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AGENDA

RESEARCH AND SPONSORED INITIATIVES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 16, 2021

12:25 p.m.

Claiborne Building, 1st Floor
Thomas Jefferson A&B, Room 1-136
1201 North Third Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Consent Agenda

A. Appointment of Endowed Chairholder without National Search: LSU and A&M College

IV. Endowed Professorships/Endowed First Generation Scholarships Matching Allowances: Incremental Private Contributions

V. Other Business

VI. Adjournment

Committee Members: Felix Weill, Chair; Sonia Pérez, Vice Chair; Stephanie Finley; Phillip May, Jr.; Darren Mire; T. Jay Seale III; Gary Solomon, Jr.
Staff: Carrie Robison, Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs

AGENDA ITEM III.A.

Appointment of Endowed Chairholder without National Search: LSU 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 Nesser Family Endowed Chair in Energy Law, a \$1 million Chair at LSU's Paul M. Hebert Law Center matched by the Board of Regents Support Fund in FY 2010-11, has been vacant since its establishment. LSU and A&M College is requesting to appoint Dr. Keith B. Hall, currently Campanile Charities Professor of Energy Law, holder of two John P. Laborde Endowed Professorships in Energy Law, Director of the John P. Laborde Energy Law Center, and Director of the Mineral Law Institute at the Hebert Law Center, to the Nesser Family Chair without a national search. Professor Hall is an internationally distinguished expert in the field of Energy Law and his qualifications are appropriate to requirements outlined in the Endowed Chairs program policy.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends approval of LSU and A&M College's request to appoint Professor Keith B. Hall to the Nesser Family Endowed Chair in Energy Law without a national search. As stipulated in Board policy, the Letter of Appointment to Professor Hall must be submitted to the Board within 90 days of this approval.

AGENDA ITEM IV.

Endowed Professorships/Endowed First-Generation Scholarships Matching Allowances: Incremental Private Contributions

Background Information

At its meeting of November 2, 2016, the Board of Regents approved a change in the eligibility of donors' endowed funds for the 60% non-state donor/40% BoRSF match rate available in the Board of Regents Support Fund's Endowed Professorships and Endowed First-Generation Scholarships programs. That action changed the match rate to 80% non-state donor/20% BoRSF, leaving some donors who had begun but not completed such contributions ineligible for matching without substantially increasing their anticipated donation.

Staff Summary

Staff recommends the Board permit submission at the previous 60% non-state/40% BoRSF match rate those Endowed Professorships and Endowed First-Generation Scholarships established with the intent that the BoRSF-eligible campus and/or its foundation would seek Support Fund match, but for which the donor intended to provide incremental donations over time in order to accrue the minimum amount required for BoRSF match. Upon approval, any Endowed Professorship or First-Generation Scholarship for which the donor entered into an agreement and began contributions prior to November 2, 2016 would be eligible for matching upon receipt of the full donor contribution for the 60%/40% rate. All other program policy provisions will remain in place.

When eligible, all applications will be required to adhere to submission requirements set forth in the current Endowed Professorships and Endowed First-Generation Undergraduate Scholarships program policies, including verification that the institution has received and deposited the minimum amount in non-State matching funds and that donated funds meet program eligibility requirements. In addition to documentation required in the policy for acceptance of a request for match, the following must be provided for matches sought under this provision:

- Verification of the donor's intent to establish the endowment and to seek matching through the BoRSF Endowed Professorships and/or Endowed First-Generation Scholarships program(s). Intent may be shown via a donor agreement or other written communication dated prior to November 2, 2016, or a new certification provided by the original donor; and
- Verification that incremental payments for the proposed endowment began prior to November 2, 2016.

This recommendation will not affect the eligibility for the 60%/40% matching of willed or estate donations executed prior to July 1, 2017. These continue to be accepted with documentation demonstrating their eligibility.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends approval of provisions to accept requests for Endowed Professorships and/or Endowed First-Generation Scholarships matching at the 60% non-state/40% BoRSF rate for incremental donations to these programs for which the donor intended the campus to seek BoRSF match and began contributions prior to November 2, 2016.