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**BOARD OF REGENTS**

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**AGENDA**  
**ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, June 15, 2022

11:45 a.m.

Claiborne Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Thomas Jefferson Rooms A&B 1-136  
1201 North Third Street  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
  - A. Routine Staff Approvals
  - B. Progress Reports
- IV. Academic Programs
  - A. AAS Computer Information Systems – Fletcher TCC
  - B. AS Nursing – Northshore TCC
  - C. MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling – McNeese
- V. Other Business
- VI. Adjournment

Committee Members: Blake R. David, Chair; Stephanie A. Finley, Vice Chair; Wilbert D. Pryor; Gary N. Solomon, Jr.; Terrie P. Sterling; Judy A. Williams-Brown; Catarena M. Lobré (*student member*); LCTC System Representative; LSU System Representative; SU System Representative; UL System Representative  
Staff: Dr. Tristan Denley, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation

**AGENDA ITEM III.A.**

**Routine Academic Requests & Staff Approvals**

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Request</b>
LA Tech	Request for approval to establish the UC Rural Health Administrative Support (CIP 51.0714). Progress report due October 1, 2023. <b>Approved.</b>
LSU A&M	Request to change the name of the BA Art to the BA Art and Design to better reflect changes in the field and revised program curriculum. <b>Approved.</b>
McNeese	Request for approval to establish the UC Liquefied Natural Gas Business (CIP 52.0299). Progress report due October 1, 2023. <b>Approved.</b>
Northwestern State U.	Request to change the name of the Department of English, Foreign Languages, and Cultural Studies to the Department of English, Languages, and Cultural Studies. <b>Approved.</b>

**AGENDA ITEM III.B.**

**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. Programs below that are shaded have met standards to be removed from regular reporting.

<b>Program</b>	<b>Staff Analysis</b>	<b>Staff Recommendation for Board Action</b>
<b>LSU</b>		
<b>LSU Alexandria</b> <b>BS Accounting</b> CIP 52.0301 Approved June 2019 Implemented Fall 2019	The program graduated its first 16 students last year and expects 21 this year with current total enrollment at over 300. The program has primarily attracted new students to the institution. The institution continues to work toward mandatory Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditation, including hiring two additional full-time faculty and adding another faculty line.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.
<b>LSU Alexandria</b> <b>PBC Accounting</b> CIP 52.0301 Approved August 2020 Implemented Fall 2020	Current enrollment in the program is 31 and the institution expects its first graduates this year. Like the undergraduate BS Accounting program, the PBC has primarily attracted new students to the institution.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.
<b>LSU A&amp;M</b> <b>GC Econometrics</b> CIP 45.0603 Approved March 2015 Implemented Fall 2015	The program continues to have low enrollment and has had just 6 completers in the last two years. The institution points to challenges associated with COVID-19, budget concerns, and recent declines in the institution’s related programs. The department intends to increase marketing of the program to current graduate students.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report demonstrating significant improvements in enrollment and completion is due 10.1.23 or program will be terminated.
<b>LSU A&amp;M</b> <b>GC Instructional Coaching</b> CIP 13.1399 Approved August 2017 Implemented Fall 2018	The program has had 4 students enrolled in each of the past two years with 5 new students expected next year and had its first 2 graduates last year. The program is marketed directly to in-service teachers as an add on teacher certification approved by the LDOE.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.
<b>LSU A&amp;M</b> <b>GC Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences</b> CIP 01.8101 Approved December 2017 Implemented Fall 2018	The program had 8 graduates last year and 10 students currently enrolled. Several students who enrolled in the program have successfully gone on to graduate study, particularly in veterinary school, which was the intended purpose of the program. The department continues to adjust admission criteria and the curriculum to ensure the highest chances of success for program completers.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.

