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Minutes

Board of Regents' Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission
February 3, 2015

The Louisiana Board of Regents' Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission met on Tuesday, February 3, 2015, at 10:12 a.m., in the Board Conference Room on the sixth floor of the Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge. Chair Jones called the meeting to order and the roll was called.

Commission Members Present

Melanie Amrhein
Ralph Bender, Vice-Chair
Sherrie Despino
James Dorris
James Fontenot
Keith Jones, Chair

Staff Members Present

Nancy Beall
Kristi Kron
Carol Marabella
Larry Tremblay

Commission Members Absent

Richard D'Aquin
Raymond Lalonde
Gloria Simmons

Guests Present

(See Appendix A.)

The first item of business was the election of 2015 officers for the Commission. Chair Jones reminded the Commission that state law requires the Commission to elect from its membership a chair and vice-chair annually, and the law does not restrict the number of terms an individual can serve.

Commission member Dorris nominated Mr. Bender as Chair. Mr. Fontenot nominated Mr. Jones as Chair, but Mr. Jones withdrew his name from consideration. There being no other nominations,

On motion of Mr. Dorris, seconded by Mr. Fontenot, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously elected Mr. Ralph Bender as Chair for 2015.

Commission member Bender nominated Mr. Jones as Vice-Chair. There being no other nominations,

On motion of Mr. Bender, seconded by Mr. Dorris, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously elected Mr. Keith Jones as Vice-Chair for 2015.

The next item of business was approval of the minutes from its meeting of November 18, 2014.

On motion of Mr. Bender, seconded by Mr. Fontenot, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously adopted the minutes of the November 18, 2014 Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission meeting.

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was three initial license applications, the first from Baton Rouge Dental Assisting School, LLC, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and represented by the school's President/Director, Dr. Farrell Fruge. Ms. Marabella reviewed the materials for the Commission, informing it that this institution would be offering one program of study, Dental Assisting, which is a ten week, 80.0 clock hour program. The program will be housed in a practicing dental office. Baton Rouge Dental Assisting School, LLC, had met all the

legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion regarding competition within the geographical location of the proposed school, job prospects for Dental Assistants in the Baton Rouge area, the number of faculty, planned hours of operation, and marketing strategies for recruitment,

On motion of Mr. Fontenot, seconded by Mr. Dorris, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents approve an initial operating license for Baton Rouge Dental Assisting School, LLC, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The second initial license application considered by the Commission was from Feliciana Medical Training Academy, LLC, located in Jackson, Louisiana, and represented by the school's Owner/Director, Ms. Rhonda Givens. Ms. Marabella reviewed the materials for the Commission, informing it that this institution would be offering one program of study, Phlebotomy Technician, which is a 80.0 clock hours program that will be offered for 10 consecutive weeks. Feliciana Medical Training Academy, LLC, had met all the legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion regarding the reasons for the owner opening the proposed school, marketing and financial plans for the school, planned hours of operation, employment opportunities for the Phlebotomy Technician, and job placement assistance available to graduates,

On motion of Mr. Dorris, seconded by Mr. Fontenot, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents approve an initial operating license for Feliciana Medical Training Academy, LLC, located in Jackson, Louisiana.

The third and final initial license application considered by the Commission was from Fortress Consulting and Education, LLC, located in Jonesboro, Louisiana, and represented by the school's owner, Ms. Christy Wyatt. Ms. Marabella reviewed the materials for the Commission,

informing it that this institution would be offering one program of study, Certified Nurse Aide Training, which is a three-week, 88.0 clock hour program (inclusive of both classroom and clinical experience). The program has received the required approval from the Department of Health and Hospitals, Health Standards Section. Fortress Consulting and Education, LLC, had met all the legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion regarding the owners' reasons for opening the proposed school, competition in the school's geographical area, student/instructor ratio, employment opportunities for certified nursing assistants, and planned job placement assistance to graduates,

On motion of Mr. Bender, seconded by Mr. Dorris, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents approve an initial operating license for Fortress Consulting and Education, LLC, located in Jonesboro, Louisiana.

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was operating license renewals. Ms. Marabella informed the Commission members that there were seventeen (17) schools seeking renewal. These schools scheduled for renewal were in complete compliance, having met all the legal and administrative requirements to be re-licensed.

Following further discussion,

On motion of Mr. Bender, seconded by Ms. Amrhein, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents renew the licenses of the following proprietary schools (initial license date in parentheses).

Academy of Acadiana--Lake Charles (12/02/10)
Alexandria Dental Assistant School (12/08/11)
Becker Professional Education--Lafayette (12/09/04)
ECO Training Center, LLC (formerly Galliano Training Center, LLC) (12/08/05)
Fleur de'Lis Healthcare Institute (12/05/13)
Herzing University (12/07/95)
Infinity College, Inc. (12/02/10)
Kenner Health Careers Institute, LLC (12/11/03)
Learning Bridge Career Institute (12/02/10)
Legally Speaking (12/06/01)
Martin International, Inc., of Louisiana (12/16/82)
NASCAR Technical Institute (12/05/02)
National Driving Academy, Inc. (12/05/96)
Pelican Training Institution (12/08/11)
Tulsa Welding School (12/07/06)
Unitech Training Academy--Alexandria (12/04/08)
Unitech Training Academy--Metairie (12/08/11)

Ms. Marabella informed the Commission that there were no institutions choosing not to renew their licenses this renewal cycle.

The next item on the agenda was an update on program approvals. Chair Jones reminded the Commission that staff approved these updates administratively and course approvals were being shared for informational purposes only.

Under Report from Staff, Dr. Tremblay informed the Commission that the work activities in the proprietary schools section are progressing well and he complimented the staff on their job performance.

The next meeting of the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10, 2015, at 10:00 a.m., in Room 1-190 of the Claiborne Building. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

APPENDIX A
GUESTS

C. Farrell Fruge, Jr.

Baton Rouge Dental Assistant School, LLC

Rhonda M. Givens

Feliciano Medical Training Academy, LLC