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**AGENDA**

**SPONSORED PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, June 26, 2013

10:15 a.m.

The Claiborne Building  
Louisiana Purchase Room 1-100  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Policy Revisions Related to the Endowed Chairs and Endowed Professorships Campus Survey
- IV. Funding Recommendations for the Research Enhancement Awards (REA) Program Component of the Jointly Sponsored (Regents/NASA) LaSPACE Program
- V. Approval of Nomination to the Louisiana Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) Committee
- VI. Other Business
- VII. Adjournment

**Committee Members:** Roy Martin III, Chair; William Fenstermaker, Vice Chair; Raymond Brandt; Chris Gorman; Edward Markle; Albert Sam II

## AGENDA ITEM III

### Policy Revisions Related to the Endowed Chairs and Endowed Professorships Campus Survey

#### **Background Information**

At its April 26, 2013 meeting, the Board charged the Sponsored Programs staff to collect from campuses data relative to vacancy rates and durations in the BoRSF Endowed Chairs and Endowed Professorships programs. Data were solicited for 2,083 Professorships and 309 Chairs. All affected campuses participated in the survey; data collection was completed on June 5.

#### **Staff Summary**

Survey data indicate that 101 Endowed Chairs (33%) and 450 Endowed Professorships (22%) matched with BoRSF monies were not assigned to a faculty recipient as of April 1, 2013. Of these vacancies, 339 (62%) have durations of more than two years. These rates are variable by campus and system. Staff concern is that – especially during a period of austerity for both State appropriations and the Support Fund – significant available dollars for higher education are not being used to meet pressing educational, research and training needs.

The staff also has high concern that many donors are not being kept apprised in a timely and regular manner of the status of their investments.

#### **Senior Staff Recommendations**

**The Senior Staff recommends that the Committee approve the following revisions to the Endowed Chairs and Endowed Professorships program policies, with an effective date of July 1, 2013:**

##### **1. Endowed Chairs Vacancies**

**All existing and future Endowed Chairs shall be assigned by the institution to a specific academic, research, or agricultural department. If a single department's percentage of vacancies of greater than two years' duration in the Endowed Chairs program exceeds 20%, that department shall not be eligible to submit proposals for additional Endowed Chairs matches during that year.\***

##### **2. Endowed Professorships Vacancies**

**All existing and future Endowed Professorships shall be assigned by the institution to a specific academic, research, or agricultural department. If a department's vacancy rate in the Endowed**

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\* A department's percentage of vacancies longer than two years shall be calculated as the number of slots assigned to the department reported as unfilled for longer than two years divided by the total number of assigned slots in annual program fiscal reporting. The duration of an Endowed Chairs vacancy shall be calculated from the first month following the departure of the most recent chairholder or, in the case of new or not-yet-filled Chairs, from July 1 of the calendar year in which Board match was provided.

**Professorships program exceeds 20% in a given fiscal year, that department shall not be eligible to submit requests for additional Endowed Professorships matches during that year.<sup>†</sup>**

**The number of BoRSF-matched Endowed Professorships shall not exceed the number of FTE faculty employed by the institution and/or the number of FTE faculty assigned to the department holding the Professorship. FTE faculty counts by institution and department shall be required in annual endowment reporting.**

The staff shall revise language in Section IV.A.2 of the current Endowed Professorships program policy to make clear that **“annual funding guarantees per institution are contingent upon compliance with policy requirements related to maximum vacancy rates and numbers of FTE faculty employed by institution and department.”**

**3. Required Communication with Donors: Applicable to Endowed Chairs and Endowed Professorships**

**For each Endowed Chair or Professorship matched by the Board, the institution shall annually provide to the donor the same basic information about the performance of the endowment annually furnished to the Board, including its status (vacant or filled), the current market value, and the amount allocated for expenditure in the most recently completed fiscal year.<sup>‡</sup>**

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<sup>†</sup> A department's percentage of vacancies shall be calculated as the number of slots assigned to the department reported as unfilled divided by the total number of slots assigned to that department in annual fiscal reporting for the program. The duration of an Endowed Professorships vacancy shall be calculated from the first month following the departure of the most recent Professorship holder or, in the case of new or not-yet-filled Professorships, from July 1 of the calendar year in which Board match was provided.

