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**AGENDA**  
**SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

10:55 a.m.

The Claiborne Building  
Louisiana Purchase Room 1-100  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
  - A. Request for Limited Waiver of Endowed Chairs/Professorships Expendable Funds Cap: LSU Health Sciences Center – New Orleans
  - B. Retroactive Appointment of Endowed Chairholder: Louisiana State University and A&M College
- IV. BoRSF Matching for Statewide Federal Initiative: Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium
- V. Other Business
- VI. Adjournment

**Committee Members:** Edward Markle, Chair; Sonia Pérez, Vice Chair; Marty Chabert; Blake David; Charles McDonald; Darren Mire; T. Jay Seale III; Anthony Kenney

## **AGENDA ITEM III.A.**

### **Consent Agenda**

#### **Request for Limited Waiver of Endowed Chairs/Professorships Expendable Funds Cap: LSU Health Sciences Center – New Orleans**

##### **Background Information**

Program policies for BoRSF Endowed Chairs and Endowed Professorships require that campus recipients “ensure that faculty holders expend available funds regularly and retain minimal amounts in expendable accounts; a spendable balance not to exceed 25% of the total market value of the endowment account may be retained for expenditure in a future year except in special circumstances (e.g., accrual of sufficient funds for a major equipment purchase or, as in recent years, excessive accrual of expendable earnings) as approved by BoR.” This requirement, adopted as a revision to the program policies in November 2016, is intended to align spending practices with the purpose of BoRSF-matched faculty endowments: to provide a steady, permanent source of supplementary funding to support the faculty holder’s professional academic and/or scholarly work.

##### **Staff Summary**

In September 2017, LSU Health Sciences Center – New Orleans requested a temporary waiver of the cap on spendable balance for a total of forty (40) BoRSF-matched endowments: eight Endowed Chairs and 32 Endowed Professorships. These waivers extended for five years, until FY 2021-22. The current request adds one Endowed Chair – the Robert D. D’Ambrosia Chair in Orthopaedic Surgery – and one Endowed Professorship – the Amgen Oncology Professorship – to the pool of waivers. Both slots are currently filled, and this action will provide the faculty holders additional time to expend accrued funds in a strategic manner.

As with the previous waivers, LSUHSC-New Orleans requests an additional five years to come into compliance, though plans to expend available funds sooner. Waivers of this policy provision will be effective in FY 2018-19; thus all slots will be fully in compliance with the cap on expendable balances no later than FY 2022-23. LSUHSC-New Orleans indicates that all other BoRSF-matched faculty endowments (31 Chairs; 87 Professorships) are intended be in compliance with this policy provision or within a small variance (no more than 5%) by the October 2018 reporting period.

##### **Senior Staff Recommendation**

**The Senior Staff recommends approval of LSU Health Sciences Center – New Orleans’s request to waive the cap on expendable balances in faculty endowment funds for the Robert D. D’Ambrosia Chair in Orthopaedic Surgery and the Amgen Oncology Professorship for a period of five (5) years. It is expected that these BoRSF-matched faculty endowment slots will be in full compliance with the expendable balance cap no later than FY 2022-23.**

## **AGENDA ITEM III.B.**

### **Appointment of Endowed Chairholder without National Search: Louisiana State University and A&M College**

#### **Background Information**

At its January 12, 2015 meeting, the Board unanimously approved the following revision to the Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars policy:

Effective immediately, all campuses shall provide documentation to the Commissioner of Higher Education that each Chair vacancy is being filled – whether externally or internally – following a national search. Any request for waiver of this policy shall be made in writing to the Commissioner of Higher Education and reviewed by external consultants. Upon receipt of the consultants' response, the Commissioner will provide a formal recommendation for consideration and approval by the Board of Regents. Board approval of the waiver must be provided prior to appointment of the chairholder. The Board reserves the right to render a campus not in compliance with this policy to be ineligible for new Endowed Chairs funds.

#### **Staff Summary**

The Fred Jones Greer, Jr. Endowed Chair in Media Business and Ethics is a \$1,000,000 Chair matched by the Board of Regents Support Fund in FY 1994-95. The Chair was vacated by the most recent holder, Professor Jay Shelledy, upon his retirement in 2017. In filling the Chair after Professor Shelledy's departure, the Chair was not expressly included in the job advertisement posted for the national search, though intent was for the position to include the Greer Chair. LSU A&M requests, therefore, to appoint Professor Christopher Drew, hired in August 2017 as a result of the national search, to the Greer Chair retroactively to his date of appointment. This action will ensure that Professor Drew receives the full benefits of his position to support his superior program of teaching, research, and creative work as intended by the original non-State donor and the Board of Regents.

#### **Senior Staff Recommendation**

**The Senior Staff recommends approval of Louisiana State University and A&M College's request to appoint Professor Christopher Drew to the Fred Jones Greer, Jr. Endowed Chair in Media Business and Ethics retroactive to his start date of August 14, 2017. As stipulated in Board policy, a Letter of Appointment to Professor Drew must be submitted to the Board within 90 days of this approval.**

## **AGENDA ITEM IV.**

### **BoRSF Matching for Statewide Federal Initiative: Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium**

#### **Background Information**

The Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON) brings together all public and independent colleges and universities in Louisiana in a statewide consortial group to provide research and training in marine and coastal sciences disciplines. LUMCON's facility in Cocodrie operates marine research vessels, particularly the R/V Pelican, for work in the Gulf of Mexico. Rental of these vessels to scientific researchers is a core element of LUMCON's financial sustainability, and contributes to the Louisiana research environment and economy by drawing scientists to the Gulf from across the country. The current fleet lacks a vessel able to undertake longer, more complex research cruises, particularly in deep water and beyond the bounds of the Gulf.

#### **Staff Summary**

LUMCON, working with several of its consortium members and the University of Southern Mississippi, is preparing a proposal submission to the National Science Foundation (NSF) to house and operate a new Regional Class Research Vessel (RCRV), expected to be funded by Congress in 2019 and completed in 2023. A previous proposal, submitted in March 2018, received a positive review but was not funded due to concerns that the vessel could be fully utilized. LUMCON was urged to revise and resubmit the proposal in response to the next call, expected in fall 2018.

In reviewing a funded proposal from Rhode Island and talking with project directors, the proposal team determined that a highly beneficial aspect of the successful proposal was a short-term financial commitment from partners to fund a specified number of research days aboard the vessel. The team believes a commitment of ten (10) days per year over the first two years of operation would substantially address NSF's concerns related to ship use and help build a base clientele to sustain operations over the life of the vessel. LUMCON requests a commitment of \$250,000 per year for two years, totaling \$500,000, from unexpended monies in the Board of Regents Support Fund, to support the research days as a match to the project. Per the proposal submitted to the Board, these days will be available only to Louisiana consortium members and distributed on a competitive basis managed by LUMCON. The approach has the dual benefit of helping LUMCON to secure a major research asset and attracting Louisiana faculty to plan and conduct significant research through LUMCON's facilities. The statewide nature of this request – involving and available to all colleges and universities across Louisiana – and the pledge that the vessel will be sustainable over the long term without additional Board investment makes this a uniquely impactful use of limited Support Fund dollars.

#### **Senior Staff Recommendation**

**The Senior Staff recommends approval of the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium's request to provide \$250,000 per year for two years, totaling \$500,000, from unexpended monies in the Board of Regents Support Fund, as match to the Regional Class Research Vessels proposal to the National**

**Science Foundation. Matching funds shall be provided only if the National Science Foundation approves operation of the Regional Class Research Vessel by LUMCON.**