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AGENDA
SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, December 12, 2018

11:40 a.m.

The Claiborne Building
Thomas Jefferson Room 1-136
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
 - A. Request for Consolidation of Endowed Chairs: University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- IV. Reinstatement of the BoRSF Endowed First-Generation Undergraduate Scholarships Subprogram as a Component of Endowed Professorships
- 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.

Request for Consolidation of Endowed Chairs: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Background Information

The BoRSF Endowed Chairs Program Policy states that “An institution may petition BoR for permission to consolidate two or more extant chairs. The petition must document clearly the reasons for the request and must include, at a minimum, a strong rationale for the consolidation of the chairs and the written concurrence of the original donor or the donor’s legal representative. There are no limits on the number of extant chairs that may be consolidated into a single slot.”

Staff Summary

Based on BoRSF policy, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette requests to consolidate two matched \$1 million Chairs – the Dr. J. Robert Rivet/BORSF Eminent Scholar Endowed Chair in Health Informatics, matched by the BoRSF in FY 1998-99, and the Acadian Ambulance Service/BORSF Eminent Scholar Endowed Chair in Telehealth, matched by the BoRSF in FY 2000-01 – into one \$2 million Chair, to be named the Dr. J. Robert Rivet Endowed Chair and The Acadian Ambulance Service/BORSF Eminent Scholar Endowed Chair in Health Informatics. Representatives from UL Lafayette and the UL Lafayette Foundation have met with the original donors and received enthusiastic support for the consolidation; UL Board of Supervisors approval was granted in October 2018. A single, linked search is currently ongoing for the two Chairs, with the expectation that the faculty member selected would hold the newly consolidated Chair.

Senior Staff Recommendation

The Senior Staff recommends approval of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette’s request to consolidate two BoRSF-matched \$1 million Endowed Chairs – the Dr. J. Robert Rivet/BORSF Eminent Scholar Chair in Health Informatics and the Acadian Ambulance Service/BORSF Eminent Scholar Endowed Chair in Telehealth – into one \$2 million Endowed Chair, to be named the Dr. J. Robert Rivet Endowed Chair and The Acadian Ambulance Service/BORSF Eminent Scholar Endowed Chair in Health Informatics.

AGENDA ITEM IV.

Reinstatement of the BoRSF Endowed First-Generation Undergraduate Scholarships Subprogram as a Component of Endowed Professorships

Background Information

Beginning in FY 2007-08, the Board of Regents Support Fund (BoRSF) offered non-competitive matching to non-State donor contributions to establish endowed scholarships in support of first-generation undergraduate students. The intent of the subprogram was to encourage additional resources on campuses for students with high levels of need and a large in-state student population essential to meet leading Louisiana's 21st-century economy. The subprogram was suspended beginning FY 2017-18 due to lack of demand relative to other Support Fund programs as well as the high cost/low efficiency of this use of dollars.

Staff Summary

Upon suspension of the Endowed First-Generation Undergraduate Scholarships component of the BoRSF, several donors and campuses conveyed to Board staff their disappointment in the loss of a tool to leverage non-state investment in this crucial student population. Some campuses indicated that scholarship matching would be of higher priority than additional Endowed Professorships, and better aligned with the campus role, scope, mission, and strategic priorities. With the ongoing shortfalls in State-funded need-based aid programs and steady increases in tuition statewide, campuses argued that such permanent support mechanisms would provide assistance in recruiting and retaining Louisiana's large population of potential first-generation post-secondary students. In consideration of the 40% decline in expendable revenues available in the BoRSF, it was recommended that the BoR reinstate the matching opportunity for endowed first-generation scholarships at the current Endowed Professorships match rate of 80%/20% (i.e., \$80,000/\$20,000 for four-year campuses and \$40,000/\$10,000 for two-year campuses) and provide campuses the opportunity to use their guaranteed two match slots in Professorships for either Professorships or Scholarships. This approach would not increase the financial burden on the Support Fund, while allowing campuses and donors maximum flexibility to determine the most effective uses of limited matching dollars.

Upon approval of the reinstatement by the BoR, staff will develop policies to govern submission of match requests in the combined subprograms. Policy revisions will be brought for consideration at a future BoR meeting.

Senior Staff Recommendation

The Senior Staff recommends approval of the reinstatement of the BoRSF Endowed First-Generation Undergraduate Scholarships matching opportunity as a component of the Endowed Professorships subprogram, effective FY 2019-20. Upon approval, staff will develop revised policies for submission of match requests for Board consideration at a future meeting.