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Regents approves courses for the 2015-2016 Master Course Articulation Matrix

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Improves Transferability for Students

Baton Rouge, LA- Today, the Board of Regents approved the

Student

Joseph C. Rallo
*Commissioner of
 Higher Education*



Academic Year 2015-16 Master Course Articulation Matrix and Louisiana Statewide Common Course Catalog. With this approval, the staff was authorized to continue the work of expanding the Matrix and the Catalog with the state's colleges and universities throughout the upcoming year. The Matrix and the Catalog is comprised of more than 300 courses, including 20 additional courses that have been added since last year.

The Master Course Articulation Matrix reflects course equivalencies among Louisiana's public higher education institutions. Under the traditional review process, Articulation Officers would meet annually in the fall and then institutions would propose and vote on changes to the Matrix. With the passage of ACT 356 of the 2009 legislative session, the review process has been enhanced to implement a statewide common course numbering system "that facilitates program planning and the transfer of students and course credits between and among institutions."

Under this approach, faculty representatives from all public colleges and universities come together to develop the Matrix. The faculty agree on common fundamental content for each course that will be included, to ensure that students who successfully complete a course at one institution should be prepared to succeed in the subsequent course at another.

"We believe that an annual review is a critical step in ensuring seamless transfers for students across our post-secondary institutions," said Commissioner Rallo. "And this year we are pleased to add more courses to the matrix."

The Matrix is available to the public via the Regents website for students to plan their class schedules for the 2015-16 academic year.

Regents' STEM Investment shows High Rate of Return

Today, the Board of Regents approved three Sponsored Programs items which exudes a significant rate of return in STEM areas. These items include the announcement of a recent biomedical research and education award funded by the National Institutes of Health, a two-year student workforce scholarship subprogram, and a partnership with K-12 to enhance STEM content in the classroom. Below are the summaries:

Biomedical Research and Education

Under the strong leadership of Dr. Tom Klei, Boyd Professor of Parasitology and Veterinary Science, LSU and A&M College spearheads the Louisiana Biomedical Research Network (LBRN), a collaborative statewide project funded by the National Institutes of Health. In place since 2001 and involving 27 participating campuses, the LBRN generates statewide impact in biomedical research and education. In the previous award (2009-14), NIH provided in excess of \$15 million, with a Board of Regents Support Fund match of \$1.148 million, for a rate of return of \$13.39 for every Support Fund dollar invested; the new award, more than \$18 million during 2015-20, will return an impressive \$16.16 for each Support Fund dollar matched.

Endowed Two-Year Workforce Scholarship Subprogram

The Board of Regents has formally launched the BoRSF Endowed: Two-Year Student Workforce Scholarships subprogram. The subprogram, sharply focused on four- and five-star job priorities, provides unprecedented targeting of Support Fund resources for Louisiana's workforce needs. Leveraging significant non-State investments by as much as 3:1 as a requirement of Support Fund match, these endowments will generate important permanent investments in campus's economic and workforce development activities and build two-year campus relationships with employers across their regions.

Higher Ed/K-12 Partnerships Enhance STEM Teacher Content Knowledge

Since 1991-92, the Louisiana Systemic Initiatives Program (LaSIP) has supported statewide university-based Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) professional development for K-12 teachers. With Federal funds provided through No Child Left Behind (NCLB) for LaSIP, the Board has approved more than \$976,000 in FY 2015 to support six projects at five campuses.

Regents Highlights

- The Board of Regents received and approved the 2015 Legislative Session Updates. This included an update on the Board of Regents' bills, along with bills which impact higher education and the fiscal status of the State.
- The Board of Regents Finance Committee Items:

- Approval of the contribution to the Teacher's Retirement System of Louisiana on behalf of each participant in the optional retirement program equal to the sum of the amounts calculated pursuant to R.S. 11:102(D)(4)(B),(c), and (d) and 5.1839% of pay in FY 2014-15; 5.4379% of pay in FY 2015-16; 5.6919% of pay in FY 2016-17; 5.9459% of pay in FY 2017-18; and 6.2% of pay in FY 2018-19.
 - Received an update on the proposed FY 2015-2016 higher education operating budget (HB1).
 - The Board of Regents Academic Affairs Items:
 - Program Proposals
 - Conditional approval of the following:
 - AAS in Process Technology at SUSLA
 - AS in Surgical Technology at BRCC
 - AS in Nursing at Sowela TCC
 - Approval of the following at SLU:
 - PBC in Accounting
 - PBC in Business Administration
 - Approval of the reactivation of the Juris Doctor degree at the LSU Law Center, effective immediately.
 - Approval of the termination of the Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership at all UL System institutions with the exception of the University of Louisiana at Monroe.
 - Deferred the consideration of the revised Minimum Admission Standards for First-Time Freshmen, Transfer Students, and Adult Students, with a review in 2017. This item will be considered at a special meeting of the Board of Regents set for Monday, June 1, 2015.
 - Deferred the consideration of changes to Academic Affairs Policy 2.18, Minimum Requirements for Entry-Level, College-Level Mathematics and English. This item will be considered at a special meeting of the Board of Regents set for Monday, June 1, 2015.
 - Approval of the proposed AY 2015-16 Master Course Articulation Matrix and the Louisiana Common Course Catalog, and authorize Regents' staff to continue to work with the colleges and universities in order to expand the Matrix and Catalog throughout the year.
 - Approval of the following Consent Agenda Items:
 - Institute for Industry-Education Collaboration- McNeese (Reauthorization)
 - Routine Staff Reports
 - Staff Approvals
 - Progress Reports
 - Letters of Intent/Proposals in the Queue
 - The Board of Regents Sponsored Programs items:
 - Announcement of Recent Biomedical Research Education and Education Award: National Institutes of Health Institutional Development Award (IDeA) Dr. Tom Klei, IDeA Project Director, LSU and A&M College.
 - Approval of the Board of Regents Support Fund Endowed: Two-year Student Workforce

