

## **Agenda Item VI.1.A.1.a.**

### **Boston University Boston, Massachusetts**

#### BACKGROUND

Boston University (BU) is not incorporated in the State of Louisiana. The institution is a private comprehensive university located in Boston, Massachusetts and is seeking initial licensure. The university traces its roots to the founding of Newbury Biblical Institute in 1839 and received its initial charter in 1869. Its law and medical schools were established over 150 years ago. Today, BU enrolls over 33,000 undergraduate and graduate/professional students from over 130 countries in its 17 schools and colleges. BU is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Institutions of Higher Education.

#### ACADEMIC PROGRAM

BU offers a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate programs. The institution is requesting licensure to offer graduate online programs in social work, athletic training, occupational therapy and physical therapy. Typically, the online nature of the delivery system would not require licensure. However, most of the programs BU plans to offer to Louisiana residents require supervised practicums, clinical placements internships or field experiences, licensure is necessary.

#### FACULTY

BU employs 96 faculty to support the online masters programs proposed to be available to Louisiana residents. Of the 96 faculty, 81 are trained at the doctoral level, 15 are trained at the masters level and 66 are employed on a full-time basis.

#### FACILITIES

Since BU operates programs online with administrative and academic support in Boston, there are no out-of-state physical facilities in Louisiana. Depending on the academic program, students will complete internship experiences at various locations in Louisiana.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Given the credentials of its faculty, the college's and academic programs' accreditation, and the general oversight by the home campus, the senior staff recommends that the Board of Regents approve the application for initial licensure for Boston University, located in Boston, Massachusetts.

## **Agenda Item VI.1.A.2.a.**

### **Central Texas College Killeen, Texas**

#### BACKGROUND

Central Texas College is not incorporated in Louisiana. Central Texas College was first licensed by the Board of Regents in 1993 and is seeking license renewal. The institution is headquartered in Killeen, Texas and provides educational services to military personnel worldwide. Central Texas College is accredited at the associate-degree level by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (CoC/SACS).

#### ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Central Texas College currently offers nineteen associate degree and thirteen certificate programs at Fort Polk. Admission is selective in that enrollment is limited to active duty soldiers and their dependents. Students receive instruction in a lecture and laboratory format which is structured around military schedules and activities.

#### FACULTY AND STUDENTS

Thirteen faculty teach at the Fort Polk site, two on a full-time basis. Two faculty members hold doctoral degrees; and eleven hold masters degrees. All faculty are recruited, screened, and employed through the central campus in Killeen. The institution reported a total unduplicated enrollment of 379 students in fall 2017.

#### FACILITIES

Facilities at Fort Polk include numerous classrooms, an administrative office, computer laboratory, and a base library which offers students access to library resources housed at Central Texas College in Killeen.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Given the credentials of its faculty, the institution's commitment to providing students with access to appropriate library resources, its regional accreditation, and the oversight provided by the main campus, senior staff recommends that the Board of Regents approve license renewal for Central Texas College, located in Killeen, Texas.

## **Agenda Item VI.1.A.2.b.**

### **Northeastern University Boston, Massachusetts**

#### BACKGROUND

Northeastern University (Northeastern) is not incorporated in the State of Louisiana. The institution is a private research university of approximately 20,000 students located in Boston, Massachusetts and is seeking license renewal. Northeastern includes nine colleges and schools, and select advanced degrees at graduate campuses in Charlotte, Seattle, Silicon Valley and Toronto. Northeastern is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Institutions of Higher Education.

#### ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Northeastern makes available its online Doctor of Physical Therapy program to Louisiana residents. Since the program requires clinical experiences, licensure is necessary.

#### FACULTY AND STUDENTS

Northeastern employs 1,100 faculty in support of its health sciences programs. Sixty-four of the 89 fulltime faculty hold doctorates while the balance hold masters degrees. For its online Doctor of Physical Therapy program, the institution employs a Director of Clinical Education and two Academic Coordinators of Clinical Education. Northeastern reported three students enrolled in Louisiana in Fall 2017.

#### FACILITIES

Since Northeastern operates its classroom programs, administrative and academic support in Boston, there are no out-of-state physical facilities in Louisiana. Students complete clinical/internship experiences at various locations within the State.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Given the credentials of its faculty, the institution's and academic programs' accreditation, the general oversight by the home campus, and the potential for limited clinical placements in Louisiana, the senior staff recommends that the Board of Regents approve license renewal for Northeastern University, headquartered in Boston, Massachusetts.

## **Agenda Item VI.1.B.**

### **Executive Summary**

The State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) is a national initiative which seeks to establish comparable national standards for the interstate offering of postsecondary distance-education courses and programs. SARA membership makes it easier for students to take online courses offered by institutions based in another state by reducing the cost and administrative burden on institutions seeking authorization in various states. SARA is a voluntary agreement among regional compacts (SREB, NEBHE, MHEC, and WICHE) and member states. Each member state approves their in-state institutions and renews their membership annually. Approved SARA member institutions may offer distance education programs in other SARA member states without additional authorization.

Act 13 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature authorized the Louisiana Board of Regents to seek SARA membership on behalf of the State of Louisiana. In October 2014, Louisiana's application for SARA membership was approved by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) and the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA), effective December 1, 2014. Since then, 25 Louisiana institutions have joined SARA.

Four institutions (Bossier Parish Community College, Tulane University, University of Louisiana Lafayette, and University of Louisiana Monroe) have submitted SARA renewal applications. Regents' staff have reviewed the renewal applications and determined that they meet all requirements for continuing their membership in SARA.

Senior staff recommends that the Planning, Research & Performance Committee approve the Renewal Applications for Institutional Participation in SARA for Bossier Parish Community College, Tulane University, University of Louisiana Lafayette, and University of Louisiana Monroe, and authorize staff to submit the approved applications to NC-SARA for final approval of SARA membership.