<sup>‡</sup> Evidence of compliance with this requirement shall be furnished to the Board in the annual fiscal report and attested to in the report provided by private or Legislative auditors, both required by the Board's Statement of Investment Policy and Objectives.

## AGENDA ITEM IV

### **Funding Recommendations for the Research Enhancement Awards (REA) Program Component of the Jointly Sponsored (Regents/NASA) LaSPACE Program**

#### **Background Information**

Initiated in 1991 and jointly supported by the Board of Regents and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Louisiana Space Consortium (LaSPACE) seeks to strengthen aerospace research and education in Louisiana. The Board has approved the provision of \$250,000 per year (FY 2010-11 through FY 2014-15, for a total of \$1,250,000) as a match for the funding from NASA for the continuation of the LaSPACE award.

#### **Staff Summary**

As indicated in the memorandum from the LaSPACE Project Director in Appendix A, a total of twelve (12) Research Enhancement Awards (REA) proposals requesting a total of \$374,173 were submitted in response to the Round 23 LaSPACE REA request for proposals. All proposals were evaluated by out-of-state experts, who have submitted their report with funding recommendations to the LaSPACE Project Director. (Copies of the consultants' report and the attachments referred to in the LaSPACE Project Director's memorandum are on file in the Board's office.)

Six proposals were deemed meritorious and recommended for funding. (See the list of recommended projects in Table 1 of Appendix A.)

#### **Senior Staff Recommendation**

**The Senior Staff recommends approval of the LaSPACE consultants' report and funding recommendations in the amount of \$172,440 relative to the six LaSPACE Research Enhancement Award (REA) projects recommended for funding, to be paid from Support Funds annually allocated to the LaSPACE Research Enhancement Awards program. Projects shall be funded in the amounts recommended in the consultants' report.**

## **Appendix A**



# Louisiana Space Consortium (LaSPACE)

USPS: 364 Nicholson Hall ☐ Department of Physics and Astronomy ☐ Louisiana State University  
Federal Express: Tower Drive ☐ 202 Nicholson Hall ☐ LSU Physics and Astronomy  
Baton Rouge ☐ LA ☐ 70803-4001  
<http://laspace.lsu.edu> ☐ telephone: 225-578-8697 ☐ fax: 225-578-1222

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From: John P. Wefel  
Director

Date: June 10, 2013

To: James E. Gershey  
Sponsored Programs  
Louisiana Board of Regents

Re: LaSPACE - Board of Regents Project  
Research Enhancement Awards

The Louisiana Space Consortium (LaSPACE) has continued its program of research stimulation with Round 23 of the LaSPACE Research Enhancement Awards (REA) Program. The proposals have now been evaluated by out-of-state consultants. This memo summarizes the response to this competition and the recommendations for funding under the LaSPACE REA program.

Each year a new RFP for the REA program is prepared and distributed to all campus coordinators, to research offices, to department chairs, to individual researchers who had responded to previous solicitations, plus it is posted on the LaSPACE Website. Subsequent memos from the LaSPACE office are sent to remind the campuses of the date for the closing of applications. For Round 23, we received 12 reviewable proposals for projects in the Research Facilitation and Initiation (Single Institution) Proposal category. The proposals reviewed for this round requested a total of \$374,173.00.

As in the previous rounds of competition, the review process consisted of obtaining independent out-of-state reviewers to evaluate the proposals using the review procedure, and utilizing the evaluation form, given in Attachment 1. The four evaluators were located in Arkansas, Mississippi, Oregon and Texas (Attachment 2). All are members of the Research and Education community and are familiar with the goals and objectives of the Space Grant program.

## **Recommendation**

The Round 23 proposals were of relatively high quality and there were twelve projects to evaluate. We are grateful to the consultants who were able to provide constructive reviews of the proposals. Six of these projects were rated as very meritorious and were recommended for funding as indicated in Table 1.

