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AGENDA

PLANNING, RESEARCH and PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 28, 2021

11:00 a.m.

Claiborne Building, 1st Floor
Louisiana Purchase Room 1-100
1201 North Third Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
 - A. R.S. 17:1808 (Licensure)
 1. Initial Application
 - a. Business, Humanities, Science, & Ethics University, USA (BHSEU-USA)
 2. Renewal Applications
 - a. Baton Rouge General Medical Center (BRGM)
 - b. Bellevue University (BU)
 - c. Brandman University (BU)
 - d. Chamberlain University (CU)
 - B. State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA)
 1. Initial Application
 - a. World Quant University
- IV. Cybersecurity Education Management Council (CEMC) Talent Development Fund Update
- V. Student Success Council Quarterly Report
- VI. Other Business
- VII. Adjournment

Committee Members: Sonia Pérez, Chair; Phillip May, Jr., Vice Chair; Stephanie Finley; Robert Levy; Charles McDonald; Wilbert Pryor; Terrie Sterling; Felix Weill
Staff: Dr. Randall Brumfield, Deputy Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Student Success

Agenda Item – III.A.1.a
Initial Licensure
Business, Humanities, Science, & Ethics University, USA
New Orleans, LA

Background

Revised Statute 17:1808 requires the Board of Regents (BoR) to register and license academic degree-granting, post-secondary institutions in Louisiana. Regents' rules and regulations overseeing the review process echo the revised statutes, emphasizing the attainment of appropriate accreditation.

The Business, Humanities, Science, & Ethics University, USA (BHSEU-USA) has identified the Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC) as its desired accreditation agency. DEAC accreditation aims to instill public confidence in DEAC institutions' missions, goals, performance, and resources through a rigorous application and peer-developed accreditation standards.

Overview of Business, Humanities, Science, & Ethics University, USA

The mission of the University is:

To provide graduate students with a current, relevant, high-quality distance education that combines academic knowledge with industry-driven skills. Focusing on adult learners interested in well-rounded business education, BHSEU-USA provides a pathway to help graduates achieve their personal or professional goals.

BHSEU-USA's initial offering is its 100% online MBA program. According to BHSEU-USA's proposal, the courses offer students opportunities to learn from their instructors and each other, creating the foundation for the global learning environment.

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA) PROGRAM

The Business, Humanities, Science and Ethics University, USA (BHSEU-USA) Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree can be completed regularly in 16 months or accelerated to 12 months. The online format provides students with the flexibility to study when they want, where they want, minimizing disruption to their career, family, and location.

Topics covered include statistical analysis and industry predictions, corporate structure, policy and regulations, traditional and digital marketing, financial institutions and currency systems, cost modeling and budgeting, investing and risk management, and business start-up and expansion into global markets. Throughout the program, themes of ethical decision-making, social responsibility, and working with a culturally, politically, and religiously diverse, distributed workforce are explored. Students can learn through a contextualized approach through real-world case studies, applying their knowledge in work-related projects.

Master of Business Administration (MBA) Program: Curriculum Offerings

- Total Credits: 36 Semester Credit Hours
- Standard Program Length/Schedule: 16 months, three courses (9 Semester Credit Hours) per term

- Accelerated Program Length/Schedule: 12 months, four courses (12 Semester Credit Hours) per term
- Delivery Method: Online
- Entrance Requirements: No requirements beyond admission to BHSEU

Upon completion of the Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree program, students will be able to:

- *Exhibit the leadership capacity to plan, monitor, and manage organizations.*
- *Assess business strategies, practices, and opportunities to minimize risk and ensure organizational sustainability.*
- *Apply theories of management to develop and motivate culturally diverse and physically distanced teams.*
- *Evaluate strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats and use them in strategic planning.*
- *Make decisions with business ethics and social responsibility in mind.*
- *Demonstrate awareness of legal, political, cultural, and religious differences and their impact on the global business and financial environment.*
- *Apply financial principles and techniques for valuation and wealth maximization, financial risk assessment, investment analysis, and management decision making.*
- *Evaluate and create reports, communicating data clearly to team members, partners, customers, and other stakeholders.*

Academic Leadership

Business, Humanities, Science and Ethics University, USA (BHSEU-USA) employs qualified academic leadership and qualified faculty to develop and deliver quality distance education programs.

Olivier Chazole serves as Chief Executive Officer, Chief Academic Officer, and Chief Financial Officer. He earned a Master of Laws in Banking, Corporate and Finance Law from Fordham University, School of Law; a Master of Business Administration from New York University; a Pre-Doctoral Degree in Law and Law Practice and a Master of European and International Laws from La Sorbonne Université; and Political Studies from Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris.

