

*W. Clinton Rasberry, Jr.*  
*Chair*

*William H. Fenstermaker*  
*Vice Chair*

*Albert D. Sam II*  
*Secretary*

*Commissioner of*  
*Higher Education*



*Mark T. Abraham*  
*Charlotte A. Bollinger*  
*Raymond J. Brandt*  
*Joel E. Dupré*  
*Pamela B. Egan*  
*Joseph P. Farr*  
*Chris D. Gorman*  
*Robert W. Levy*  
*Richard A. Lipsey*  
*Edward D. Markle*  
*Roy O. Martin III*  
*Joseph C. Wiley*

*Maggie L. Brakeville, Student*

**BOARD OF REGENTS**

*P. O. Box 3677*

*Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3677*

*Phone (225) 342-4253, FAX (225) 342-9318*

[www.regents.state.la.us](http://www.regents.state.la.us)

**AGENDA**

**SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

Thursday, September 25, 2014

1:30 p.m.

The Claiborne Building

Louisiana Purchase Room 1-100

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships Subprogram
- IV. Recommendations of the BoRSF Planning Committee
  - A. Preliminary to FY 2015-16 Plan and Budget
    1. Termination of Graduate Fellowships for Teachers Subprogram: Limited Submissions and Underutilization of Funds
    2. Revision of Traditional Graduate Fellowships: Eligibility of Disciplines
    3. Endowed Chairs: Fund STEM/Economic Development Chairs at Higher Levels
  - B. FY 2015-16 BoRSF Plan and Budget
  - C. BoRSF Priorities as Additional Funds Become Available
  - D. FY 2015-16 Development of Tiered Endowed Professorships Subprogram
- V. Request from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette to Divide Two BoRSF-Matched Endowed Professorships
- VI. Other Business
- VII. Adjournment

**Committee Members:** Roy Martin III, Chair; William Fenstermaker, Vice Chair; Maggie Brakeville; Raymond Brandt; Chris Gorman; Edward Markle; Albert Sam II

## AGENDA ITEM III

### Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships Subprogram

#### Staff Summary

In considering the filling of vacant Endowed Professorships, some campuses indicated that a greater need exists for graduate student scholarship support. Accordingly, in April the Board approved conceptualization and charged staff to: (1) recommend comprehensive guidelines for a competitive endowed graduate student scholarship program; and (2) in doing so permit the conversion of previously matched Endowed Professorships to scholarships on a non-competitive, non-punitive basis.

The staff actively engaged key constituencies statewide in developing the guidelines: (A) all campuses were invited to respond to the Board-approved concept by May 15; (B) the BoRSF Planning Committee considered a comprehensive staff draft on May 30; and (C) on June 6 all campuses were invited to respond to the staff draft with Planning Committee revisions by August 29.

Two campuses – LSU-Baton Rouge and Pennington Biomedical Research Center – submitted responses to the staff draft (see Attachment I) which included two recommendations for revision: elimination of the disciplinary preference given to STEM; and inclusion of post-doctoral fellows as recipients of endowment funds. The staff adopted and incorporated these recommendations into the draft policy since each will provide campuses and donors with greater flexibility in aligning applications for matches in areas of greatest need.

Staff recommendations regarding the Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships Subprogram, therefore, reflect well-considered insights from these key statewide constituencies (Attachment II). Some notable provisions include:

- ❖ Required close collaboration of academic and development officers (p. 1);
- ❖ Broad disciplinary eligibility combined with selected priorities related to WISE priorities (p. 1);
- ❖ Broad campus flexibility in using income from endowments for student support purposes (p.1);  
and
- ❖ Three tiers which limit campus eligibility for funds based on size and mission of graduate programs (p. 2).

The staff will highlight these and other matters at the meeting on September 25.

#### Senior Staff Recommendation

**The Senior Staff recommends approval of the Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships Subprogram policy as presented.**

# **ATTACHMENT I**



**Date:** August 18, 2014

**To:** Kerry Davidson  
Deputy Commissioner, Board of Regents

**From:** Stuart R. Bell  
Executive Vice Chancellor & Provost

**Re:** Proposed Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships Program

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft policy for the proposed BoRSF Endowed superior Graduate Student Scholarship Program. This message is a follow-up to my May 14 memorandum with LSU's initial comments on the proposed program concept.

This proposed program has been met with great enthusiasm among our deans, and we look forward to capitalizing on resources to help graduate student recruitment and retention. LSU has already begun preparations to facilitate the conversion of some previously-matched professorships into graduate student awards.

The ability to use endowment income for both scholarship support and experiential learning opportunities will afford LSU the opportunity to apply these funds to enhance the education opportunities for students in all of our post-baccalaureate programs.

I have carefully reviewed the document with our vice provosts and deans, including the heads of the LSU Law Center and the LSU Ag Center, and there is widespread concern with one specific section, namely Sec. III, of the proposed policy. While we certainly support the first sentence: "All disciplines and types of graduate and first professional degree programs are eligible to participate," we propose the elimination of the next sentence, including the two subsequent bullet points (top of second page) and accompanying footnote.

Stated preference for STEM, business, and "high-demand" fields does not seem to be a necessary component of the policy for several compelling reasons:

- The WISE Plan already creates a funding preference in favor of most of the disciplines that would be favored by the proposed preference in matching graduate student support funds. The proposed graduate student program provides an opportunity for the Board of Regents to recognize and support disciplines and institutions that are not favored by the WISE program but are nonetheless important to Louisiana.
- The marketplace will correct and recognize those areas important to the State of Louisiana. Donors are not likely to endow particular scholarships and internships unless they believe it will assist students in getting good jobs and employers in recruiting students to jobs that have significant economic value. By the same logic, those private donors most willing and able to support scholarships and experiential learning endowments are likely to be those



most directly connected to and knowledgeable about disciplines that add value to the state's economy.