<b>LSU A&amp;M</b> <b>GC Education Technology</b> CIP 13.0501 Approved April 2020 Implemented Fall 2020	The institution reports 16 students currently enrolled and expects its first graduates next year. Several students in the program have gone on to related Master's degrees at the institution.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.
<b>ULS</b>		
<b>Louisiana Tech U</b> <b>GC Industrial Organizational Psychology</b> CIP 42.2804 Approved June 2020 Implemented Fall 2020	The new program has 59 students currently enrolled and expects its first graduates this year.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.
<b>Louisiana Tech U</b> <b>UC Audiology</b> CIP 51.0204 Approved June 2020 Implemented Fall 2021	No students have enrolled in the program.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report demonstrating full implementation and significant enrollment is due 10.1.23 or program will be terminated.
<b>Louisiana Tech U</b> <b>UC Geographic Information Systems</b> CIP 45.0799 Approved June 2020 Implemented Fall 2020	LA Tech enrolled its first 7 students in the program last year and with new enrollment expects total enrollment of 22 students this year with its first graduates also this year. Plans are underway to better coordinate the GIS curriculum and certificate with the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board's list of approved courses that play a central role in the land surveyor licensure process.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.
<b>Louisiana Tech U</b> <b>UC Lean Six Sigma</b> CIP 14.3501 Approved June 2020 Implemented Fall 2021	The institution enrolled its first 4 students last year and expects its first graduates this year. Enrolled students have consisted of LA Tech's current Industrial Engineering undergraduate students and the institution is actively recruiting students from other programs.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.
<b>Nicholls State U</b> <b>GC Education Technology Facilitator</b> CIP 13.0501 Approved June 2020 Implemented Spring 2021	The program expects its first 10 graduates this year and projects 26 students enrolled next year. All students in the program are enrolled in a graduate education degree program at the institution. Nicholls' programs was certified by the International Society of Technology in Education last year.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.
<b>Nicholls State U</b> <b>GC Education Technology Leader</b> CIP 13.0501 Approved June 2020 Implemented Spring 2021	The program graduated its first 6 students this year and expects another 16 next year with 31 total students enrolled. All students in the program are enrolled in a graduate education degree program at the institution. Most complete requirements for the facilitator program before completing GC Education Technology Leader program. Nicholls' programs were certified by the International Society of Technology in Education last year.	Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.

<p><b>Northwestern State U</b>  <b>PMC Adult Gerontological Acute Care Nurse Practitioner</b>  CIP 51.3821  Approved August 2019  Implemented Spring 2020</p>	<p>The program has graduated 2, 3, and 2 students in each of the past three years respectively and does not anticipate growth next year. The program completed a successful Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education accreditation site visit in 2020.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.</p>
<p><b>Northwestern State U</b>  <b>UC Business Analytics</b>  CIP 52.1301  Approved February 2020  Implemented Fall 2020</p>	<p>No students have enrolled in the program.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report demonstrating full implementation and significant enrollment is due 10.1.23 or program will be terminated.</p>
<p><b>Northwestern State U</b>  <b>UC Strategic Communication</b>  CIP 09.0909  Approved September 2019  Implemented Fall 2020</p>	<p>No students have enrolled in the program.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report demonstrating full implementation and significant enrollment is due 10.1.23 or program will be terminated.</p>
<p><b>U of Louisiana at Lafayette</b>  <b>GC Cardiovascular Nursing</b>  CIP 51.3805  Approved December 2018  Implemented Spring 2019</p>	<p>The program currently has 5 students enrolled and expects 10 next year. The program has graduated 15 students so far in its first two years since implementation. Of the program's graduates, 9 are now employed as nurse practitioners in cardiovascular care and 3 have enrolled in the institution's Doctoral nursing program. The program regularly connects directly with employers of graduates and other clinical partners to ensure the program is meeting industry needs.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.</p>
<p><b>U of Louisiana at Lafayette</b>  <b>MS Athletic Training</b>  CIP 51.0913  Approved December 2019  Implemented Summer 2021</p>	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic and multiple hurricanes hindered recruitment and enrollment efforts after the program was approved, especially with the hands-on nature of the curriculum. The now fully implemented program enrolled its first cohort of 8 students this past summer and these students are expected to graduate in spring 2023. The institution is in the early stages of completing the self-study required for Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) accreditation and expects the process to be complete in late spring 2023. Since approval, the program has hired the interim director permanently, has hired an additional full time faculty member, and plans to add another by summer 2023.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.</p>
<p><b>U of Louisiana at Lafayette</b>  <b>PhD Earth and Energy Sciences</b>  CIP 40.0699  Approved March 2018  Implemented Fall 2019</p>	<p>The program's first graduate completed the program last year and has 18 total students enrolled. The program has awarded 5 graduate research assistantships and two fellowships. External funding from the Fanny Edit Winn Educational Trust and a Regents Support Fund award has added \$24,000 in additional scholarship funds. The school has hired 2 additional full time faculty members and program faculty have secured over \$1.2 million in external research funding from NSF and Regents. The curriculum has been diversified to broaden specialization opportunities.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.</p>

