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BOARD OF REGENTS

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AGENDA
FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, December 15, 2021
11:25 a.m.

Claiborne Building, 1st Floor
Thomas Jefferson A&B Room 1-136
1201 North Third Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Additions to BoR FY 2022-23 Capital Outlay Budget Recommendation
- IV. Other Business
- V. Adjournment

Committee Members: Darren Mire, Chair; Robert Levy, Vice Chair; Randy Ewing; Stephanie Finley; Cameron T. Jackson (*student member*); Charles McDonald; LCTC System Representative; LSU System Representative; SU System Representative; UL System Representative
Staff: Chris Herring, Associate Commissioner for Facilities and Planning & Emergency Management

Executive Summary

Reports and Recommendations Facilities and Property December 15, 2021

III. Additions to BoR FY 2022-23 Capital Outlay Budget Recommendation

The University of Louisiana System (ULS) submitted five capital outlay projects for Board of Regents (BoR) consideration after the BoR approved the capital outlay budget recommendation during the October meeting. Four projects were submitted on behalf of the University of Louisiana – Lafayette (ULL) and one for Grambling State University (GSU).

GSU Project

(1) Campus-Wide Protective Barrier

The GSU project involves construction of a new campus-wide protective barrier due to recent events on campus occurring after the University submitted their original capital outlay request. GSU conducted a full review of campus safety and security as well as reviewed how other institutions of higher learning employed safety and security measures. The University determined that a new campus-wide protective barrier will assist the University to better control traffic entering the campus and mitigate against future risk. A perimeter structure is important to the overall security and safety of the University's students, faculty, and staff and this component is part of an increased focus to upgrade security and safety measures at GSU. The total project cost is \$18M with a year one request of \$1.8M.

ULL Projects

The ULS submitted four projects on behalf of ULL that were not included in the original ULS submission. The four projects below represent significant strategic priorities of the institution's academic and research missions in the areas of life sciences, workforce and economic development, and biomedical research for future pandemic preparedness. The first two projects directly resulted from ULL's work in COVID vaccine development and distribution as the institution realized having the two facilities below in place could have greatly expedited bringing the COVID vaccine to market. Outside parties and donors approached the institution relative to submitting the next two projects after the original submission was made.

(2) New Iberia Research Center (NIRC) Bio-Safety Level (BSL) 3 Lab and Animal Housing

ULL's NIRC is a BSL 2 Research facility that has over 9,400 non-human primates (NHPs) that are invaluable in the current pandemic and many other National Institute of Health (NIH) and pharmaceutical company research programs. The NIH recently approved over \$3.5M in funds for the construction of new primate housing at the NIRC. Recent conversations with federal agencies, pharmaceutical client companies, and state leaders have resulted in a renewed interest to capitalize on the recent successes of the NIRC. One of the delays in getting the COVID-19 vaccination ready for the world was having to transport NIRC-vaccinated NHPs to other facilities for the pre-clinical testing of the vaccines. Having a BSL-3 Lab and facilities associated with the NIRC could have reduced the development and approval of one of the vaccines by three months which would have likely saved many lives. The closest BSL-3 labs are in other states

competing for federal and private research funds and projects. This project will construct a new BSL 3 facility that will speed up the pre-clinical testing and approval of major pharmaceutical products like the COVID-19 vaccine in the future. The cost of this project is estimated to be \$24.6M with a year one request of \$2.46M.

(3) NIRC Iberia Bio-Innovation Accelerator

This project will create a Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)-certified manufacturing facility as a Contract Drug Manufacturing Organization (CDMO) to meet the current national security risk issue of reliance on foreign pharmaceutical manufacturing. The proposed CDMO will leverage NIRC's clients as it will be the only entity of its kind connected to a BSL-3 facility in the U.S. As this project became more of a possibility, the University and local officials have identified the value of combining the nationally recognized facility with existing 30 plus year relationships the NIRC has with the Louisiana petrochemical industry to create the only (GMP) recognized Contract Drug Manufacturing Organization in Louisiana. This project is also taking advantage of the New Iberia Economic Development District land being donated along with infrastructure improvements being put into place for utilities and high-speed fiber optics communication and connectivity currently being built out. The cost of this project is estimated at \$25.4M with a year one request of \$2.54M.

(4) ULL/LSU Health Sciences Education Collaboration Building

This project seeks to add 35,000 square feet of health sciences education training facilities in collaboration with LSU Health Sciences Center (LSU HSC) to mirror a program and facility at Our Lady of the Lake in Baton Rouge that is used by LSU HSC entities to provide training and services to Louisiana students and citizens. Currently there is a need for additional medical education programs and facilities in Louisiana. This project will help alleviate the shortage and will complement the new nursing education facility currently planned for the Lady of Lourdes site being acquired by ULL. Significant infrastructure including medical office buildings and parking garages remain on the Lady of Lourdes site. However, the previous medical center has been demolished. This project is for new construction to replace the previously demolished medical center with a new medical education training facility. The cost of this project is estimated at \$35M with a year one request of \$3.5M.

(5) ULL Learning Lab

This is a project to renovate, rebuild, and expand the Federal National Marine Fisheries Building located on the University Commons property. The building will revert to ULL property once the federal agencies move out. As the largest producer of teachers for Louisiana classrooms, the ULL College of Education is re-imagining teacher preparation by embedding a demonstration lab school showcasing and immersing future Louisiana teachers in an innovative teaching and learning environment that breaks the mold of traditional schooling. The ULL Learning Lab and Collective is an initiative led by a team of faculty across all departments within the College of Education. The laboratory school will provide a living model of research-based, globally inspired best practices in teaching and learning to immerse ULL education majors in a school culture encouraging inquiry, innovation, and growth. It will provide new research opportunities to the University's 653 undergraduates, 278 Masters, and 128 doctoral students in the College of Education, as well as interdisciplinary research across campus. The project entails renovating the current building space and adding new building(s) to create a new Learning Lab School with up to 100,000 square feet of K-8 and High School Educational Resources. The cost of this project is estimated at \$35M with a year one request of \$3.5M.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends approval of the additions to the Board of Regents' FY 2022-23 Capital Outlay Budget Recommendation as presented.