- Each institution of higher education has a unique set of goals and challenges to face. As the Flagship university, LSU's needs are as broad as those of all Louisianans combined. We believe priorities for application of State match are best assessed and determined at the institutional level, where institutions can nimbly and malleably adjust to changing needs.

Again, I sincerely applaud the Regents and your staff for this creative and worthwhile initiative. We look forward to working with you as this program is approved and put into action.

SRB/jwc



August 28, 2014

Dr. Kerry Davidson  
Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs  
Louisiana Board of Regents  
P.O. Box 3677  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-3677

Dear Dr. Davidson,

As requested in your June 6<sup>th</sup> memorandum I am pleased to suggest a revision to the proposed "Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarship Subprogram." I believe the changes which you outline in the staff draft are appropriate and will improve the program. However, I think the program should be more inclusive, and may have greater reach, by adding post-doctoral fellows to the program.

As is the case for many graduate research assistants, post-doctoral fellows receive a stipend and do not pay tuition. They are in legitimate training positions in preparation for more defined and focused research careers. At this stage of their career, many are poised to enter academic ranks following the training period. The Pennington Biomedical Division of Education conducts an annual series of at least eight live sessions addressing all of the topics needed to address responsible conduct of research and areas on specific research methods. In addition, each post-doctoral fellow is paired with a faculty mentor. There are also weekly work in progress lectures which the post-doctoral fellows attend. The training program also requires post-doctoral fellows to present research data in formal sessions.

Post-doctoral fellows are vital to research institutions and create the next generation of scientists who will work in Louisiana and throughout the world. At the conclusion of their fellowships many of Pennington Biomedical's postdoctoral researchers choose to remain in Louisiana by acquiring federal or corporate funding to finance their research laboratories. As such, there are focused programs at the NIH that encourage fellows at this stage of their careers to apply for funding. In addition, there are programs identified in this area to encourage minority participation for which Pennington Biomedical has used over the past few years.


It is becoming increasingly difficult to recruit superior postdocs. Inclusion in the Regents' subprogram, perhaps in a special category, would allow research institutions to provide training support for the fellows either in the form of more competitive compensation or perhaps through supporting travel for research conferences and other specialized training opportunities.

August 28<sup>th</sup> letter to Dr. Kerry Davidson Continued...

Including post-doctoral fellows will also improve the research environment and help to retain highly recruited prestigious faculty. The staff draft allows institutions to convert professorships to scholarships. Pennington, having no students, would be disadvantaged as would the LSU Agricultural Center. Allowing postdocs to participate in the program would provide an equitable way for Pennington to participate in the proposed amended subprogram.

I appreciate your favorable consideration of this suggestion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William T. Cefalu, MD".

William T. Cefalu, MD  
Executive Director

# **ATTACHMENT II**



# STAFF RECOMMENDATION

## BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND ENDOWED SUPERIOR GRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS SUBPROGRAM: POLICY AND GUIDELINES

### I. PREAMBLE

In April 2014, the Board of Regents approved in concept establishment of the Board of Regents Support Fund (BoRSF) competitive Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships subprogram, enabling campuses to enhance support for graduate and first professional degree students as well as post-doctoral fellows through permanent endowments which combine non-State contributions and BoRSF match.

**It is imperative that development officers plan and collaborate with academic administrators prior to and during donor negotiations to ensure alignment of the donor's intent with the mission and needs of the institution, college, and/or department, and with the policies of the Board of Regents.**

### II. POLICY EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of this completed policy is September 30, 2014. The first competition for new monies through the subprogram will be held in FY 2015-16; conversion of existing BoRSF Endowed Chairs and Professorships to Endowed Superior Graduate Scholarships may be requested immediately. (See Section VI.A.)

### III. DEFINITION AND SCOPE OF ENDOWED SUPERIOR GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Endowed Superior Graduate student scholarships are established to assist academic departments and units to recruit, retain, and graduate excellent graduate and first professional degree candidates as well as engage post-doctoral fellows. Endowment income shall be used solely for eligible students or post-doctoral fellowship recipients, to provide scholarship or fellowship support and/or funding for academic or professional experiential opportunities (e.g., internships, externships, conference or research travel, or field experiences). Endowed Scholarship funds may be used to supplement other scholarships, fellowships, assistantships, or similar support provided to the recipient. (See Section IX.) The Endowed Superior Graduate Students Scholarships subprogram furthers fulfillment of the constitutionally prescribed goals of the Support Fund: to enhance the quality of higher education and promote economic development in Louisiana.

All disciplines and types of graduate and first professional degree programs are eligible to participate; post-doctoral fellowship support may be requested in any discipline. To help accomplish the Support Fund's economic development goal, however, preference shall be given in the competitive process to scholarships for students in high-demand professional master's and first professional degrees which target Louisiana's workforce needs as defined in the projected Workforce Innovation for a Stronger Economy (WISE) Plan.

#### **IV. ELIGIBLE CAMPUSES AND SUBDIVISIONS**

All Louisiana public institutions of higher education and those independent institutions which are members of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (LAICU) with appropriate graduate degree programs and/or post-doctoral fellowship positions are eligible to participate in the Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships subprogram. Proposals shall originate in and be submitted by the institution on behalf of the department/unit or academic college in which the scholarship/fellowship will be housed, or other major administrative unit with direct oversight of graduate study and/or fellowship management.

#### **V. FUNDING OF ENDOWED SUPERIOR GRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS**

Effective beginning FY 2015-16, all campuses with graduate programs and/or post-doctoral fellowship positions may apply for endowed graduate student scholarships at a minimum level of \$100,000, funded at a ratio of 60% non-State contribution to 40% BoRSF match. BoRSF matches shall be provided in indivisible increments of \$40,000. The Board permits and encourages submissions requesting scholarships at higher levels, in indivisible increments of \$100,000, at the same 60:40 ratio of non-State donations to Support Fund money.