<p><b>U of Louisiana Monroe</b>  <b>UC Computer Programming</b>  CIP 11.0201  Approved August 2019  Program has not been implemented</p>	<p>The program has not yet been implemented due to delays in SACSCOC and ABET approval of the program and lack of recruitment during the COVID-19 pandemic. Program must demonstrate full implementation in its next progress report.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report demonstrating full program implementation is due 10.1.23 or approval will be revoked.</p>
<p><b>U of Louisiana Monroe</b>  <b>UC Unmanned Aircraft Systems Management</b>  CIP 49.0101  Approved August 2019  Program has not been implemented</p>	<p>The program has not yet been implemented due to faculty turnover. A new full time faculty member has been hired. Delays in SACSCOC approval and the COVID-19 pandemic have also delayed implementation. Program must demonstrate full implementation in its next progress report.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report demonstrating full program implementation is due 10.1.23 or approval will be revoked.</p>
<p><b>U of Louisiana Monroe</b>  <b>GC Healthcare Advocacy</b>  CIP 51.9999  Approved June 2020  Implemented Fall 2021</p>	<p>The program enrolled its first 5 students this year. Faculty turnover has delayed full program implementation, but 2 new faculty members have been hired and a new recruitment strategy developed.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.</p>
<p><b>U of Louisiana Monroe</b>  <b>GC Interprofessional Leadership in Healthcare</b>  CIP 51.0701  Approved August 2020  Implemented Fall 2021</p>	<p>The institution reported 8 students currently enrolled with the first graduates expected this year. An extensive marketing and recruitment plan has been developed and implemented and the department has requested an additional faculty position to support this and other related programs.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.</p>
<p><b>U of Louisiana Monroe</b>  <b>GC Senior Healthcare Management</b>  CIP 30.1101  Approved June 2020  Implemented Spring 2022</p>	<p>The program's first 5 students started the program this spring. Since Board approval, faculty have focused on program development, connecting with employers, and developing a recruitment plan.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.</p>
<p><b>U of New Orleans</b>  <b>BS Health Care Management</b>  CIP 51.0701  Approved August 2014  Implemented Fall 2016</p>	<p>The program has graduated 19 and 24 students in the past two years respectively and anticipates 17 graduates this year with 66 total students enrolled. Nearly all graduates so far are either employed in the healthcare industry or have gone on to graduate study. Despite the effects of COVID-19 on program enrollment, the program has remained strong and has actively engaged with the Louisiana Department of Health and grown funding for student support. The program has met all business accreditation requirements and is in the process of seeking national certification by the Association of University Programs in Healthcare Administration.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. No further reporting is required.</p>