The University has identified 12 faculty members, one full-time faculty member, and 11 part-time faculty members to teach in the Master of Business Administration degree program. These faculty have earned one credential higher than the level they are teaching along with adequate professional or other applicable experience.

Chronology of Activities Related to Board of Regents' Consideration of the Application for Licensure Business, Humanities, Science and Ethics University, USA (BHSEU-USA)

May 2020 – The Board of Regents received an application for licensure from the American University of New Orleans for Business, Humanities, and Science (AUNO).

July 2020 – Regents' staff conducted an initial assessment of the American University of New Orleans' license application for Business, Humanities, and Science (AUNO).

August 2020 – Staff concluded that further internal assessment would benefit from an in-depth accreditation process.

September 2020 – Revised application was submitted to the BoR indicating the University’s name change to The Business, Humanities, Science and Ethics University, USA due to a possible infringement upon American University, Washington DC trademark.

October 2020 – Staff engaged the services of Ms. Susan Chiamonte, President, EduCred Services, to assess The Business, Humanities, Science and Ethics University, USA’s application for licensure and associated materials considering the proposed institution’s probability of successful DEAC accreditation.

November 2020 – Ms. Chiamonte submitted to the Board of Regents’ staff her formal evaluative assessment report relevant to the University’s application for initial licensure.

February 2021 – The Business, Humanities, Science and Ethics University, USA revised its application based on the assessment report's recommendations.

March 2021 – Staff reviewed the final revisions to the initial application for consideration for approval by the Board of Regents.

Staff Conclusion

Given the circumstances described in the assessment report, The Business, Humanities, Science and Ethics University, USA (BHSEU-USA) merits a limited state licensure period to allow it sufficient time to seek DEAC candidacy and accreditation. This conditional licensure period should be subject to the fulfillment of several stipulations which require step-by-step continuous evidence of progress toward accreditation. The motion and stipulations below are designed to ensure that BHSEU-USA operates within Louisiana only if there is evidence that reasonable accreditation progress is being made.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends conditional licensure for BHSEU-USA, for three years, provided:

- 1. By April 28, 2022, and on that date every year thereafter, during the Term of conditional licensure, BHSEU-USA shall report to the Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation the status BHSEU-USA of its progress toward preparation for submittal of an application for accreditation candidacy through DEAC. This report shall, at a minimum, provide evidence of attendance and participation of appropriate Institute officials at periodic DEAC workshops for pre-applicant institutions and general membership meetings.**
- 2. At the end of this period of conditional licensure, BHSEU-USA shall provide evidence of the submittal of an application for DEAC candidacy. If accomplished, the Regents will consider another eighteen months of licensure. If not achieved, the Regents will consider the denial of further licensure.**
- 3. Within one year of applying for DEAC candidacy, BHSEU-USA shall provide evidence of successful DEAC candidacy status. If granted, the Regents will consider extending licensure to allow for final accreditation review. If not accomplished, the Regents will consider the denial of further licensure.**
- 4. Upon termination of the allotted time for final accreditation review, BHSEU-USA shall report its DEAC membership status. If DEAC accreditation has been granted, the Regents shall consider issuing a regular 2-year operating license. If not granted, the Regents will consider the denial of further licensure.**

AGENDA ITEM - III.A.2.a.
Baton Rouge General Medical Center
School of Nursing and School of Radiologic Technology
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

BACKGROUND

Baton Rouge General Medical Center, School of Nursing and School of Radiologic Technology (BRGM) is a higher education institution with its main campus in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. This institution is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) and Joint Review Commission on Education in Radiologic Technology (JCERT).

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Baton Rouge General Medical Center (BRGM) offers diplomas and certificates in nursing and radiology technology. The institution currently has 98 students in its Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

Degree Level	Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment
Doctorate	0
Master's	0
Bachelor's	0
Associate	0
Diploma	61
Certificate	37
Total	98

FACULTY

Baton Rouge General Medical Center (BRGM) has 12 full-time and part-time faculty at various degree levels.

FACILITIES

Baton Rouge General Medical Center (BRGM) offers classroom lectures, laboratories, and clinicals to Louisiana residents. Instruction and laboratory instruction take place at 3616 North Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Given the programs' scope and the credentials of its faculty, the institution's campus, program accreditation, and the general oversight by the home campus, Senior Staff recommends the application for license *renewal* from Baton Rouge General Medical Center (BRGM).

