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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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*Samuel T. Gil, Student Member*

**AGENDA**  
**PLANNING, RESEARCH and PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

1:35 p.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. R.S. 17:1808 (Academic Licensure)
    1. Renewal Applications
      - a. Bard Early College in New Orleans
      - b. Teachers College, Columbia University
  - B. Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission
    1. Renewal Applications
      - a. 160 Driving Academy - Metairie - License #2340
      - b. Academy of Interactive Entertainment, Lafayette, LA - License #2136
      - c. Ayers Career College, New Orleans, LA - License #828
      - d. Becker Online, Downers Grove, IL - License #2368
      - e. Coastal College - Baton Rouge - License #2019
      - f. Coastal Truck Driving School of New Orleans, Harvey, LA - License #2200
      - g. Crescent City School of Gaming & Bartending, Shreveport, LA - License #594
      - h. Delta College Inc. - Slidell Branch - License #2066
      - i. Delta College, Inc. - Covington - License #947
      - j. Diesel Driving Academy - Shreveport - License #369
      - k. Durham Transport Academy, Shreveport, LA - License #2341
      - l. iWeld Institute, Houma, LA - License #2323
      - m. Joshua Career Institute of Louisiana, Shreveport, LA - License #2307
      - n. Lafayette Dental Assistant School - License #2251
      - o. Mia's Medical Academy, Baton Rouge, LA - License #2202
      - p. National Aesthetic Laser Institute, Baton Rouge, LA - License #2295
      - q. New Orleans Dental Assistant School, Metairie, LA - License #2252
      - r. Nursing Assistant Network Association (NANA), New Orleans, LA - License #920

- s. Over Drive Truck Driving School of Louisiana, Deville, LA - License #2283
- t. Pelican Chapter, ABC - Baton Rouge Campus - License #2172
- u. Pelican Chapter, ABC - Southwest Campus, Westlake, LA - License #2173
- v. Road Ready Driving Academy, Houma, LA - License #2367
- w. Shreveport Dental Assistant School - License #2253
- x. The Captain School, Marrero, LA - License #2161
- y. The Microblading Institute, Maurice, LA - License #2324
- z. Thomas Training and Developmental Center, Franklin, LA - License #948
- aa. Unitech Training Academy - Baton Rouge - License #2256
- bb. Unitech Training Academy - West Monroe - License #2068
- cc. Woodland Healthcare Training, Denham Springs, LA - License #2284

C. Approval of Payment from Student Protection Fund – Advanced Welding School Students

IV. Other Business

V. Adjournment

Committee Members: Judy A. Williams-Brown, Chair, Wilbert D. Pryor, Vice Chair, Christian C. Creed, Stephanie A. Finley, Terrie P. Sterling, Felix R. Weill, Samuel T. Gil, Student Member Staff: Susannah Craig, Deputy Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Student Success
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**AGENDA ITEM III.A.1.a.**  
**Bard Early College in New Orleans**  
**New Orleans, Louisiana**

**BACKGROUND**

Bard Early College in New Orleans (BECNO) is a private institution with its local campus located in New Orleans, Louisiana and the main campus located in Annandale-on-Hudson, New York. This university is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE).

**ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

BECNO offers high school students the opportunity to enroll in higher education courses for credit as well as offering one associate degree program. The academic program offered to Louisiana students is an Associate in Arts degree. The college credit courses offered to 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students are English/seminar, composition and a series of electives. The university currently has 131 students in its Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

<b>Degree Level</b>	<b>Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment</b>
Doctorate	0
Master's	0
Bachelor's	0
Associate	101
Certificate	0
Other	30
Total	131

**FACULTY**

Bard Early College in New Orleans (BECNO) has 4 full-time and 12 part-time faculty members with either a master's or doctorate degree.

**FACILITIES**

BECNO offers classroom lecture and classroom laboratory instruction to Louisiana residents.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**Given the programs' scope 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 Bard Early College in New Orleans (BECNO).**

**AGENDA ITEM III.A.1.b.**  
**Teachers College, Columbia University**  
**New York, New York**

**BACKGROUND**

Teachers College, Columbia University (TC) is a private institution with its main campus located in New York, New York. TC has a local campus (Summer Principals Academy) in New Orleans, Louisiana. This university is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) and the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation.

**ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

TC offers the Summer Principals Academy (TC-SPA) that allows students to earn either a Master of Arts (M.A.) or Master of Education (M.Ed.). The course work and content are the same for the program, but there are two master's degrees that can be acquired at the completion of this program. The Master of Arts (M.A.) is a 36-credit program and the Master of Education (M.Ed.) is 36 credits plus 24 transfer credits from a previous graduate degree. This allows students who have previous graduate credit to use this along with the course work provided at the SPA to earn their master's degree. The university currently has 65 students enrolled in this program according to the Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

<b>Degree Level</b>	<b>Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment</b>
Doctorate	0
Master's	65
Bachelor's	0
Associate	0
Certificate	0
Other	0
Total	65

**FACULTY**

Teachers College, Columbia University – Summer Principals Academy (TC-SPA) has 18 part-time and four full-time faculty members with either a master's or doctorate degree.

**FACILITIES**

TC-SPA offers classroom lecture and laboratory instruction.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**Given the programs' scope 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 *renewal* licensure from the Teachers College, Columbia University (TC).**

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## **Minutes** **Board of Regents' Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission** **November 14, 2023**

The Louisiana Board of Regents' Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission met Tuesday, November 14, 2023, in Room 153 in the Claiborne Building. Prior to the meeting, the newest Commission member, Benjamin Baudoin, an appointed representative of the Louisiana Association of Private Colleges and Schools was sworn in and introduced himself to the Commission. Chair James Fontenot called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. The roll was then called by Ms. Courtney Britton and a quorum was established. There were no public comments to be read.

### **Commission Members Present**

Melanie Amrhein, Vice Chair  
Benjamin Baudoin  
Chris Broadwater  
James Fontenot, Chair  
Carmen Million  
Randy Plaisance

### **Staff Members Present**

Elizabeth Bentley-Smith  
Courtney Britton  
Dr. Susannah Craig  
Mighan Johnson  
Deesi Kirkland  
Antonio Williams

### **Commission Members Absent**

Jada Lewis  
Susana Schowen  
Sherrie Despino

### **Guests Present**

(See Appendix)

The first item of business was the approval of minutes from the Commission's meeting on September 12, 2023.

**On motion of Chris Broadwater, seconded by Melanie Amrhein, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously adopted the minutes of the September 12, 2023, Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission meeting.**

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was operating license renewals. Over the previous two months, 29 schools submitted complete renewal applications.

**On motion of Melanie Amrhein, seconded by Randy Plaisance, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously voted that the Board of Regents renew the licenses of the following proprietary schools:**

1. 160 Driving Academy - Metairie - License #2340
2. Academy of Interactive Entertainment, Lafayette, LA - License #2136
3. Ayers Career College, New Orleans, LA - License #828
4. Becker Online, Downers Grove, IL - License #2368
5. Coastal College - Baton Rouge - License #2019
6. Coastal Truck Driving School of New Orleans, Harvey, LA - License #2200
7. Crescent City School of Gaming & Bartending, Shreveport, LA - License #594
8. Delta College Inc. - Slidell Branch - License #2066
9. Delta College, Inc. - Covington - License #947
10. Diesel Driving Academy - Shreveport - License #369
11. Durham Transport Academy, Shreveport, LA - License #2341
12. iWeld Institute, Houma, LA - License #2323
13. Joshua Career Institute of Louisiana, Shreveport, LA - License #2307
14. Lafayette Dental Assistant School - License #2251
15. Mia's Medical Academy, Baton Rouge, LA - License #2202
16. National Aesthetic Laser Institute, Baton Rouge, LA - License #2295
17. New Orleans Dental Assistant School, Metairie, LA - License #2252
18. Nursing Assistant Network Association (NANA), New Orleans, LA - License #920
19. Over Drive Truck Driving School of Louisiana, Deville, LA - License #2283
20. Pelican Chapter, ABC - Baton Rouge Campus - License #2172
21. Pelican Chapter, ABC - Southwest Campus, Westlake, LA - License #2173
22. Road Ready Driving Academy, Houma, LA - License #2367
23. Shreveport Dental Assistant School - License #2253
24. The Captain School, Marrero, LA - License #2161
25. The Microblading Institute, Maurice, LA - License #2324
26. Thomas Training and Developmental Center, Franklin, LA - License #948
27. Unitech Training Academy - Baton Rouge - License #2256
28. Unitech Training Academy - West Monroe - License #2068
29. Woodland Healthcare Training, Denham Springs, LA - License #2284

There was one school who chose not to renew their license for this renewal period and they have already turned in student transcripts in electronic form.