<p><b>U of New Orleans</b>  <b>BS Urban Construction Management</b>  CIP 52.2001  Approved February 2020  Implemented Fall 2020</p>	<p>The program enrolled 15 students in its first year and an additional 33 in its second year. Total program enrollment is currently 41. The first graduates are expected in spring 2024. UNO plans to seek American Council for Construction Education (ACCE) accreditation, which will take several years to complete. The institution is in the process of hiring a full-time faculty member to supplement adjunct faculty from local industry currently teaching in the program. The institution is acquiring new equipment to outfit a dedicated lab for the program.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.</p>
<p><b>U of New Orleans</b>  <b>GC Data Analytics</b>  CIP 52.1301  Approved December 2018  Implemented Fall 2019</p>	<p>The new program has drawn significant interest from current UNO students and working adults in the area. The program's first 4 graduates completed the program last year and 11-15 are expected for this year. Two assistant professors were hired in Fall 2018 and one in Fall 2019 to support the program and overall offerings in Data Science and statistics/Financial mathematics for the UC, GC, and other related programs. Multiple area businesses have expressed interest in employee participation in the program.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.</p>
<p><b>U of New Orleans</b>  <b>GC Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence</b>  CIP 11.0701  Approved December 2019  Implemented Spring 2021</p>	<p>Program implementation was delayed due to COVID-19 and has had a slow start. The institution anticipates 7 total students enrolled this year.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.</p>
<p><b>U of New Orleans</b>  <b>MS Cyber Security and Operations</b>  CIP 11.1003  Approved December 2019  Program has not been implemented</p>	<p>Program implementation was delayed due to COVID-19. Program marketing has now begun recruiting and UNO anticipates its first students this fall.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.</p>
<p><b>U of New Orleans</b>  <b>UC Communications and Networking</b>  <b>CIP 14.0999</b>  Approved June 2019  Program has not been implemented</p>	<p>Campus approval of courses for the program, and therefore program implementation, was delayed due to COVID-19. Courses and the program have now been approved and added to the institution catalog, and the institution anticipates 5 students will enroll this fall.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.</p>
<p><b>U of New Orleans</b>  <b>UC Corporate and Nonprofit Communication</b>  CIP 52.0501  Approved December 2019  Program has not been implemented</p>	<p>Program implementation was delayed due to shifting institutional priorities. Program marketing has now begun recruiting and UNO anticipates its first students this fall.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.</p>

<p><b>U of New Orleans</b>  <b>UC Data Analytics</b>  Approved June 2019  Program has not been implemented</p>	<p>Full program implementation was delayed due to COVID-19. Current UNO students have expressed significant interest in the program, and many have enrolled in the program's required courses. The institution plans full implementation this year and projects 15 students to formally enroll and 5 to complete the program. Two assistant professors were hired in Fall 2018 and one in Fall 2019 to support the program and overall offerings in Data Science and statistics/Financial mathematics for the UC, GC, and other related programs. Multiple area businesses have expressed interest in employee participation in the program.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.</p>
<p><b>U of New Orleans</b>  <b>UC Data Engineering</b>  Approved June 2019  Program has not been implemented</p>	<p>Full program implementation was delayed due to COVID-19. Since approval, the department has revised the curriculum to meet student and employer needs. The institution projects enrolling its first 5 students this year.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.</p>
<p><b>U of New Orleans</b>  <b>UC Power and Energy Systems</b>  Approved June 2019  Program has not been implemented</p>	<p>Full program implementation was delayed due to COVID-19. Students interested in the program have indicated a preference for in person learning. The institution projects enrolling its first 5 students this year.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.</p>
<p><b>U of New Orleans</b>  <b>UC Software Engineering</b>  CIP 14.1001  Approved June 2019  Implemented Spring 2021</p>	<p>The program enrolled its first 5 students last year and 22 this year and expects its first 15 graduates this year.</p>	<p>Receive and accept the report. A subsequent report is due 10.1.23.</p>



## AGENDA ITEM IV.A.

### Proposed Associate of Applied Science in Computer Information Systems Fletcher Technical Community College

#### **Background Information**

Fletcher Technical Community College (FTCC) has requested Board of Regents' approval to offer an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Computer Information Systems (CIS). The program proposal was approved by the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) Board of Supervisors and submitted to the Board of Regents for consideration. The proposal was then circulated to Chief Academic Officers statewide for review.

#### **Staff Summary**

The proposed AAS in Computer Information Systems is a 60-credit hour program developed in response to a growing need for Network Security and IT-type programs in the region. In addition, there is now a greater need to diversify college offerings due to the ever-increasing remote workforce expedited by the global pandemic. The field of CIS is the practical application of computer technology and encompasses a variety of areas including those that are the focus of the proposed 100% online program: networking, programming, project management, system analysis and design, and software applications. Students will gain in-depth knowledge in these areas, learn how they relate to the success of an organization, and how to implement system improvements.