##### **A. Funds Available**

The amount of funds available in each competitive cycle shall be specified in the BoRSF Plan and Budget for the corresponding fiscal year.

##### **B. Limitations Per Fiscal Year Per Campus**

When requests submitted in a competitive cycle exceed funds available, the following limitations shall apply relative to the amount of money awarded per campus in each cycle<sup>1</sup>: Louisiana State University and A&M College, due to its distinctive public flagship status, may receive a maximum of 50% of subprogram funds budgeted, or \$1,000,000 (25 matching slots) in FY 2015-16; each submitting campus with a five-year average total graduate and first professional student enrollment of 1,000 or more<sup>2</sup> may receive a maximum of 30% of subprogram funds, or \$600,000 (15 matching slots) in FY 2015-16; and each submitting campus with a five-year average total graduate and first professional student enrollment of less than 1,000 or with post-doctoral fellow positions but no student enrollment may receive a maximum of 20%, or \$400,000 (10 matching slots) in FY 2015-16.<sup>3</sup> While student enrollments are used to determine the total amount of money that may be awarded to a single campus in a competitive cycle, all campuses with post-doctoral fellowships are eligible to submit proposals in support of these positions.

---

<sup>1</sup> The BoRSF Planning Committee has recommended a program budget of \$2,000,000 for FY 2015-16; annual budget levels may change based on action by the Board of Regents.

<sup>2</sup> Calculated as the average of the most recent five years of total graduate and professional enrollment data available in the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) as of the annual deadline for proposal submission.

<sup>3</sup> The Board will be guided by these percentage breakdowns in subsequent fiscal years.

**C. Board Obligation**

The Board has no responsibility to match requests submitted in excess of funds budgeted for the subprogram in a respective competitive cycle.

**VI. EXCEPTIONS TO THE COMPETITIVE ENDOWED GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS POLICY**

**A. Conversion of Existing BoRSF-Matched Endowments**

With permission of the donor and following Board approval of requested waivers, previously matched Endowed Chairs and Professorships shall be converted to Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships on a non-competitive, non-punitive basis. Requests for conversions shall include documentation of the donor's approval and identification of the department/unit, college, or administrative entity(ies) to which any resulting scholarships are assigned. Such documented requests may be presented to the Board of Regents on or after the policy's effective date of September 30, 2014. The minimum corpus value of an Endowed Graduate Student Scholarship created through this arrangement shall be \$100,000; campuses are encouraged, however, to establish Endowed Scholarships at higher levels.

**B. Exemption from Calculation of Vacancies**

Upon approval of conversions, affected Endowed Professorships shall be considered Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships and shall not be counted in the annual calculation of Professorship vacancies.

**C. Consolidation of Two or More Extant BoRSF Endowed Scholarships**

After establishing Endowed Graduate Student Scholarships, an institution may consolidate two or more extant scholarships with the written permission of the original donor(s) or the donor's legal representative. The Board shall be notified of such consolidations and furnished with documentation of donor approval within 30 days after completion.

**D. Changing the Department/Unit or College Assignment of Previously Awarded BoRSF Endowed Scholarships**

An institution may change the department/unit or college to which an established scholarship is assigned with the written permission of the original donor(s) or the donor's legal representative. The Board shall be notified of such changes, including the department/unit, college, or other administrative office to which the scholarship has been assigned, and furnished with documentation of donor approval within 30 days after completion.

**E. Expectations and Reporting Requirements**

All Endowed Graduate Student Scholarships established under or affected by Section VI.A-D are subject to requirements of Sections VIII-IX and XIII-XVII.

## **VII. COMPETITIVE PROCESS**

Annual funds allocated to the Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships subprogram shall be awarded on a competitive basis.

- A. Applications shall be solicited through an annual request for proposals and evaluated based on criteria identified in the RFP by a panel of out-of-state reviewers with appropriate expertise.
- B. In each funding cycle, all campus applications shall be coordinated and submitted through a single campus office/officer with campus-wide responsibility for graduate programs and/or fellowship management, e.g., graduate dean, provost, or vice president/chancellor for academic affairs,<sup>4</sup> to ensure that institutional priorities are reflected across all proposals presented. A one-page statement by the designated office/officer reflecting how proposals presented are consistent with institutional priorities shall accompany the individual application(s).
- C. Applications must be submitted anew for each annual round of competition. Proposals unsuccessful in a previous competitive cycle must be resubmitted to be considered for funding in another cycle; they will be reviewed as new proposals, neither advantaged nor disadvantaged.

## **VIII. STUDENT/FELLOW ELIGIBILITY**

Student recipients of funds distributed through a matched Graduate endowment must be enrolled on a full time basis in a graduate or first professional program at the institution holding the endowment; post-doctoral recipients must be affiliated with the institution holding the endowment. The donor(s) of the non-State contribution may place additional stipulations on student/fellow eligibility.

## **IX. SELECTION AND EXPECTATIONS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT**

Universities shall, in the proposal requesting State matching funds, thoroughly delineate the qualifications of anticipated scholarship recipients as well as performance expectations for the student or fellow after enrollment. Additionally, the proposal must describe the degree program(s), research environment(s), and/or possible experiential opportunities within which the scholarship holder will be integrated. Said explanation must be sufficiently detailed to allow reviewers to make informed judgments regarding the appropriateness of the scholarship to the submitting department/unit, college, or other administrative entity.

### **A. Standards of Appointment**

Institutions shall ensure that appointments are made only to those students/fellows who meet or exceed the base qualifications identified in the proposal and/or reviewers' stipulations and that appointed students/fellows show strong promise of excellence in their studies or research.

---

<sup>4</sup> As designated by the campus president/chancellor.

**B. Standards of Performance**

The following standards of performance shall be expected of all scholarship recipients throughout the period in which the scholarship is assigned:

1. Remain in good academic standing if a student;
2. Maintain the minimum performance expectations identified in the proposal; and
3. Be enrolled on a full-time basis if a student and fully employed if a fellow.

