

Regents Recap

Highlights of the Official Actions of the Louisiana Board of Regents

August 26, 2004

Forty-One Low-Completer Programs To Be Terminated

The Board of Regents today approved a staff recommendation to discontinue another 18 academic programs at public colleges and universities statewide because of insufficient numbers of graduates (or “program completers”) to justify the expense of maintaining the programs. The approval brings to 41 the total number of programs terminated as a result of the latest program review.

Of the more than 600 programs that were originally questioned, 137 were unable to provide acceptable rationales for continuation. Of that number, 87 have been placed on probation pending further review, nine have been granted unconditional continuation, and 41 have been terminated effective with the spring semester of 2005.

“Program review is a significant part of our overall institutional accountability effort,” said Commissioner Joseph Savoie. “To maintain the trust of Louisiana’s
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Program Approvals

The Board of Regents today approved the following proposed new academic programs, proposed letter of intent, and progress updates on conditionally-approved programs:

Proposed New Academic Programs:

- Louisiana State University and A&M College - M.A. in Hispanic Studies
- Southern University-Baton Rouge - M.S. in Criminal Justice
- University of Louisiana-Lafayette - M.S. in Petroleum Engineering
- Louisiana State University-Shreveport - B.S. in Computer Information Systems
- Southeastern Louisiana University - B.S. in Occupational Safety, Health, and Environment
- Fletcher Technical/Community College - A.S. in Nursing

Proposed Letter of Intent:

- Louisiana State University-Shreveport - Master of Public Health

Progress Reports on Conditionally-Approved Programs:

- Louisiana State University Health Science Center-New Orleans - Doctor of Audiology
- Louisiana State University at Shreveport - B.S. in Community Health

Teacher Preparation Effectiveness Assessment Model Detailed For Regents

Louisiana is the first state in the nation to examine the effectiveness of teacher preparation programs by assessing the achievement growth of students *and* linking that growth in student learning to college and university teacher preparation programs. The state’s new “Value-Added Teacher Preparation Program Assessment Model,” as the assessment initiative is known, was detailed yesterday at a meeting of the Board of Regents Academic and Student Affairs Committee

The report was given by Dr. George Noell, a psychology professor at LSU who has worked with the Board of Regents and the Louisiana Department of Education during the last year to test potential value added teacher preparation program assessment models using student achievement data for students in grades 4 through 9 from ten school districts.

Dr. Noell reported that while preliminary findings indicate that children being taught by new graduates of teacher preparation programs generally do not demonstrate as much growth in their students’ achievement as experienced teachers, his preliminary analyses identified one state teacher preparation program that is producing graduates whose students demonstrated growth in mathematics achievement that was greater than that of children taught by experienced teachers.

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Regents Approve Distribution of Information Technology Funds; Library, Instructional and Scientific Funds

The Board of Regents today approved \$2.7 million for additional acquisitions for the Governor’s Technology Initiative, to be distributed as follows:

LSU - Baton Rouge:	\$1,215,000
University of New Orleans:	\$432,000
Southern University - Baton Rouge:	\$216,000
Louisiana Tech:	\$324,000
<u>UL - Lafayette:</u>	<u>\$513,000</u>
Total:	\$2,700,000

The Board today also approved the distribution of \$7.4 million in FY2004-05 Library, Instructional and Scientific Funds, appropriated by the Legislature. This funding is comprised of two parts: \$2.4 million from last year’s capital outlay bill and an additional \$5 million in one-time cash funding. Details of the distribution follow on Page 3.

For more information on these and other Board of Regents actions, please visit our website at www.regents.state.la.us

Assessment Model (continued from page 1)

“The data suggest to me that a new teacher does not have to be less effective than an experienced one,” said Noell.

Noell told the Board that two to three years of data across all school districts will be needed before it will be possible to determine if the preliminary findings are valid and reliable. Once valid and reliable results are available, it will be possible to report data about individual teacher preparation programs to the public and to share information about best practices across institutions. The intent will be to help all teacher preparation programs prepare new teachers whose students demonstrate student academic growth comparable to that of experienced teachers.

According to Burns, the success of those efforts is demonstrated by the percentage of teachers passing teacher certification examinations, which has increased from 89% in 1999-2000 to 99% in 2002-2003. The number of teachers graduating from Louisiana’s teacher preparation programs meeting all teacher certification requirements has also improved significantly, increasing from 2,075 in 2001-2002 to 2,265 in 2002-2003.

“Louisiana’s universities are now moving toward the fourth and highest level of teacher effectiveness, which is the growth in learning of children being taught by new graduates of our teacher preparation programs,” said Commissioner Savoie.

Programs Terminated (continued from page 1)

citizens and to ensure that Louisiana postsecondary education continues to move in the right direction, the Board of Regents must make certain that our colleges and universities are delivering instruction in the most cost-effective manner possible.”

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Library, Instructional, and Scientific Equipment Acquisitions

House Bill No. 2 - Capital Outlay Allocations, FY2004-05

Institutions	Library & Scientific Acquisitions	
	Capital Outlay Funds	
	All Institutions	
LUMCON	\$	20,690
LSU - Baton Rouge	\$	1,517,766
LSU - Alexandria	\$	63,180
University of New Orleans	\$	527,894
LSU Health Sciences Center - New Orleans	\$	406,433
LSU Health Sciences Center - Shreveport	\$	174,188
LSU - Eunice	\$	56,197
LSU - Shreveport	\$	111,356
LSU Agricultural Center	\$	472,371
Paul M. Hebert Law Center	\$	65,382
Pennington Biomedical Research Center	\$	70,527
Southern University - Baton Rouge	\$	298,561
Southern University Law Center	\$	37,490
Southern University - New Orleans	\$	118,877
Southern University - Shreveport	\$	39,993
Southern University Agricultural Research & Extension Center	\$	29,784
Nicholls State University	\$	221,210
Grambling State University	\$	159,064
Louisiana Tech University	\$	350,914
McNeese State University	\$	249,210
University of Louisiana at Monroe	\$	301,476
Northwestern State University	\$	314,447
Southeastern Louisiana University	\$	459,908
University of Louisiana at Lafayette	\$	544,878
Baton Rouge Community College	\$	75,498
Delgado Community College	\$	270,266
Nunez Community College	\$	38,067
Bossier Parish Community College	\$	73,814
South Louisiana Community College	\$	16,082
River Parishes Community College	\$	6,219
Louisiana Delta Community College	\$	6,219
Louisiana Technical College	\$	267,839
Sowela Technical Community College	\$	23,846
Fletcher Technical Community College	\$	10,554
TOTALS	\$	7,400,000