**Table 1: Round 23 - Projects Recommended for Funding**

NAME/UNIVERSITY	TITLE		REQUEST	MATCH
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$172,440.00</b>	<b>\$158,656.00</b>
Patrick L. Garrity Loyola University New Orleans	<i>Increased Power Generation Efficiency through Thermoelectric Metamaterials</i>		\$35,383.	\$20,118.
Adarsh Radadia Louisiana Tech University	<i>Characterizing the Bio-Graphene Interface Using Biomolecular Field Effect Transistors</i>		\$34,000.	\$34,839.
Ning Zhang McNeese State University	<i>Numerical investigation of Flapping Wing Aerodynamics</i>		\$10,000.	\$10,050.
Daniel D. Gang University of Louisiana at Lafayette	<i>Development and Evaluation of Nano-Scaled Mesoporous Sorbents for Space Environmental Control and Life Support System (ECLSS)</i>		\$34,994.	\$34,995.
Michael J. Martin Louisiana State University	<i>Measurement of Momentum Accommodation Coefficients in Simulated Planetary Atmospheres</i>		\$35,400.	\$35,117.
Kaisa E. Young Nicholls State University	<i>Legacy of the Spitzer Space Telescope: Star Formation in Perseus</i>		\$22,663.	\$23,537.

The six projects in Table 2 are being declined. The reviewers comments have been transmitted to the PIs, who will be encouraged to improve their proposals for submission to a subsequent competition.

**Table 2: Round 23 - Projects Not Recommended for Funding**

NAME/UNIVERSITY	TITLE		REQUEST	MATCH
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$201,733.00</b>	<b>\$203,076.00</b>
Afef Fekih University of Louisiana at Lafayette	<i>Model Reference Adaptive Control Technology for Real Time Component Failure Compensation in Aircraft Systems</i>		\$37,739.	\$37,740.

Guoqiang Li Southern University	<i>Hypervelocity Impact Tolerance of Steel Tube Grid Stiffened Aluminum Composite Panel</i>		\$36,822.	\$36,822.
Yucheng Liu University of Louisiana at Lafayette	<i>Investigation of Characteristic Behaviors of Stiffened Structural Plate Subjected to Combined Bending-Axial Loadings and Design Optimization</i>		\$29,996.	\$29,996.
Dorel Moldovan Louisiana State University	<i>Frozen Propellants: Fundamental Study of Load Bearing Capability including Confinement Effects</i>		\$34,953.	\$37,859.
Amir Shojaei Louisiana State University	<i>A Smart Adaptable Composite Sandwich for Acoustic Fatigue Resistance</i>		\$39,084.	\$39,800.
Eyassu Woldesenbet Southern University and A & M College	<i>Development and Characterization of Graphene Platelets Syntactic Foam for Aerospace Applications</i>		\$23,139.	\$20,859.

For the six awards, one is LaTech, one is Loyola, one is LSU, one is McNeese, one is ULL and one is Nicholls, a very good geographic coverage.

We have notified the proposers of the results. Each proposer received a transcription of the consultants' evaluations of their proposal.

An unusual situation occurred with this competition. The local accounting showed more funds available for obligation than were actually available. (An omission of two previous REA awards was determined to be the origin of the discrepancy.) As a result, we had to defer the initiation of the last three projects in Table 1 until after the start of the new state fiscal year. The three proposers so affected all agreed to delay the start of their respective projects.

We remain indebted to the Board of Regents for providing this vital support and thank you for your continuing commitment to the Space Grant program in Louisiana.

ATTACH.

## **AGENDA ITEM V**

### **Approval of Nomination to the Louisiana Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) Committee**

#### **Background Information**

The EPSCoR Committee provides advice and guidance to the Board of Regents related to management of statewide EPSCoR projects, federal EPSCoR opportunities, and related research initiatives. Voting members of the EPSCoR Committee include one member from each institution which meets a \$4 million threshold of Federal R&D expenditures using NSF data, as well as the Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs for the Louisiana Board of Regents, business and industry representative(s), and the Governor's economic development representative.

#### **Staff Summary**

The LSU System has nominated Dr. Jacqueline Stephens, Director of Basic Science, to serve on the Committee as the representative for the Pennington Biomedical Research Center.

#### **Senior Staff Recommendation**

**The Senior Staff recommends that the Board approve the nomination of Dr. Stephens to the EPSCoR Committee.**