No single scholarship recipient shall hold the scholarship longer than the duration of the degree program in which he/she is enrolled or the post-doctoral fellowship which he or she holds, as specified in the proposal for BoRSF matching.

In addition to scholarship funds generated by the endowment, student/fellow recipients may receive support from one or more other sources, including fellowships, scholarships, teaching assistantships, and research assistantships.

**X. ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN ENDOWED SUPERIOR GRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS SUBPROGRAM**

Each university, as a condition of requesting State matching funds through the Endowed Superior Graduate Students Scholarships subprogram, shall provide with its proposal the following:

- A. An affidavit from the financial institution in which the institutional matching funds are held verifying that the participating institution has received and deposited non-State matching funds in the amount of at least \$60,000 for each \$40,000 requested in State match and that the funds received and deposited meet all eligibility requirements pursuant to the Endowed Superior Graduate Students Scholarships Subprogram Policy;
- B. An authenticated statement (notarized in the presence of two witnesses) which indicates that the institution shall continually comply with all requirements of the Endowed Superior Graduate Students Scholarships Subprogram Policy. Such compliance statement, moreover, shall be signed by the highest administrative official or other head of the participating institution; and
- C. Documentation from the management or governing board of the participating institution stating its approval of the establishment of an Endowed Superior Graduate scholarship to be supported by the proceeds of the requested endowment fund.

Each university, under the supervision of its management or governing board, shall have the responsibility for the maintenance and investment of its Endowed Superior Graduate Students Scholarships subprogram assets in a manner consistent with its duties as fiduciary for such funds and in accordance with the Board of Regents Endowed Chairs, Endowed Professorships, and Endowed Scholarships Programs Statement of Investment

Policy and Objectives. Each participating institution's Endowed Superior Graduate Students Scholarships subprogram assets shall be administered and maintained as restricted endowments.

#### **XI. ELIGIBLE MATCHING FUNDS**

With exceptions noted in Section VI.A-B, funds raised by a post-secondary institution from non-State sources and eligible for State matching funds shall consist solely of funds contributed and dedicated for the purposes of the Board's Endowed Superior Graduate Students Scholarships subprogram. For purposes herein, the term "contributions" shall mean only such funds that are actually collected for the Board match and verified by the respective institution in a manner satisfactory to the Board.

#### **XII. APPLICATION OF PROCEEDS**

The sum of the funds provided from State and non-State sources at the establishment of the endowed graduate student scholarship, including State matching funds of \$40,000 or more and non-State matching funds of \$60,000 or more, shall constitute the original principal of the institution's endowed graduate student scholarship fund (the "original principal"). Once established, the original principal and any unexpended earnings in the fund shall be invested pursuant to the Louisiana Board of Regents Endowed Chairs, Endowed Professorships, and Endowed Scholarships Programs Statement of Investment Policy and Objectives. In no event shall any amount of the original principal be expended, consumed, or invaded, and it shall only be used for prudent investments on behalf of the endowed graduate student scholarship.

#### **XIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

On an annual basis, each institution shall report to the Board as described in the Louisiana Board of Regents Endowed Chairs, Endowed Professorships, and Endowed Scholarships Program Statement of Investment Policy and Objectives. On an annual basis, each institution shall submit to the Board a single report specifying the name and status (graduated, still in program, leave of absence, dropped, etc.) of each current and past student/fellow recipient of the Scholarship and the amount of funds provided to the recipient. The Board reserves the right, at its discretion, to audit the books and records of account of any institution's endowment fund and any segregated account thereof, as well as records related to compliance with Board of Regents subprogram policy.

#### **XIV. REQUIRED COMMUNICATION WITH DONORS**

For each endowed graduate student scholarship matched by the Board, the institution shall annually provide to the donor, at a minimum, the following information: the status of the scholarship (vacant or filled), the current market value of the endowment fund, and the amount allocated for expenditure in the most recently

completed fiscal year.<sup>5</sup> Donor reporting shall not be required under the following circumstances: 1) the donor is deceased; 2) the donor has in writing requested no contact; and/or 3) despite a good faith effort, the donor's contact information could not be located.

## **XV. PERIODIC BOARD OF REGENTS REVIEWS**

### **A. Annual Review**

The Board will engage a single team of out-of-state consultants to review all proposals submitted for matching funds each fiscal year. In all cases, proposals will be ranked and prioritized in accordance with a merit-based peer review process. Evidence of communication and collaboration among academic administrators and development officers (where appropriate) shall be a prerequisite to success. The pattern of the submitting department/unit or college of filling scholarship slots and the performance of scholarship recipients shall be critical considerations in the granting of awards for subsequent scholarships.

### **B. Comprehensive Subprogram Review**

With assistance from out-of-state experts, the Board will periodically review the overall Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships subprogram. Participating campuses may be required to provide additional information as needed relative to such reviews.

## **XVI. PUBLICITY AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Board shall publicize accomplishments of the Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships subprogram through the broad dissemination of brochures, newsletters, and news releases to the media and other appropriate outlets. Institutions should publicly acknowledge support for degree programs and specific students from the non-State donor(s) as well as the Board of Regents in appropriate venues.

## **XVII. REQUEST FOR WAIVER**

If a campus identifies acute and exceptional circumstances that warrant an exception to any provisions of the Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships Subprogram Policy, a waiver may be formally requested in writing to the Commissioner of Higher Education, acting for the Board of Regents.

---

<sup>5</sup> A certification of compliance with this requirement, based on documentation retained by the campus, shall be included in the annual fiscal report to the Board of Regents. Compliance shall be attested to in the report provided by private or Legislative auditors.