1. **Value:** Per Regent's policy, this program meets the criteria of a Quality Credential of Value.
  - a. **Same or Similar In-state Programs:** While several institutions in the state offer programs in Computer Systems or related programs, the only other associate level CIS program is located at Bossier Parish Community College in north Louisiana and FTCC's program will be the only one offered 100% online.
  - b. **Workforce Demand and Job Opportunities:** According to the Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC), at the state level Computer Information Systems occupations over the next ten years have five-star ratings and state median annual salaries for Computer Network Specialists and Computer User Support Specialists are reported as \$84,72 and \$69,364 respectively. The projected ten-year growth across the state in these occupations is reported as 1,160 jobs. Projections for these occupations in the Houma-Bayou region for 2026 is 150 jobs with median annual salaries in the low \$60,000's.
  - c. **Student Enrollment:** New students will be recruited from local high schools and the general Houma-Bayou region population. Student interest is based on the growing need for Network Security and IT type programs in the region.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
<b>Projected Enrollment</b>	15	18	22	26	31
<b>Projected Graduates</b>	0	9	11	13	15

2. **Resources:** The addition of this program will have minimal fiscal impact. One existing full-time faculty will serve as the program coordinator. The program will utilize existing facilities, library resources, and student support services.

	Current	Needed	Additional Costs
<b>Faculty</b>	FTCC currently employs the faculty needed to teach the 30 credit hours of general education courses and computer technology courses.	FTCC will hire 1 new full-time instructor to serve as Program Lead and adjunct instructors will be hired as needed to support the program.	\$50K per yr.
<b>Physical (Facilities, Equipment, Library, &amp; Technology)</b>	Existing facilities are adequate to support the program.	No additional resource needs projected.	\$0
<b>Student Support</b>	Existing resources will meet the needs of the program for the foreseeable future.	No additional resource needs 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.

- Accessibility: FTCC’s program will be offered 100% online. The course resource material will be adopted from a mixture of TestOUT, AWS, and CompTIA products, which offer a mixture of visual, audio, and kinesthetic simulation (all ADA compliant).
- Affordability: Previously earned IBCs will be considered for credit for prior learning, equivalent courses from other colleges will be granted transfer credit. OERs will be used when available.
- Partnerships (with industry, other institutions): Advisory Board Members from Busy Bee Clinic, CBM Technology, P3 Global Personnel, and Stratify have been added to assist in curriculum development and placement. The institution is currently seeking 2+2 agreements.
- Work-based learning (paid internships, apprenticeships, etc.): The curriculum includes an internship course. Fletcher is currently creating an apprenticeship program with Stratify.
- Other program attributes that contribute to closing the achievement gap with underserved populations: Since this program is 100% online, FTCC will offer laptops for checkout through the campus library making the program more accessible for students with children and/or transportation challenges.

**Staff Analysis**

Data from statewide workforce entities like LWC indicate that FTCC’s proposed AAS in Computer Information Systems program is needed and valuable for the college’s service region and the state. CAOs from around the state support implementation of the proposed program. The 100% online program will benefit citizens of the bayou region by providing a low-cost, high-quality education in a field that is in high demand.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**Senior Staff recommends approval of the proposed AAS Computer Information Systems (CIP 11.0401) at Fletcher Technical Community College, with a progress report due October 1, 2023.**

## AGENDA ITEM IV.B.

### Proposed Associate of Science in Nursing Northshore Technical Community College

#### **Background Information**

Northshore Technical Community College (NTCC) has requested Board of Regents' approval to offer an Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN). The program proposal was approved by the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) Board of Supervisors and submitted to the Board of Regents for consideration. The proposal was then circulated to Chief Academic Officers statewide for review.

#### **Staff Summary**

The proposed ASN is a 72-credit hour program designed to prepare students for immediate employment as entry-level registered nurses competent to practice in the health care field. In addition, the ASN program allows students to transfer coursework to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) programs. ASN graduates will be prepared to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered for Nursing (NCLEX - RN) and enter the workforce as a nurse generalist.

