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*P. O. Box 3677*  
*Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3677*  
*Phone (225) 342-4253, FAX (225) 342-9318*  
[www.laregents.edu](http://www.laregents.edu)

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*Catarena M. Lobre, Student*

## **AGENDA**

### **ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

11:20 a.m.

Claiborne Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Louisiana Purchase Room 1-100  
1201 North Third Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
  - A. Routine Staff Approvals
  - B. Progress Reports
- IV. Academic Programs
  - A. BA Chemistry – LSU A&M
- V. Other Business
  - A. Update: Postsecondary Inclusive Education Advisory Council
- VI. Adjournment

Committee Members: Blake R. David, Chair; Stephanie A. Finley, Vice Chair; Christian C. Creed; Darren G. Mire; Gary N. Solomon Jr.; Terrie P. Sterling; Catarena M. Lobre (*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

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

### AGENDA ITEM III.A.

#### Routine Academic Requests & Staff Approvals

Institution	Request
LSU A&M	Request to change the name of the BS in Child and Family Studies to the BS in Human Development and Family Science. The request will align the program title with current industry terminology and make the program more identifiable to prospective students, graduates, faculty, and employers. <b>Approved.</b>
LSU A&M	Request to dissolve the School of Collaborative Academic Programs. The College was established in 2019 as a pilot home for interdisciplinary programs, but after three years without establishing any new degree programs, it was determined that resources could be better used by focusing on other academic priorities. <b>Approved.</b>
LSU A&M	Request to change the CIP code for the MBA program from 52.0201 (Business Administration and Management, General) to 52.1301 (Management Science) to better align with the program’s increasing focus on analytics and emerging technologies. <b>Approved.</b>
LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans	Request to establish an Undergraduate Certificate (UC) in Categorical Medical Laboratory Science (CIP 51.1005) with a progress report due October 1, 2024. <b>Approved.</b>
Southeastern Louisiana University	Request to realign the Center for Student Excellence and University Honors program into the new College of Honors and Excellence in the Office of Academic Affairs. The change will not result in any significant costs. <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. Progress reports are typically required every 1-2 years depending on the program's age, implementation timeline, and whether it is demonstrating satisfactory progress.

The Board of Regents target minimum completer thresholds (3-year average) for programs are:

Associate, Bachelor's, Ugrad Level Certs.	8 STEM, 10 non-STEM
Master's, Grad Level Certs.	5 STEM, 6 non-STEM
Doctorate, Post-Doc Level Certs.	2 STEM, 2.5 non-STEM

Staff evaluate several factors when determining whether an approved program is making satisfactory progress. Along with the program's history of enrollment and completion, staff assess whether the program is making satisfactory progress toward subject-specific and regional accreditation when required. Staff also consider other evidence of successful implementation such as engagement with academic and industry partners, upgrades to technology and facilities, faculty hiring, external funding, and curricular adjustments. Institutions are required to provide both data and contextual information in their progress reports.

The following degree programs have demonstrated strong enrollment, have met or exceeded minimum completer threshold requirements, and are on track to meet accreditation requirements if applicable. No further reporting is required for these programs.

- Baton Rouge Community College, AS Surgical Technology
- Louisiana Delta Community College, AAS in Criminal Justice
- Nunez Community College, AAS in Aerospace Manufacturing Technology
- South Louisiana Community College, AAS in Application Software Development
- SOWELA Technical Community College, AAS in Industrial Electrical Technology
- LSU A&M College, Master of Digital Media Arts and Engineering
- LSU of Alexandria, BS in Medical Laboratory Science
- LSU of Alexandria, BS in Health Professions
- LSU Eunice, AAS in Surgical Technology
- LSU Eunice, AAS in Diagnostic Medical Sonography
- Southern University and A&M College, BS Finance
- Northwestern State University, EdD in Adult Learning and Development
- Southeastern Louisiana University, BS in Health Systems Management
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette, MS in Informatics

An evaluation of the growth of recently approved degree programs has been incorporated into the new annual academic planning process in an effort to streamline the process of evaluating the success of new programs while also identifying areas for improvement.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**Senior Staff recommends the Board receive and accept the progress report on the recently approved programs as presented.**

## AGENDA ITEM IV.A.

### Proposed Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry Louisiana State University and A&M College

#### Background Information

Louisiana State University and A&M College (LSU A&M) requests Board of Regents' approval to offer a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Chemistry. The proposal was approved by the LSU Board of Supervisors and then submitted to Regents for consideration. The proposal was then favorably reviewed by Chief Academic Officers statewide. The proposed program was included in the institution's 2022 Academic Plan.

