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AGENDA

Executive Committee*

Thursday, September 26, 2013

10:15 a.m.

Claiborne Building, First Floor
Louisiana Purchase Room 1-100
1201 North Third Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Revisions and Updates to Board of Regents' Policies
- IV. Other Business
- V. Adjournment

*The Board of Regents reserves the right to enter into Executive Session, if needed, in accordance with R.S. 42:11 *et seq.*

Committee Members: W. Clinton Rasberry, Jr., Chair; Joseph Wiley, Vice-Chair; Charlotte Bollinger, Secretary; Joseph Farr; William Fenstermaker; Roy Martin III; and Albert Sam II

Executive Summary

Introduction:

Since 1974 when the Board of Regents was established, there has been no central location where all of the policies adopted and implemented by the Board are indexed, stored and updated to reflect the changes over the years. The various Board policies are therefore in need of organization for better and more accurate access. Over a year ago, Regents' Staff undertook the task of reviewing all Board policies in order to recommend appropriate Board action. The ultimate goal, upon Board approval, is to create an inventory of all Board policies properly indexed and electronically uploaded on the Board's website for easy and systematic access, rather than relying on the institutional knowledge of Board staff to identify and locate Board policies.

To that end, Staff intends to seek Board action in the next few months on current policies, and will make one of the following recommendations with respect to each policy: (a) rescind the policy if it no longer serves the higher education community; (b) maintain the policy in its current form; or (c) update or revise the policy as needed. If the recommendation is to maintain a policy in its current form or to rescind a policy that has patently become outdated, the Staff will bring such recommendations to the Executive Committee. If the recommendation involves substantive revisions to a policy, the Staff will bring that policy to the appropriate committee, along with clearly delineated revisions and reasons for such revisions.

Recommendations for the September 2013 Meeting:

The recommendation before the Executive Committee this month pertains to two sets of policies, the first in the area of Planning and Research Section of the Division of Planning, Research and Academic Affairs, and the second in the area of Sponsored Programs.

1. **Planning, Research and Academic Affairs Policies:** Staff recommends that the Executive Committee recommend that the Board of Regents rescind the following five policies (attached) since they no longer serve a useful purpose:

- a. Statement of Academic Freedom, Tenure and Responsibility

The policy on Statement of Academic Freedom, Tenure and Responsibility was adopted by the Board of Regents in 1976. With the exception of LSU, prior to the adoption of the new constitution, all Louisiana public institutions of higher education were under the governance of the State Board of Education and followed its tenure policies. The Regents' policy was designed to provide policy development while the new management boards developed their own. By 1980, all the management boards had adopted policies that exceeded the requirements of the Regents' Statement of

Academic Freedom, Tenure and Responsibility. The Regents' policy has remained dormant since that time and is no longer necessary.

b. Mandatory Guidelines for the Conduct of Off-Campus Activities

The Board of Regents originally adopted the Mandatory Guidelines for the Conduct of Off-Campus Activities (Guidelines) in 1976, primarily to achieve greater efficiency in the physical delivery of off-campus educational opportunities while assuring access to educational services for Louisiana's population. The Board adopted modest amendments to the Guidelines in 1991, 1993, 1995, 1998, and 2000. The Board suspended this policy in April 2008. Louisiana's postsecondary education system has experienced many changes since the adoption of this policy, rendering it outdated and unnecessary.

c. Guidelines for Statewide Articulation at the Undergraduate Level

The Regents' policy on Guidelines for Statewide Articulation at the Undergraduate Level was adopted in 1976 to ensure that the transition experienced by students articulating between systems and campuses was orderly, fair and easy. The information available to students in today's electronic environment exceeds every specification in the policy. More importantly, Act 623 of 2012 clearly delineates articulation and transfer matters in public higher education, and the work of the Regents' Statewide Articulation and Transfer Council far exceeds the issues addressed in the 1976 policy. Progress in the common course numbering system and the Statewide General Education Articulation Matrix have made student transitions more seamless than ever imagined in the 1976 policy, rendering it antiquated.

d. Policy on Telecourses

The Policy on Telecourses was adopted in 1981 and amended in 1983. As its name implies, the policy was developed to assure that higher education courses offered over television served to enhance the quality of higher education and expand access to such resources. These courses were offered in concert with the Louisiana Educational Television Authority (LETA) and Louisiana Public Broadcasting (LPB). The policy addressed issues such as funding, credits, examinations, grades, support services and institutional responsibilities. The evolution of the Internet and eLearning has rendered the Telecourse policy obsolete.

e. Registration and Licensure of Postsecondary Academic Degree-Granting Institutions

R.S. 17:1808 requires that the Board of Regents register all academic degree-granting institutions and, unless otherwise exempt under the law, license these institutions. As a statutory authority assigned to the Board of Regents, all rules and regulations for the

administration of R.S. 17:1808 are promulgated through Louisiana's Administrative Procedures Act (APA). Therefore, a separate Regents' policy is unnecessary.

2. **Sponsored Programs Policies:** Staff recommends that the Executive Committee recommend that the Board of Regents maintain the following Sponsored Programs policies (attached). These Sponsored Programs policies span four major initiatives within the division: the Board of Regents Support Fund, the Louisiana Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (LA-EPSCoR), Master Plan Research, and the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium. These components have traditionally operated under numerous separate policies created, usually on an ad hoc basis, over years of activity. The attached document combines all policies into a single document, making cosmetic changes to clarify policy language and updating procedures to reflect technological advancements. There have been no substantive changes made to existing policies and practice. Any substantive changes to Sponsored Programs policies, such as revisions to the Endowed Professorship and Endowed Chairs policies, will be brought before the Sponsored Programs Committee and are not part of this recommendation.