- License # 2342 - Excel Health Careers - LaPlace, LA

The next agenda item was an update on program approvals. Chair Fontenot reminded the Commission that program approvals were being shared for informational purposes only. No questions were brought forward regarding the following program approvals.

1. ABCDL Truck Driving Academy, LLC, Hammond, LA  
Amend – CDL Class A – 120.0 clock hours
2. Coastal College – Hammond  
Add - Vocational Truck & Trailer Class A CDL – 80 clock hours

The next agenda item explained reports on the Fiscal Year 22-23. After Ms. Britton presented the numerical summary of the fiscal year, Ms. Deesi Kirkland presented the fiscal year 2022-2023 financial updates. Discussion including the consistency of the carryovers of revenues (self-generated), expenditures; specifically the retirement contributions and the contributing factors, Student Protection Fund-Student Record Administration Account; specifically the difference between the protection and records maintenance accounts, the amount currently in the student protection fund, the consistency of the expenditures on the account since last year, potentially dropping another rental unit for student record housing, suggestions for breakdowns for the next year including a ten-year analysis.

The next agenda item was voting on the upcoming meetings and hearings. Discussion included the possibility of Commission members receiving additional evidentiary items prior to any upcoming hearing dates, the number of open applications for January and timing of due dates and meeting dates in regard to state holidays.

**On motion of Carmen Million seconded by Benjamin Baudin, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously voted to conduct the administrative hearing at the next commission meeting scheduled for January 16, 2024.**

The next agenda item was other business. Discussion included Advanced Welding school closure, and student reimbursement, school bonds, student-level data submission and violations, discussion with potential applicant guests including auditing the financials yearly and staff assistance with applications, common questions commission members ask, and mistakes potential applicants make.

The next meeting of the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission is scheduled for January 16, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., in Room 1-153 of the Claiborne Building. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

APPENDIX A  
GUESTS

Amanda LaGroue	LA Department of Justice
Jerney McKeever	LA Tex CDL Driving Academy
LaMarus Preston	La Tex CDL Driving Academy



## **AGENDA ITEM III.C**

### **Approval of Payment from Student Protection Fund**

#### **Advanced Welding School Walker, Louisiana**

Advanced Welding School, a former Louisiana licensed proprietary school, which was located at 10340 Florida Blvd, Walker, LA 70785, officially closed on November 30, 2022. As the closure was unplanned, students were left behind in various states of program completion. Staff contacted twenty-nine students who the school identified as enrolled at the time of closure, while the majority of the students chose to continue their education at other postsecondary institutions or to find employment in their field with the education they received, there were some students who could not complete their studies.

For those students who could not complete their studies, the Louisiana Proprietary Schools Law allows them, or a payee on their behalf, to be reimbursed for tuition payments. La. R.S. 3140.11. A. states: “There shall be established in the state treasury as a special permanent account the Proprietary School Student Protection Dedicated Fund Account. Following compliance with the requirements of Article VII, Section 9 (B) of the Constitution of Louisiana relative to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund, all monies generated pursuant to the provisions of this Section shall be deposited into the Proprietary School Student Protection Dedicated Fund Account, and monies in this account shall be used solely to make refunds of unearned tuition as provided in this Chapter.” In addition, La. R.S. 3140.11. I. states that a “claim shall be made against the account only if it arises out of the cessation of operation and after claims are made against the surety bond or other school financial resources.” As such, a \$10,000 dollar claim has been made against the school’s surety bond to the Western Surety Company. This amount will be deposited in the Student Protection Fund and will be utilized in making any necessary reimbursements to students.

Per law, any claims were required to be submitted within twelve months of the school’s closure. A total of six students completed the Student Claim Form (PSC-15) and submitted accompany documentation such as enrollment agreements, transcripts, receipts, applicable affidavits and any required W-9s. The total amount requested for these students is \$127,821.84, however final reviews performed by staff from Proprietary Schools, Finance and Legal may adjust the amount owed. The current balance in the Student Protection Fund is \$1,123,211.20.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**Given the final review of claims by Board of Regents staff and Louisiana Proprietary School Law requirements, Senior Staff recommends approval of tuition reimbursement payments to students from the closed proprietary school, Advanced Welding School.**