## **AGENDA ITEM IV.A.1**

### **Termination of Graduate Fellowships for Teachers Subprogram: Limited Submissions and Underutilization of Funds**

#### **Staff Summary**

The Graduate Fellowships for Teachers (GFT) Subprogram was established in FY 1992-93 to provide fellowship support for in-service teachers enrolling in master's-level programs in science and mathematics on a full-time basis. To accommodate the scheduling and sabbatical requirements of in-service teachers, the master's program must enable the student to receive the degree within one academic year plus two summer semesters.

Since its inception, the GFT Subprogram has been undersubscribed, with one to two proposals submitted in a competitive cycle. Since FY 1999-2000, a total of three campuses have received funding through the program and funds set aside for GFT are routinely transferred to Traditional Graduate Fellowships. As public school budgets have become strained, it is more difficult for teachers to receive the necessary sabbatical to pursue full-time graduate study and GFT-supported programs have had difficulty finding students to fill awarded slots.

Though it is important to support K-12 teachers wishing to seek additional content training, the GFT Subprogram has not achieved its goals and is not contributing significantly to K-12 teaching or graduate education. Accommodations may still be made for in-service teachers to receive graduate fellowship support through other BoRSF GF subprograms, including the new Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships Subprogram.

#### **Senior Staff Recommendation**

**Consistent with the vote of the BoRSF Planning Committee, the Senior Staff recommends termination of the GFT program due to low demand, effective in the FY 2015-16 competitive cycle.**



## AGENDA ITEM IV.A.2

### Revision of Traditional Graduate Fellowships: Eligibility of Disciplines

#### Staff Summary

The Traditional Graduate Fellowships (GF) Subprogram was established at the inception of the Support Fund to help campuses recruit and retain superior master's and doctoral students across all disciplines. In recognition of the significant role of science and technology in Louisiana's economic development, most STEM disciplines were made eligible on an annual basis, while less critical disciplines were eligible on a rotating basis.

The Planning Committee revisited current discipline rotations, which had been in place since the mid-1990s, and determined that changes were warranted to 1) make all STEM disciplines eligible on an annual basis; and 2) retain the eligibility on a rotating basis of non-STEM disciplines.

#### Senior Staff Recommendation

**Consistent with the unanimous vote of the BoRSF Planning Committee, the Senior Staff recommends that all STEM disciplines (Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Computer & Information Sciences, Earth & Environmental Sciences, Engineering, Health & Medical Sciences, Physics & Astronomy, Social Sciences\*, Agricultural Sciences\*, Mathematics\*) be made eligible annually, with non-STEM disciplines (Business, Education, Arts, Humanities) eligible on a one-year-on, one-year-off cycle, effective in the FY 2015-16 competitive cycle.**

---

\* STEM disciplines added to annual rotation

### AGENDA ITEM IV.A.3

#### Endowed Chairs: Fund STEM/Economic Development Chairs at Higher Levels

##### Staff Summary

In its FY 2013-14 review of Endowed Chairs proposals, based on the historic focus of the Support Fund on economic development and the comparatively low funding levels of BoRSF Endowed Chairs, the review panel made the following recommendation: **“To become competitive nationally for the most eminent research and instructional faculty, policies of the Board of Regents should encourage combined matches through private sources/State appropriations/Support Fund for chairs at considerably higher levels - \$3 million to \$7 million – particularly in select STEM areas related to the State’s priorities for economic development.** The panel commends the Regents for including in its current policies provisions and encouragement for campuses to establish chairs with a more sizable corpus through both new matching and consolidation of existing matched slots.”

The BoRSF Planning Committee and the Master Plan Research Advisory Committee (MPRAC) strongly support this recommendation, particularly in relation to the Board’s Master Plan goal of fostering innovation in targeted areas specifically related to Louisiana’s economic development. MPRAC Task Forces are in the process of developing SWOT analyses and priorities for investment within the five broad research foci identified by LED and Battelle in collaboration with campuses. At its meeting of August 27, the Board approved an external review of Task Force reports, with recommendations to be considered by the Board in December. The results of this review may be used to guide matching for these higher-level Chairs.

##### Senior Staff Recommendation

**Consistent with the votes of the BoRSF Planning Committee and the Master Plan Research Advisory Committee at their respective May 30, 2014 meetings, the Senior Staff recommends that the Board seek fulfillment of the purposes of the Recommendation of the FY 2013-14 Endowed Chairs Review Panel, pending external review of MPRAC Task Force priorities which the Board is due to consider in December 2014.**

