline to Provide Documentation of Initial TOPS Eligibility no Later Than January 15 of the Year Following the Student's Final FAFSA Deadline

Requests for exception to the deadline to provide documentation of initial TOPS eligibility no later than January 15 of the year following the student's final FAFSA deadline.

Background:

The TOPS statutes provide that the administering agency provide for timelines and deadlines for receipt by the administering agency of any information required to implement the provisions of the TOPS statutes. In accordance with this provision, the Board has promulgated rules providing that a student must provide all documentation needed to establish eligibility for a TOPS Award no later than January 15 of the year following the student's final FAFSA deadline.

The Board's rules do not provide for an exception to the deadline to provide documentation needed to establish eligibility, but the Board has allowed a student to file the initial application for a TOPS award late under limited circumstances when the student was able to demonstrate that it was not possible to file timely due to circumstances outside the student's control.

One request for exception was reviewed by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meeting of August 18, 2020, and after discussion, the LOSFA Advisory Board determined that the student had presented facts and documentation that justify the granting of an exception, and it recommends approval of the student's request.

LOSFA Advisory Board Recommendation:

The LOSFA Advisory Board recommends approval of the request for exception to the deadline to provide documentation of initial TOPS eligibility no later than January 15 of the year following the student's final FAFSA deadline as presented.

Agenda Item VII.E.1.c.

Consent Agenda: Emergency Rulemaking to provide exceptions for TOPS, Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship, and GO Youth Challenge recipients who were affected by Hurricane Laura and to provide deferments for those students who are currently in repayment status for Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship Program Recipients and TOPS Teacher Recipients.

Emergency Rulemaking to provide exceptions for TOPS, Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship, and GO Youth Challenge recipients who were affected by Hurricane Laura and to provide deferments for those students who are currently in repayment status for Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship Program Recipients and TOPS Teacher Recipients.

Background:

This rulemaking provides for blanket exceptions to the requirements to enroll full time, to maintain continuous enrollment, and to earn 24 hours during the 2020-2021 academic year for all students whose home of record on August 26, 2020, was in a parish for which a major disaster declaration has been issued and which have been approved for individual assistance by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This rulemaking also provides an exception for students who were enrolled at SOWELA Technical Community College (SOWELA). We have been advised that SOWELA plans to re-open, but that it will do so in stages which are currently unknown.

In addition, the rulemaking provides that students may enroll on a part-time basis and have their TOPS Award paid if the student requests such a payment. The payment of TOPS under these circumstances for part-time enrollment will count towards the student's maximum eligibility of eight (8) semesters or terms. Postsecondary institutions processing such requests must document the student's request for payment for part-time enrollment. The same provisions are included in the rulemaking for a Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship recipient.

In addition to the exceptions for current students, the rulemaking provides for deferment of the repayment obligation for recipients of the Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship and TOPS Teacher. Currently, four individuals who received a Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship prior to the 2010-2011 academic year when that program remained a loan repayment program are currently in repayment status. Two former TOPS Teacher recipients are currently in repayment status. All of these accounts are currently being collected by the Louisiana Department of Justice.

In addition to providing for the deferment of loan payments, the accrual of interest on these accounts is also suspended. The period of deferment and suspension of interest accrual is from August 26, 2020, through August 31, 2021.

Note that rulemaking substantially the same as that described above was implemented in 2005 following Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita.

LOSFA Advisory Board Recommendation:

The LOSFA Advisory Board recommends adoption of the rulemaking in emergency rules and authorizes the Executive Director of LOSFA to publish a notice of intent to make these rules permanent.