#### Staff Summary

The proposed BA in Chemistry is intended to complement the institution's already existing Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. This highly flexible, interdisciplinary program will be a non-American Chemical Society (ACS) certified degree providing students with a strong foundation in all major areas of chemistry while facilitating them to pursue other educational objectives of their interests. The flexibility of this new program will be reflected in the inclusion of a substantial number of credit hours dedicated to directed or free elective courses in the curriculum. This flexibility allows the students to complement their study of chemistry with curricular content in other disciplinary directions. The program will consist of two areas of concentration with the Chemistry Concentration serving as the parent degree track accompanied by an additional concentration in Pre-Health. The Pre-Health concentration is designed for students who will pursue advanced degrees in the health professional fields, such as MD, PharmD, DDS, DO, etc. The purpose of the proposed degree is to educate students with a strong foundation in all major areas of chemistry, including laboratory instructions, while emphasizing the highly flexible curriculum to enable interdisciplinary studies. This degree will prepare students who may want to pursue a wide range of chemistry-related occupations aside from the professional chemist occupation, which requires rigorous theoretical and practical education and 500+ contact hours in the laboratory.

#### 1. Value:

- a. Workforce Demand and Job Opportunities: LSU A&M anticipates the program will enable students to become competitive in a much broader set of career opportunities that are vital to Louisiana's economy. Based on Lightcast data, there were approximately 18,905 unique job postings within Louisiana in the last year with a wide variety of occupations that graduates of this program could enter. The following table provides a highlight of some of the related occupations based on Louisiana data.

Occupation	LWC Star Rating <sup>1</sup>	Current Jobs <sup>2</sup>	Projected Jobs 2030 <sup>2</sup>	% Change <sup>2</sup>	Average Salary <sup>2</sup>
Sales reps, Tech and Scientific	4-star	2336	2443	5%	\$80,225
Operation Research Analysts	4-star	471	589	25%	\$77,313
Natural Sciences Managers	4-star	416	445	6.9%	\$101,400

<b>Medical and Health services managers</b>	5-star	7172	9124	27.2%	\$93,873
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<sup>1</sup>Source – LWC    <sup>2</sup>Source – O\*Net

- b. Curriculum Alignment with Employer Needs: The student learning outcomes for the proposed program directly align with the career ready competencies identified by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE). The knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) incorporated into the course content directly aligns with those identified by the US Department of Labor. For example, critical thinking, digital technology, quality control, communications, and planning.
- c. Same or Similar In-State Programs: While other institutions around the state offer non-ACS certified BS degrees, there are currently no other institutions in the state that offer a BA in Chemistry for the non-ACS certified track.
- d. Student Enrollment and Completion: Projected enrollment is modestly set at 25 students increasing to 200 in year four based on peer institutions’ enrollment in similar BA programs and a small subset of current enrollment in the BS in Chemistry program.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
TOTAL Estimated Program Enrollment	25	75	125	200
TOTAL Estimated Program Graduates	0	0	25	50

- 2. **Resources**: No additional funds are needed to start the program as all courses required for the program are taught by existing faculty. The approximate cost of the proposed program represents the salary and related benefits associated with hiring two full-time faculty and four graduate assistants beginning in year three. Anticipated revenue generated through enrollment will adequately cover the cost to sustain the program.

	Current	Needed	Additional Costs
<b>Faculty</b>	Existing faculty are adequate to support implementation of the program.	The institution plans to hire two new full-time faculty members in year three.	Year 3+: \$131,000
<b>Graduate Assistants</b>	Existing graduate assistants are adequate to support the implementation of the program.	The institution plans to hire four new graduate assistants in year three.	Year 3+: \$100,000
<b>Physical (Facilities, Equipment, Library, &amp; Technology)</b>	Existing facilities are adequate to support the program.	No additional resources projected.	\$0
<b>Student Support</b>	Existing resources will meet the needs of the program for the foreseeable future.	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.

- **Accessibility:** The program will be offered in the face-to-face mode of delivery. The curriculum layout is designed to provide students with as much flexibility as possible while aligning course scheduling.
- **Affordability:** The LSU Department of Chemistry will promote Open Educational resources (OER) in every course when applicable. The Chemistry department is also pushing forward a communications plan to incentivize faculty to add the OER code to their course sections.
- **Partnerships:** The proposed BA in Chemistry degree program has received support from community-based organizations and industry including Lion Copolymer Geismar, LLC and the Baton Rouge local section of the American Chemical Society.
- **Work-based Learning:** Students are encouraged to incorporate internships, apprenticeships or undergraduate research in this program. These experiences may earn academic credit that can be used toward elective credit. The Department of Chemistry will work closely with the LSU Career Services unit to promote internships and employer connections.
- **Other program attributes that contribute to closing the achievement gap with underserved populations:** Underserved populations will be able to complete this program and go straight to work, thus allowing them to quickly enter the workforce. Students in this program will be required to enroll in a one-credit hour course designed to foster a sense of belonging among first-year students and address success gaps among diverse populations.

### **Staff Analysis**

The proposed BA in Chemistry will allow LSU A&M to provide students with an additional pathway that will enable expanded employment opportunities in the field of chemistry. Thus, strengthening the chemistry workforce in the state of Louisiana. The institution has support from the Baton Rouge local section of the American Chemical Society and various industry partners to help ensure the program meets employer needs and employment of graduates.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**Senior Staff recommends conditional approval of the proposed Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry (CIP 40.0501) at Louisiana State University A&M, with a progress report due October 1, 2024.**