Scholarship Subprogram policy.

- Approval of LA Systemic Initiatives Program (LaSip) FY 2015 Funding Recommendations.
- The Board of Regents granted approval of the following Planning Research and Performance items:
 - Consent Agenda

-R.S. 17:1808 (Licensure)

Initial License

- California University of Pennsylvania
- University of Missouri

License Renewals

- Georgetown University
- Graceland University
- Kaplan University
- Texas Wesleyan University
- William Carey University

Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission

Initial Licenses

- Dental Assisting Academy, LLC
- Medical Technical Institute
- Petra College, Inc.

License Renewals

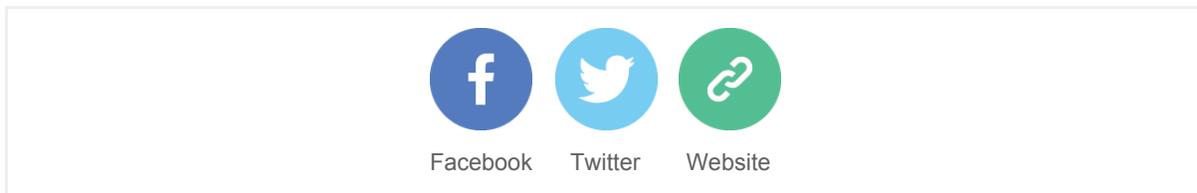
- A & W Healthcare Educators, LLC (03/25/04)
- Academy of Acadiana, Inc. (03/22/06)
- Alpha Medical College, LLC (03/20/13)
- Andrea's Career Institute, LLC (03/26/14)
- At-Home Professions (04/22/99)
- Baton Rouge Dental Assistant Academy (03/26/14)
- Blue Cliff College--Houma (03/24/05)
- Blue Cliff College--Metairie (03/23/00)
- Blue Cliff College--Metairie, Satellite Campus (03/23/11)
- Blue Cliff College--Shreveport (03/23/00)
- Coastal College--Lafayette (04/23/98)
- Coastal College--Monroe (03/28/96)
- Delta College of Arts & Technology--Lafayette Branch (03/24/05)
- Delta School of Business and Technology (05/06/80)
- Healthcare & More (03/21/12)
- J W Training Center, LLC (03/25/10)
- Lenora School of Phlebotomy (04/28/94)

- LifeSmart Training Center, LLC (03/26/14)
- Louisiana Culinary Institute (03/27/03)
- Medical Careers College (04/23/98)
- Pet Grooming Academy of Louisiana (03/21/12)
- Raymond Career College (03/26/14)
- Sparc Academy (03/26/14)
- Unitech Training Academy (04/24/97)
- Unitech Training Academy--Houma (03/22/06)
- Universal Technical Institute--Florida Branch (04/23/98)
- Universal Technical Institute of Texas, Inc. (04/03/85)

-Approval of the Application for Institutional participation in SARA for Grambling State University and Tulane University and authorized staff to submit the approved applications to NC-SARA for final approval of SARA membership.

-Approval of the Combined 3rd Quarter Report of the BOR GRAD Act Intervention Policy for SU A&M, SUSLA, SULC and SUS, authorizing the SU Board of Supervisors to release a portion of the funds to SU A&M, SUSLA, SULC, and SUNO on the predetermined schedule included in its GRAD Act Performance Improvement Contract.

-Approval of the proposed GRAD Act scoring authorization.



About Regents

The Board of Regents, a state agency created by the 1974 Louisiana Constitution, coordinates all public higher education in Louisiana. The Board of Regents believes that a robust public postsecondary education system is critical in order to enhance Louisiana's social and economic environment. Through statewide academic planning and review, budgeting and performance funding, research, and accountability, Regents strives to ensure that all students have access to high-quality educational opportunities.

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