



Cybersecurity Education Management Council (CEMC) Meeting
Claiborne Building | Regents Conference Room, Suite 6-200
February 19, 2024 | 10:00 A.M.

Committee Members/Representatives Present

Rick Bateman
William Bradley
Bonnie Chelette
Tristan Denley
Emily DiPalma
Rick Gallot
Paul Helton
Greg Trahan

Committee Members Not Present

Michael Boykin
Gabriel Fagbeyiro
Daphne Williams

Staff Members Present

Clint Coleman
Carrie Robison
Jennifer Stevens

I. Welcome and Agenda Overview

Dr. Coleman called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and welcomed the attendees. Dr. Coleman provided some background information on the Council and its work. Next, he called the roll and noted quorum was obtained.

On motion of Mr. Paul Helton, seconded by Mr. William Bradley, the Council approved the second-, third-, and fourth-quarter meeting minutes.

II. New Member Introductions

During the welcome, as there were several new members in attendance, Council members introduced themselves.

III. Selection of New Committee Chair

Next, Dr. Coleman mentioned that last year Dr. Tristan Denley expressed interest in stepping into the chair position upon Mr. Greg Trahan's decision to step away from the leadership role, but the Council did not have quorum to consider his nomination. With a quorum achieved, Dr. Coleman opened the floor for additional nominations. With there being no other nominations, he called for a vote.

On motion of Mr. Rick Bateman, seconded by Mr. Greg Trahan, the Council approved the appointment of Dr. Tristan Denley as Chair of the Cybersecurity Education Management Council.

IV. 2024 RFA Discussion and Updated Timeline

Dr. Coleman informed the Council that the 2024 Request for Applications is currently active and following the submission deadline staff will compile all applications and send them to the Council for review and scoring. At the next Council meeting members will review the individual scores and vote on funding recommendations, which will be provided to the Board of Regents. Dr. Bateman asked about resources available for the two tracks in the RFA. Dr. Coleman stated there is a \$1M allocation and there are not separate allocations per track.

V. CEMC Annual Report

Dr. Coleman noted that the Council is required to report annually to the Legislature and indicated that the 2023 report had been published on the Regents website. Dr. Denley noted that, on page 13, it was striking to see the impact of the Council's work. Mr. Trahan added that this program has a high return on investment, reaching a large number of students with the funding received.

VI. Upcoming Initiatives and Planning

Dr. Coleman reminded the Council that no reporting had been required of applications funded in previous cycles and that members had previously discussed adding reporting requirements in the next RFA. Dr. Denley agreed that the Council should collect more data because some degrees have cyber in the title but the majority of activity is a sub-track, a concentration, etc., and that the numbers are opaque. Mr. Helton responded that Louisiana Economic Development has a set of metrics collected from institutions for agency grants; these could be used as a starting point for discussion. Dr. Bateman added there is a need to collect qualitative as well as quantitative data.

Dr. Denley suggested there are opportunities for a statewide strategic approach to funding, noting that previously the Council had sought applications from and funded initiatives at individual institutions. Ms. Bonnie Chelette mentioned the need to connect with K-12, and in particular, inform graduating seniors about these programs. The statutory restriction to provide funding only to postsecondary institutions was raised, but Mr. Bateman noted that dual enrollment pathways and Cyber.org could benefit. Dr. Coleman mentioned the LASTEM directors could also help provide information and messaging about cybersecurity opportunities.

VII. 2024 Meeting Dates

Dr. Coleman stated that Regents' legal counsel had advised that CEMC could not meet virtually due to public meeting laws; the Council will continue to meet in person on a quarterly schedule. The next meeting, set for April 9th, will focus on scoring and providing funding recommendations for all submitted applications. Dr. Denley asked if members could provide a designee. Dr. Coleman stated that these provisions would vary based on the individual positions. Ms. Robison and Ms. Stevens provided additional clarification.

VIII. Other Business/Adjournment

With no additional comments or items for discussion, through unanimous consent of the members, the Committee adjourned at 10:28 a.m.