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V. Reports & Recommendations

E. Planning, Research and Performance

1. Consent Agenda
 - a. R.S. 17:1808 (Licensure)
 - i. License Renewal
 1. Chamberlain University
 - b. State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) Institutional Renewals
 - i. Bossier Parish Community College
 - ii. Grambling State University
 - iii. Louisiana State University Eunice
 - iv. Louisiana State University Shreveport
 - v. Loyola University of New Orleans
 - vi. Tulane University
2. R.S. 17:1808 (Licensure)
 - a. Southwest University

Agenda Item V. E. 1.a.

Chamberlain University Downers Grove, Illinois

BACKGROUND

Chamberlain University (Chamberlain), was first licensed with the Board of Regents in 2011. The institution is headquartered in Downers Grove, Illinois, has operations in fifteen states and is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Chamberlain has a College of Nursing and a College of Health Professions. Initially the institution offered its programs online with no physical facilities in Louisiana. Clinical experiences held in a variety of healthcare settings made licensure necessary. Chamberlain recently opened a New Orleans campus at Ochsner Medical Center in Jefferson, LA.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Chamberlain offers its Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program through an educational alliance with Ochsner Health System in New Orleans. Chamberlain students have the opportunity to complete their clinical rotations at Ochsner Health System facilities and partner locations. The program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

FACULTY AND STUDENTS

Chamberlain employs 6 faculty to support its program in New Orleans. Of the six faculty, four are employed full-time, two are trained at the doctoral level and four at the masters level. The institution reported an enrollment of 75 students in its BSN program in Louisiana.

FACILITIES

Chamberlain's New Orleans campus is located at 400 Labarre Road, in Jefferson, LA on the West Campus of Ochsner Medical Center. The campus features high-tech simulated patient care in clinical learning environments for students and Ochsner healthcare professionals. A Center for Academic Success provides on-site academic resources and support for students.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Given the credentials of its faculty, the college's campus and program accreditation, and the general oversight by the home campus, the senior staff recommends approval of the application for license renewal from Chamberlain University, headquartered in Downers Grove, Illinois.

Agenda Item V. E. 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, 26 Louisiana institutions have joined SARA. Institutions must renew with NC-SARA annually in order to maintain their membership.

Six institutions (Bossier Parish Community College, Grambling State University, Louisiana State University Eunice, Louisiana State University Shreveport, Loyola University of New Orleans and Tulane University) 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 approval of the Renewal Applications for Institutional Participation in SARA for Bossier Parish Community College, Grambling State University, Louisiana State University Eunice, Louisiana State University Shreveport, Loyola University of New Orleans and Tulane University, and authorize staff to submit the approved applications to NC-SARA for final approval of SARA membership renewal.

Agenda Item V. E. 2.a.

Southwest University Kenner, LA

Background

Southwest University was initially licensed by the Board of Regents in 2000 as a privately-supported university located in Kenner, Louisiana accredited by the Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC). The University offered associate degrees in business, criminal justice and general studies; bachelor's degrees in business-related areas and criminal justice; master's degrees in criminal justice and business-related areas; and related certificate programs exclusively through distance learning.

Recent activities at Southwest University

Southwest University experienced a decline in enrollment in recent years partially due to the loss of their large population of military students and the institution's non-Title IV status. In response to these continuing enrollment challenges, Southwest informed BoR staff of its decision to voluntarily withdraw from accreditation, surrender its license granted by the Board and cease operation in Louisiana. As a result, the institution's license is no longer valid as of March 31, 2019.

The institution spent several weeks teaching out currently enrolled students and providing diplomas and transcripts. Southwest also started the process of contracting with a digital credential company that will allow students, institutions and employers to request and share Southwest transcripts into the future.