1. **Value:** Per Regent's policy, this program meets the criteria of a Quality Credential of Value.
  - a. **Same or Similar In-state Programs:** While several other institutions in the state have similar ASN programs, this program will specifically serve students located throughout the greater Northshore region of Louisiana. The proposed program was based on an already existing successful curricular model. The college currently offers a successful Career and Technical Certificate (CTC) in Nursing Assistant and a Technical Diploma (TD) in Practical Nursing.
  - b. **Workforce Demand and Job Opportunities:**
    - According to the Louisiana Center for Nursing's 2019 Multi-Regional Statewide Nurse Workforce Forecast Model and Simulation Tool Report, a project of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, the demand for RNs in LA is 5,551 greater than available FTEs (Full Time Equivalents). The model predicts that by 2025 there will be a shortage of 7,205 RNs in Louisiana.
    - Shortages for RNs will exist through 2025 in every regional labor market area (RLMA) in the state with some of the highest demand in the New Orleans and Baton Rouge regions, which are both served by NTCC.
  - c. **Student Enrollment:** The institution developed the proposed program due in part to demand from current and potential students and identified demand from regional health care facilities and providers. NTCC will become a feeder to BSN programs including at their local partner institution, Southeastern Louisiana University. Because the program is operated on the cohort model, students will complete the program every other year.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
<b>Projected Enrollment</b>	30	30	40	40	90
<b>Projected Graduates</b>	0	24	0	32	0

2. **Resources:** Outside of revenue from tuition and fees, NTCC anticipates Nurse Capitation and Perkins Grant funds to be available to support the program.

	<b>Current</b>	<b>Needed</b>	<b>Additional Costs</b>
<b>Faculty</b>	NTCC currently employs the faculty needed to teach the 30 credit hours of general education courses for the proposed program.	NTCC will hire 1 Chief Nurse Administrator as Program Lead and 3 MSN instructors to support the program.	\$340,553 per yr.
<b>Physical (Facilities, Equipment, Library, &amp; Technology)</b>	Existing facilities are adequate to support the program.	No additional resource needs projected.	\$0
<b>Student Support</b>	Existing resources will meet the needs of the program for the foreseeable future.	No additional resource needs 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.

- Accessibility: NTCC will offer courses for this program primarily face-to-face, but a virtual platform is available should any educational disruption occur.
- Affordability: The offering of OER materials will be available as often as possible.
- Partnerships: NTCC plans to continue its robust partnerships with SLU and other LCTCS institutions. In addition, the institution is currently contracted with several clinical affiliates including North Oaks Medical Center, Slidell Memorial Hospital, and St. Tammany Parish Hospital.
- Work-based learning: Upon approval of the program, NTCC will explore clinical internships with their industry partners.

**Staff Analysis**

Data from statewide entities such as the Louisiana State Board of Nursing indicate that NTCC’s proposed ASN is needed and valuable for the college’s service area. CAOs from around the state support the proposed program. NTCC’s proposed program will benefit citizens of the greater Northshore region by offering a high-quality education in a field that is in high demand. The program will prepare students for immediate employment in the healthcare industry and provide an opportunity for students wanting to further their education and seek a BS in Nursing.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**Senior Staff recommends approval of the proposed Associate of Science in Nursing (CIP 51.3801) at Northshore Technical Community College, with a progress report due October 1, 2023.**

## AGENDA ITEM IV.C.

### Proposed Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling McNeese State University

#### Background Information

McNeese State University (MSU) has requested Board of Regents' approval to establish a Master of Science (MS) in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. The program proposal was approved by the University of Louisiana System (ULS) Board of Supervisors and submitted to the Board of Regents for consideration. The proposal was then circulated to chief academic officers statewide for review and responses were supportive of the program. The proposal was also reviewed by Dr. Kenyon C. Knapp, Dean, School of Behavioral Sciences at Liberty University who found the proposed program to have a sound curriculum that aligns with accreditation standards.