AGENDA ITEM – III.A.2.b.
Bellevue University
Bellevue, Nebraska

BACKGROUND

Bellevue University (BU) is a private institution with its main campus located in Bellevue, Nebraska. BU's focus is providing adult education and educational outreach. The university is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC).

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

BU offers academic programs that lead to doctorate, master's, bachelor's, and associate degrees. BU also offers certificate programs and pre-professional degrees in medical, health, and law. The university currently has 104 students in its Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

Degree Level	Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment
Doctorate	1
Master's	9
Bachelor's	71
Associate	4
Certificate	12
Other	7
Total	104

FACULTY

BU has 212 full-time faculty at various degree levels.

FACILITIES

BU offers 100% online instruction to Louisiana residents.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Given the programs' scope and the credentials of its faculty, the institution's campus, program accreditation, and the general oversight by the home campus, Senior Staff recommends approval of the application for license *renewal* from Bellevue University (BU).

AGENDA ITEM – III.A.2.c.
Brandman University
Irvin, California

BACKGROUND

Brandman University (BU) is a private higher education institution with 25 campuses throughout California and Washington and a virtual campus online. The university is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

BU offers more than 50 degree, certificate, credential, and professional programs that lead to doctorate, master’s, bachelor’s, and associate degrees. BU also offers certificates, courses, credentials, and authorizations in Arts & Science, Business & Professional Studies, Education, Nursing & Health Professionals, and Extended Education. The university currently has 15 students in its Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

Degree Level	Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment
Doctorate	3
Master’s	1
Bachelor’s	10
Associate	1
Other	
Total	15

FACULTY

BU has 845 full-time faculty at various degree levels.

FACILITIES

BU offers 100% online instruction to Louisiana residents.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Given the programs' scope and the credentials of its faculty, the institution's campus, program accreditation, and the general oversight by the home campus, Senior Staff recommends approval of the application for license *renewal* from Brandman University (BU).

AGENDA ITEM – III.A.2.d.

Chamberlain University

Chicago, Illinois

BACKGROUND

Chamberlain University (CU) is a private for-profit healthcare and nursing institution with its main campus in Chicago, Illinois. Chamberlain University's College of Nursing (Ochsner Health System) is located at 400 Labarre Road, Jefferson, LA. The university is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and the Commission on Collegiate Education (CCNE).

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

CU offers an academic program to Louisiana students that leads to a bachelor's degree in Nursing. The university currently has 294 students in its Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

Degree Level	Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment
Doctorate	0
Master's	0
Bachelor's	294
Associate	0
Certificate	0
Other	0
Total	294

FACULTY

BU has 25 full-time and part-time faculty at various degree levels.

FACILITIES

BU offers online, classroom lectures, and classroom laboratory instruction to Louisiana residents.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Given the programs' scope and the credentials of its faculty, the institution's campus, program accreditation, and the general oversight by the home campus, Senior Staff recommends approval of the application for license *renewal* from Chamberlain University (CU).

Agenda Item III.B.1.a.

State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) Initial Application World Quant University

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 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 on an annual basis for SARA participation. Once 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.

To date, the Board of Regents has approved applications for institutional participation in SARA from thirty-five institutions. In March 2021, World Quant University submitted their initial SARA application for Regents' consideration. Regents' staff have reviewed and determined that they meet all requirements for initial membership in SARA.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior staff recommends approval of the Initial Application for Institutional Participation in SARA for World Quant University and authorize staff to submit the approved application to NC-SARA for final approval of SARA membership.

Agenda Item IV.

Cybersecurity Education Management Council and Louisiana Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund

Executive Summary

Background

Pursuant to the Board of Regents Master Plan adopted in 2019, the Board has established a goal to achieve postsecondary attainment among 60% of the working age population in Louisiana by 2030. This is necessary to not only address the state's growing economic and workforce demands, but it is critical toward achieving meaningful prosperity and improving the quality of life for Louisianans. To reach this goal the Master Plan identifies key strategies and objectives essential toward doubling the number of degrees and high value credentials awarded by the next decade (85,000). Integral to the effort to expand prosperity is the development and delivery of credentials that meet high-demand industry needs and provide a pathway to a viable career and a living wage.

ACT 57 of the 2020 Regular Session (RS 17:3138.9) commissioned the Cybersecurity Education Management Council (CEMC) and created the Louisiana Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund. As cyber threats persist across every industry sector and domain, and cyber-attacks on critical infrastructure are a state and national security concern, confronting these threats demand a knowledgeable workforce. However, the state and nation face a critical shortage of security professionals for current and near-term challenges. In response to this the CEMC, under the auspices of the Louisiana Board of Regents, is tasked with "advising and making recommendations to the board with respect to distributions from the fund," and annually "review the list of degree and certificate programs upon which the distribution is based and the final distribution amounts."

