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Board of Regents Approves Support Fund Awards

BATON ROUGE, La. – Colleges and universities across the state received more than \$9.5 million in financial support from the Board of Regents this month to enhance research, support endowed chairs for eminent scholars, recruit superior graduate students and enhance academic, research/agricultural departments or units. The Board of Regents Support Fund, a constitutionally dedicated fund operating since 1987, is charged with enhancing higher education efforts across Louisiana through investment in high-quality, competitively awarded projects across all educational levels and institution types

After completing a thorough and competitive process using external reviewers, Regents approved 176 awards for 28 campuses statewide during their April meeting. Awards are based on quality, need and impact and can be either direct grant funding to institutions for specific initiatives or matching dollars which are paired with a donation to establish endowments.

“Regents is proud to provide these funds to campuses because we know they will be used to spark research and innovation that has the potential to improve the quality of life not only in Louisiana, but globally,” said Commissioner of Higher Education Kim Hunter Reed. “Supporting faculty and students through these grants and scholarships is a smart investment for our state and our citizens.”

Grant funding of \$4,855,551 will support:

- 29 Enhancement grants to establish more competitive environments for research and/or teaching at flagship, research, regional, special-purpose, and two-year campuses; and
- 51 R&D grants for faculty pursuing new discoveries, innovations, and

inventions across science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) areas and in arts, humanities, and social sciences.

Endowment matching of \$4,670,000 is provided for:

- 3 Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars matches to attract and retain faculty at the highest levels of research and teaching;
- 54 Endowed Professorships at campuses across all levels to recruit and retain faculty of quality;
- 10 Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships to recruit, retain, and complete graduate and first-professional students
- 21 Endowed Two-Year Workforce Scholarships to support students at two-year campuses pursuing credentials leading to high-demand four- and five-star jobs in Louisiana; and
- 8 Endowed First-Generation Undergraduate Scholarships to support students who are the first in their immediate family to attend college.

“I’m proud of all of our campuses for participating in this highly competitive process,” said Board of Regents Chairman Marty J. Chabert. “To see the kinds of programs, professors and research that can be enhanced through the distribution of these funds is really eye-opening. The innovation and discovery happening right here in our state is truly amazing.”

Also during FY 2018-19 \$1,925,000 in matching funds were provided for six statewide federal grants awarded through national competitions; these multi-year programs, receiving \$5,125,000 in federal dollars.

Below is a list of the 28 campuses selected for awards and the total amount to be received:

- Baton Rouge Community College - \$121,304
- Bossier Parish Community College - \$110,000
- Centenary College - \$27,366
- Grambling University - \$20,000
- Fletcher Technical Community College - \$154,200
- Louisiana State University Ag Center - \$194,024
- Louisiana State University Alexandria - \$40,000
- Louisiana State University A&M - \$2,042,156
- Louisiana State University Eunice - \$40,000
- Louisiana State University Shreveport - \$51,985
- LSU Health Science Center New Orleans - \$840,000
- Louisiana Tech University - \$757,078
- Loyola University - \$28,884

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