#### Staff Summary

The proposed MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling is a 60-credit hour program that will provide students with the knowledge, skills, and supervised clinical practice required to develop competent, licensure-prepared, entry-level clinical mental health counselors. MSU currently offers a Master of Arts in Psychology with a Counseling Psychology concentration that is not eligible for The Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (CACREP) accreditation. The proposed program will consist of the restructuring of this concentration into the MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling that will allow the program to be considered for CACREP accreditation. Graduates of this program will then be prepared to become entry-level, master's prepared counselor interns/Provisional Licensed Professional Counselors (PLPC's). As PLPCs, graduates will be under supervised practice for a minimum of two years before applying to become a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC).

1. **Value:** Per Regents' policy, this program meets the criteria of a Quality Credential of Value.
  - a. **Same or Similar In-State Programs:** Nearly all the state's four-year institutions plus LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans offer CACREP accredited programs in clinical mental health counseling, the expanding need for counseling professionals is more than sufficient to support the program at McNeese without interfering with other State programs' enrollment and would increase the opportunities for Louisiana graduate students and citizens seeking counseling services in southwest Louisiana.
  - b. **Workforce Demand and Job Opportunities:** Natural disasters, the COVID-19 pandemic, and other events have increased the need for mental health professionals in not only this region but the state. According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of mental health is projected to grow 25% from 2019 to 2029, which is in the top 15 among all states. Additionally, the Louisiana Workforce Commission rates the outlook for mental health counselors as a four-star occupation.
  - c. **Student Enrollment and Completion:** Initial projected enrollment in the program is based on students currently enrolled in the MA in Psychology concentration in Counseling Psychology. The institution estimates enrolling 25 new students in year one increasing by 30-35 students per year reaching approximately 100 students by year five.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
<b>NEW Prog. Enrollment</b>	25	30	30	35	35
<b>TOTAL Prog. Enrollment</b>	25	55	85	95	100
<b>Prog. Graduates</b>	0	0	25	30	30

2. **Resources:** All courses required for the proposed program are already offered at the institution as part of other graduate degree programs. One additional new full time faculty position has been approved by McNeese administration to support the proposed program. Due to the restructuring of the existing concentration, a currently occupied position will be reallocated from the Burton College of Education to the Department of Psychology to fulfill the CACREP accreditation requirements.

	<b>Current</b>	<b>Needed</b>	<b>Additional Costs</b>
<b>Faculty</b>	Current faculty and the reallocation of one faculty position from the College of Education to Department of Psychology	One new faculty with a PhD in Counselor Education	\$60,000/Yr.
<b>Physical (Facilities, Equipment, Library, &amp; Technology)</b>	Existing facilities and related resources are adequate to support the program.	No additional resource needs projected.	\$0
<b>Student Support</b>	Existing resources will meet the needs of the program for the foreseeable future.	No additional resource needs 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.
- **Accessibility:** The proposed program will be offered largely through face-to-face instruction with some courses offered via online.
  - **Affordability:** The proposed program will utilize the university's online library holdings, which, as part of the LOUIS network has access to peer-reviewed journal articles, books, and datasets.
  - **Diversity:** The proposed program aims to increase diversity in the counseling profession in Louisiana by providing underserved populations an accessible opportunity to prepare for clinical mental health certification. The institution has indicated a focus on recruiting and supporting minority students in the program.
  - **Work-based learning:** The curriculum includes 600 hours of internship in a clinical mental health setting over the last two semesters of coursework.

### **Staff Analysis**

The proposed MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program will meet a clear need for students to become counselor interns/provisional licensed professional counselors and to obtain the clinical experience necessary to apply for LPC certification. The external reviewer, Dr. Knapp, indicated that he strongly supports the implementation of the program stating, “The core courses proposed in Addictions counseling, Trauma Informed Counseling and Crisis Intervention & Theory are well chosen, as these niche areas of the counseling field are growing quickly and McNeese students with this training will be better prepared than graduates from some other programs to work in these areas.” The need for the program in the local area and the state of Louisiana has been clearly documented.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**Senior Staff recommends approval of the proposed MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CIP 51.1508) at McNeese State University with a progress report due October 1, 2023.**