## AGENDA ITEM IV.B

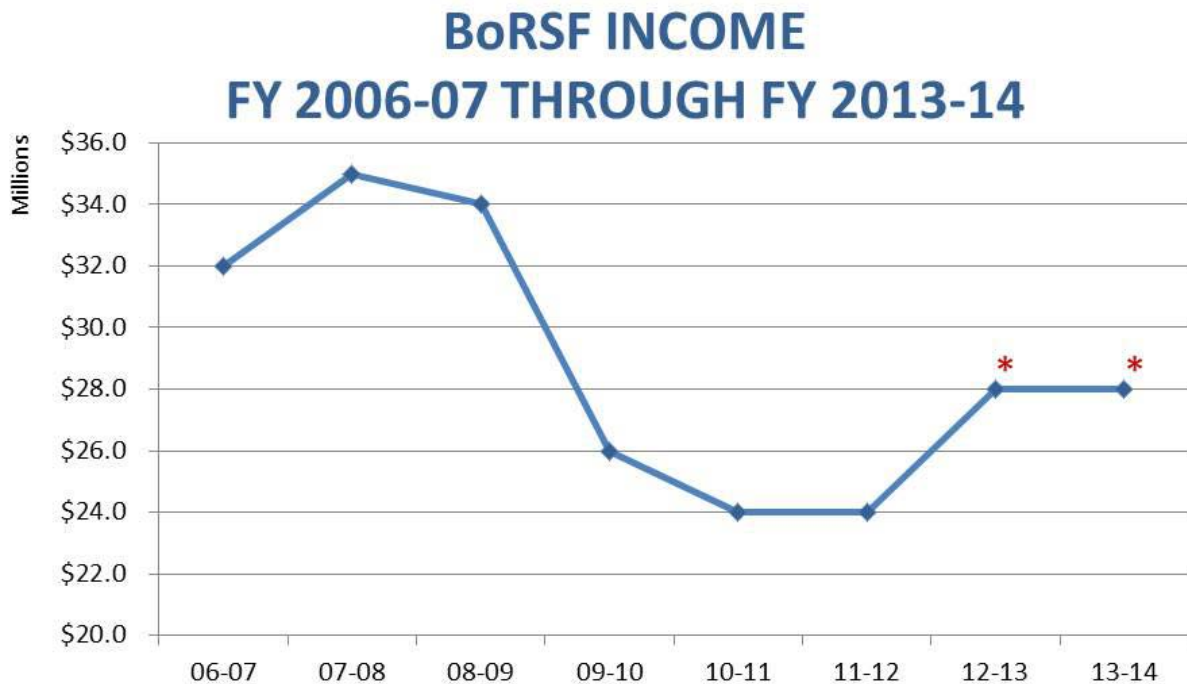
### FY 2015-16 BoRSF Plan and Budget

#### Background Information

The Board of Regents Support Fund (BoRSF), a constitutionally designated fund managed by the Board of Regents, is required by Article VII, Section 10 of the Constitution to submit an annual plan and budget to the Legislature and the Governor not less than 60 days prior to the beginning of the Regular Legislative Session. This document outlines proposals for expenditure across the four designated components of the Support Fund: Endowed Chairs, Graduate Fellows, Research and Development, and Enhancement.

#### Staff Summary

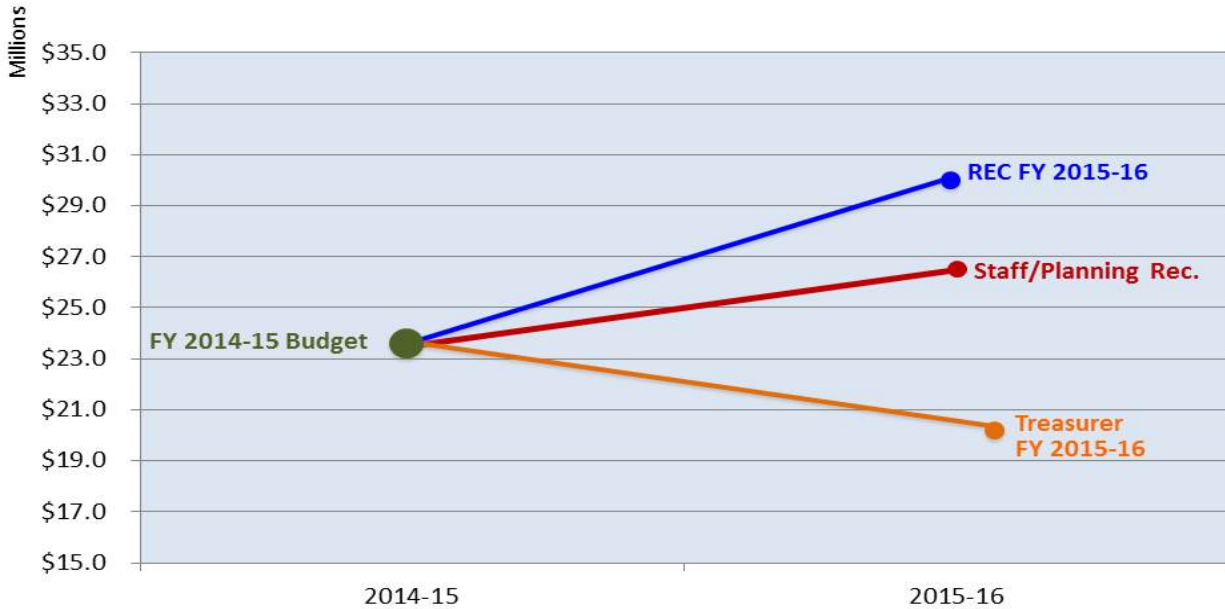
It is relevant to note that annual income from the Support Fund declined significantly during FY 2006-07 through FY 2013-14, from \$35 million to approximately \$24 million. The \$3-5 million in additional gains realized in FY 2012-13 and FY 2013-14 to address the Endowed Professorships backlog were notable exceptions to this trend.\*



\* Income received included \$3-5 million in additional gains realized by the Treasury Department at the urging of Regent Martin and Regent Fenstermaker for the purpose of matching backlogged Professorships.

Projections of the Revenue Estimating Conference (REC) indicate that somewhat higher budget levels can be expected for the next several years, while Treasury estimates retain lower income estimates for FY 2015-16 and subsequent years.

## BoRSF BUDGET FY 2014-15 AND FY 2015-16 PROJECTED



Based on current estimates and Support Fund history, the BoRSF Planning Committee concluded that a \$26.5 million BoRSF budget for FY 2015-16, an overall \$3 million increase from the FY 2014-15 Plan and Budget, would be a reasonable projection. This budget level, as well as the continued lower amounts needed for prior commitments and Federal matching obligations, enables all competitive programs to be maintained at traditional budget levels while adding the Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships subprogram and three competitive subprograms formerly established by Louisiana EPSCoR with BoRSF matching funds. A one-page summary of the proposed FY 2015-16 budget, along with a comparison with the FY 2014-15 budget, is provided as Attachment I; staff will provide a more detailed account at the Board meeting.