Purpose of Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund

The purpose of the Louisiana Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund is to provide a mechanism for donations and/or appropriations of funding for the development of degree and certificate programs in cybersecurity fields offered by public postsecondary education institutions. By providing programmatic support to institutions, the goal of the fund is to develop, train, produce, and retain Louisiana's workforce-ready cybersecurity professionals and improve cybersecurity literacy across industry sectors.

The priorities for fund utilization were developed through CEMC meetings, stakeholder insight, and existing collaborations within the field. Additional guidance was provided by cybersecurity data from multiple resources and reports such as the National Institute of Science and Technology Cybersecurity Framework, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's Cybersecurity Workforce Framework, and the International Information System Security Certification Consortium Cybersecurity Workforce study for 2019 and 2020. Following the first CEMC meeting in September 2020, the CEMC commenced with drafting a Request for Applications (RFA) to solicit innovative solutions from Louisiana's public postsecondary institutions. Key topics identified within the RFA include project requirements, metrics and reporting, project tracks, eligibility, and the application review process.

Process and Timeline for the Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund Request for Applications

The timeline for soliciting, reviewing, and decisioning applications, in addition to distributing funds, is as follows:

- February 19, 2021 – Request for applications issued
- April 15, 2021 – Deadline for applicants to raise questions regarding RFA
- April 19, 2021 – Application submission deadline
- April 20-April 25, 2021 – Applications evaluated by CEMC using a shared scoring rubric correspondent to RFA priorities and objectives
- April 26, 2021 – CEMC meets to review score results and render decisions on applications
- May- June 2021 – Agreements negotiated and executed with postsecondary entities

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends funding be provided from the Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund for applications determined appropriate by the Cybersecurity Education Management Council (CEMC), with a report to be provided to the Board in June on applications selected for funding.

Agenda Item V.

Student Success Council Quarterly Report

At its January 2021 meeting, the Board was provided with an overview of the Student Success Council (Council). The purpose of the Council is to identify trends, obstacles, and solutions that will inform best practices and policies to help accelerate progress towards the Board's goal of achieving 60% postsecondary attainment among working age adults by 2030. To accomplish this the Board has established a baseline goal of 85,000 degrees and high-quality credentials to be annually awarded by 2030. Faculty, staff, and students from two-year and four-year public and private institutions from across the state, in addition to representatives from agencies focused on K-12 education and economic and workforce development, comprise the Council's membership. The diverse range of expertise, experience, and backgrounds offered by the Council informs strategies critical to reaching the Board's goals.

On January 27th, 2021 the first meeting of the Student Success Council was convened online. Commissioner Kim Hunter Reed provided an overview of the Master Plan to Council members. This included a discussion focused on the purpose of the Master Plan, its goals and strategies, and the importance of closing equity gaps if prosperity is to be achieved across the state. An overview of the Council's mission was shared by Dr. Randall Brumfield, Deputy Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Student Success. Dr. Toya Barnes-Teamer, Principal of HCM Strategists, provided a summary of staffing and organization that will support the work of the Council. To provide the Council with a landscape of student success at the state level, both K-12 and postsecondary enrollment and completion trend data was shared. This included information regarding the credential production gap that will exist in 2030 if the current postsecondary completion trajectory remains consistent throughout the next decade.

As part of the meeting, Student Success Council members were assigned to small groups to discuss a range of topics. This included barriers to student success, critical cultural issues impacting student success, successful strategies underway to address student success, prior efforts to be aware of regarding student success, and future efforts needed to accelerate progress to the state's attainment goal. Common priorities and themes reported by each group included items such as the need to address student costs, expand awareness of credential pathways, and improve collaboration across postsecondary and with K-12. Additional feedback highlighted the importance of strengthening relationships with students, increasing student support services, and developing student-centered culture and practices across campuses.

From the feedback provided, three subcommittees were developed. These subcommittees will focus on the following areas: access to success, persistence (continuing students), and increasing education (focus on adults). Each committee has an assigned chair and co-chair to guide the work of their respective groups. Designated Regents staff have been assigned as liaisons to each subcommittee. Data will be provided by Regents to support and inform the work of each subcommittee.

The Council meeting dates scheduled for the remainder of the 2021 calendar year are: April 27th, July 27th, and October 26th. In between Council meetings subcommittees will meet and develop findings, action items, and recommendations for the Council. The next quarterly report to the Board is scheduled to be provided at its meeting on August 25th.