### **Senior Staff Recommendation**

**Consistent with the unanimous vote of the BoRSF Planning Committee, the Senior Staff recommends approval of the FY 2015-16 BoRSF Plan and Budget, with contingencies, as presented.**

# **ATTACHMENT I**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**  
**FY 2015-16 Board of Regents Support Fund Budget: \$26.5 Million Base Funding Level**

Support Fund Program/Subprogram	Prior Commitments In FY 2014-15	FY 2014-15 Adopted First-Year Funding Levels	Prior Commitments In FY 2015-16	Recommended FY 2015-16 First-Year Funding Levels
<b>Federal Matching</b>	\$1,375,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$1,175,000
<b>Endowed Chairs</b>	\$0	\$2,020,000	\$0	\$3,220,000
<b>Graduate Fellows</b>				
Traditional (GF)	\$2,789,000	\$900,000	\$2,694,500	*\$900,000
BoR/SREB Fellowships	\$825,000	\$200,000	\$775,000	*\$250,000
Endowed Graduate Scholarships	N/A	N/A	\$0	\$2,000,000
<b>Research &amp; Development</b>				
Research Competitiveness (RCS)**	\$1,600,000	\$1,350,000	\$1,935,000	**\$1,750,000
Industrial Ties Research (ITRS)**	\$635,000	\$585,000	\$800,000	**\$935,000
Awards to LA Artists & Scholars (ATLAS)	\$0	\$450,000	\$0	\$450,000
<b>Enhancement</b>				
Endowed Professorships	\$0	\$2,800,000	\$0	\$1,600,000
Traditional ENH	\$200,000	\$3,978,706	\$200,000	\$4,026,770
Undergraduate ENH	\$100,000	\$1,600,000	\$100,000	\$1,600,000
ENH for 2-Year Institutions	\$0	\$1,100,000	\$0	\$1,100,000
Undergraduate Scholarships	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$1,000,000
SURE**	N/A	N/A	N/A	**\$100,000
<b>Administration (derived by formula)</b>	\$0	\$ 842,294	\$0	\$788,730
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,524,000</b>	<b>\$15,976,000</b>	<b>\$6,754,500</b>	<b>\$19,745,500</b>

\* New monies from FY 2017-18 for GF and FY 2016-17 for BoR/SREB.

\*\* Includes funds for EPSCoR competitive programs which cannot be continued under the new Track 1 anticipated to start FY 2015-16: Pfund awards (\$400,000) will be budgeted as a component of RCS; OPT-In (\$350,000) as a component of ITRS; and SURE as a separate Enhancement subprogram.

## AGENDA ITEM IV.C

### **BoRSF Priorities as Additional Funds Become Available**

#### **Staff Summary**

Recent forecasts from the Revenue Estimating Conference suggest that income to the BoRSF may begin to recover and even grow over the next several years. To ensure that elevations are aligned with long-term goals of the Support Fund and needs of participating campuses, the BoRSF Planning Committee recommended designation of the following three areas as priorities for the allocation of increases in available funding:

- ❖ To maximize competitiveness for federal research and educational projects as well as benefits from unique projects with broad statewide impact, restore monies in reserve for special opportunity investments (e.g., Federal matches, LOUIS, LONI, Post-Katrina)
- ❖ Consistent with the recommendation of the FY 2013-14 Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars review panel, seek collaborative funding at higher levels for selected STEM Eminent Scholar Chairs which meet economic development targets (Support Fund, State Appropriations, Private Sources). The Board-approved external review of MPRAC Task Force reports should provide recommendations of priority research areas for Board consideration by December 2014, which may be used to guide matching for these higher-level Chairs
- ❖ To align Support Fund investment with the State's need for a highly trained workforce in areas critical to economic development, increase dollars to two- and four-year campuses for initiatives which target workforce demands in areas as defined in the Workforce Innovation for a Stronger Economy [WISE] Plan

#### **Senior Staff Recommendation**

**Consistent with the unanimous vote of the BoRSF Planning Committee, the Senior Staff recommends adoption of the BoRSF Planning Committee's recommended priorities as additional BoRSF funds become available.**

## AGENDA ITEM IV.D

### FY 2015-16 Development of Tiered Endowed Professorships Subprogram

#### Staff Summary

Since 1990-91, the Endowed Professorships Subprogram has historically operated as a “one-size-fits-all” opportunity for two-year, four-year, and special purpose campuses large and small, public and private, with widely varying missions. The BoRSF Planning Committee reviewed results of a national survey which showed that the average minimum corpus for an endowed professorship among universities nationally was over \$600,000, while the minimum corpus for professorships among states within the SREB region was over \$500,000. Among border states, the minimum corpus for campuses in Alabama and Mississippi is \$500,000, and for Arkansas \$250,000; these may be compared to Louisiana’s minimum corpus of \$100,000. The Committee also noted that external consultants, in a 1999-2000 recommendation that the Regents elevate the minimum level for Professorships, observed that “...the level of recognition and support for ‘endowed professor’ is considerably higher in most other parts of the nation.”

Recognizing that major campuses in Louisiana have to compete both regionally and nationally for top talent, the Planning Committee unanimously recommended that the Board consider implementation of a tiered Endowed Professorships Subprogram that establishes multiple minimum corpus levels that reflect differing roles, scopes, and missions of campuses.

The staff notes that, in establishing funding and graduation goals for campuses, the Board has often set SREB averages as aspirational targets; this approach and aspiration would also appear appropriate in shaping the future minimum corpus for Endowed Professorships.

#### Senior Staff Recommendation

**Consistent with the position taken by the BoRSF Planning Committee, the Senior Staff recommends that a 2015-16 study and report be undertaken to: (1) establish a tiered and competitive Endowed Professorships Subprogram which reflects the respective roles, scopes, and missions of campuses; and (2) elevates respective corpuses of the top tiers to levels more closely aligned with the SREB average of \$500,000.**

**The staff, with advice from the Planning Committee and key constituencies on affected campuses, will submit resulting recommendations to the Board during the fall of 2016.**



## AGENDA ITEM V

### **Request from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette to Divide Two BoRSF-Matched Endowed Professorships**

#### **Staff Summary**

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette requests authorization to divide two BoRSF-matched Endowed Professorships – the SLEMCO/LEQSF Professorship in Art and Architecture (matched 1990-91) and the SLEMCO/LEQSF Professorship in Nursing III (matched 1993-94). The Professorship in Art and Architecture will be divided into two: Professorship I with a corpus value of \$121,941.48 and Professorship II with a corpus value of \$121,941.47. The Professorship in Nursing will also be divided into two, each with a corpus value of \$109,814.43.

According to Dr. Robert McKinney, Assistant Vice President for Faculty Affairs, UL Lafayette is requesting these divisions in accordance with an institutional policy “to award all endowed professorships at the same stipend amount, which per UL Lafayette Foundation guidelines is a maximum of 4.5% of the fund balance. The reason for awarding all professorships at the same level is to ensure that all endowed professorships are viewed as being equally significant.” Dr. McKinney notes “a shortage of professorships in some areas, specifically the arts, liberal arts, and sciences” which these divisions will help to address. (See Attachment I.) Dr. McKinney is expected to be present on September 25 to respond to any questions from Board members.

Though the Board encourages establishment of Endowed Professorships at levels beyond the \$100,000 minimum corpus, this request from UL Lafayette is consistent with current Board policy.

#### **Senior Staff Recommendation**

**Consistent with current Board policy, the Senior Staff recommends approval of the division of the SLEMCO/LEQSF Professorship in Art and Architecture into two Professorships and the SLEMCO/LEQSF Professorship in Nursing III into two Professorships. The corpus value of each resulting Professorship will be \$100,000.**

# **ATTACHMENT I**

## Carrie Roider

---

**From:** Robert W McKinney <mckinney@louisiana.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 05, 2014 11:49 AM  
**To:** Carrie Roider  
**Subject:** Re: Splitting a professorship

Carrie,

The process at UL Lafayette is to award all endowed professorships at the same stipend amount. Which per UL Lafayette Foundation guidelines is a maximum of 4.5% of the fund balance. The reason for awarding all professorships at the same level is to ensure that all endowed professorships are viewed as being equally significant. Therefore, as the fund balance increases beyond a certain point the award does not. The University has made great strides in filling vacant professorships over the past two years. In fact, in the majority of departments the professorship vacancy rate is zero (0), resulting in a shortage of professorships in some areas, specifically the arts, liberal arts, and sciences. Within these areas there are a high number of qualified faculty and a lower ratio of professorships per faculty. To expand the number of professorship awards to faculty, the University is requesting that once a fund balance is at levels sufficient to support the award of two professorships that the professorship be split creating two professorships. In consulting with the UL Lafayette Foundation once a fund balance exceeds \$220,000 it is capable of supporting two professorship stipends at current University award levels. This will increase the number of available professorships while following the guidelines of awarding a professorship to an individual faculty member. The name of each professorship will be named donor name/BORSF professorship 1 and donor name/BORSF professorship 2. As these will be two individual professorships, both faculty members will submit reports to the donors on an annual basis.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely, Robert

**Robert McKinney**  
Assistant Vice President for Faculty Affairs  
Academic Affairs  
Professor, Architect, NCARB, AIA  
University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Martin Hall, Room 239  
rmckinney@louisiana.edu  
(337) 482 5308





July 31, 2014

*Université des Acadiens*

Dr. Sandra Woodley  
President  
University of Louisiana System  
1201 North Third Street  
Suite 7-300  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dear Dr. Woodley:

This is to request approval for permission from the Board of Regents to split the SLEMCO/LEQSF Professorship in Art and Architecture (#19410) into two separate funds bearing the same name to be distinguished by funds I and II within the fund name. Attached is an affidavit from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Foundation and donor's agreement with the proposed division.

Please place this item on the agenda for consideration at the August 2014 meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Joseph Savoie".

E. Joseph Savoie  
President

svc

Attachments

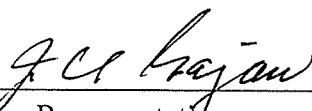
*The SLEMCO/LEQSF Professorship in Art & Architecture*

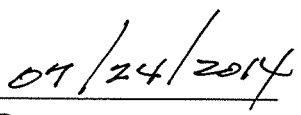
Current balance \$243,882.95

**New Allocation**

<i>The SLEMCO/LEQSF Professorship in Art &amp; Architecture I</i>	\$121,941.48
<i>The SLEMCO/LEQSF Professorship in Art &amp; Architecture II</i>	\$121,941.47

I am in agreement with the proposed division of The SLEMCO/LEQSF Professorship in Art & Architecture at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Donor Representative

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



University of Louisiana at Lafayette

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

P. O. Drawer 41008  
Lafayette, LA 70504-1008  
(337) 482-6203  
Fax: (337) 482-5914  
e-mail: president@louisiana.edu

*Université des Acadiens*

July 31, 2014

Dr. Sandra Woodley  
President  
University of Louisiana System  
1201 North Third Street  
Suite 7-300  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dear Dr. Woodley:

This is to request approval for permission from the Board of Regents to split the SLEMCO/LEQSF Professorship in Nursing III (#19411) into two separate funds bearing the same name to be distinguished by funds I and II within the fund name. Attached is an affidavit from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Foundation and the donor's agreement with the proposed division.

Please place this item on the agenda for consideration at the August 2014 meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Savoie", with a large loop at the end.

E. Joseph Savoie  
President

svc

Attachments

*The SLEMCO/LEQSF Professorship in Nursing III*

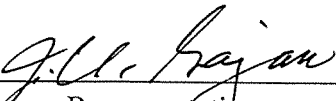
Current balance \$219,628.86

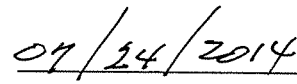
**New Allocation**

*The SLEMCO/LEQSF Professorship in Nursing III \$109,814.43*

*The SLEMCO/LEQSF Professorship in Nursing IV \$109,814.43*

I am in agreement with the division of The SLEMCO/LEQSF Professorship in Nursing III at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Donor Representative

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date