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April 1, 2015

MEMORANDUM

To: Directors, Offices of Research

From: Carrie Robison, Associate Commissioner for Sponsored Programs Administration

RE: 1. Out-of-State Consultants' Reports and Funding Recommendations for Proposals Submitted under Board of Regents Support Fund Competitive Programs, FY 2014-15
2. **APRIL 20, 2015 DEADLINE** for Campus Responses to Funding Stipulations Contained in Consultants' Reports

FY 2014-15 BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

The fourteen (14) reports from out-of-state consultants which recommend funding for proposals submitted in FY 2014-15 under Board of Regents Support Fund competitive programs are now posted on the website of the Board of Regents Sponsored Programs Section, <https://web.laregents.org>. The Board is expected to act on these recommendations, as well as campus requests for matching funds to endow non-competitive professorships and first-generation undergraduate scholarships, at its April 22, 2015 meeting.

IMPORTANT NOTE: ACTION BY THE BOARD OF REGENTS IS REQUIRED BEFORE FUNDING IS ASSURED FOR ANY OF THE PROPOSALS RECOMMENDED IN THE FOLLOWING REPORTS.

ENDOWED CHAIRS PROGRAM:

Report 1

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM:

Report 2 Industrial Ties Research Subprogram (ITRS)

Report 3 Research Competitiveness Subprogram (RCS)

Report 4 Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars Subprogram (ATLAS)

ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM:

Report 5 Undergraduate Enhancement Subprogram

Report 6 Traditional Enhancement Subprogram: Multidisciplinary

Report 7 Traditional Enhancement Subprogram: Biological Sciences

Report 8 Traditional Enhancement Subprogram: Computer & Information Sciences

Report 9 Traditional Enhancement Subprogram: Engineering B

Report 10 Traditional Enhancement Subprogram: Humanities

Report 11 Traditional Enhancement Subprogram: Social Sciences

Report 12 Enhancement Subprogram for Two-Year Institutions

GRADUATE FELLOWS PROGRAM:

Report 13 Traditional Graduate Fellows and Graduate Fellowships for Teachers Subprograms

Report 14 BoR/SREB Graduate Fellowships to Promote Diversity Subprogram

The FY 2014-15 Plan and Budget for higher education's portion of the Support Fund, approved by the Legislature and the Governor, established a base budget level of \$23.5 million; most recent projections by the Revenue Estimating Conference (January 2015) indicate that the Support Fund will receive sufficient monies to support this budget level. Sponsored Programs' assumption of the funding level used in the FY 2014-15 Plan and Budget is reflected in the explanations and estimates that follow. If revenue projections are reduced, the estimates contained herein are subject to revision.

Though the precise level of funds available for Support Fund programs is not yet known, the total monies estimated to be available in FY 2014-15 are expected to enable funding of most proposals rated Priority I in competitive BoRSF programs. It is not likely that any proposals rated Priority II will be funded this year. Rank orders recommended for funding in each of the following reports are:

REPORT	FIRST-YEAR FUNDING RECOMMENDED	RANKS RECOMMENDED
Endowed Chairs	\$2,000,000	1-3, 5
Industrial Ties Research	\$ 559,030	1-9
Research Competitiveness	\$1,341,511	1-31
Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars	\$ 488,691	1-14
Undergraduate Enhancement	\$1,584,000	1-24
Traditional Enhancement: Multidisciplinary	\$ 791,318	1-8
Traditional Enhancement: Biological Sciences	\$ 774,248	1-10
Traditional Enhancement: Computer & Information Sciences	\$ 357,686	1-4
Traditional Enhancement: Engineering B	\$1,105,504	1-8
Traditional Enhancement: Humanities	\$ 168,240	1-2
Traditional Enhancement: Social Sciences	\$ 741,602	1-6
Enhancement Program for Two-Year Institutions	\$1,094,000	1-16
Traditional Graduate Fellows	\$ 819,500	1-18
Graduate Fellowships for Teachers	\$ 80,000	1
BoR/SREB Fellowships to Promote Diversity	\$ 200,000	1-3

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES

All institutions with proposals recommended for funding must inform the Sponsored Programs Section in writing no later than **4:30 p.m., Monday, April 20**, if any or all of the following conditions apply:

1. Difficulties are foreseen in adjusting to any recommended modifications in funding levels, institutional matching requirements, or other stipulations set forth in these reports.

NOTE: If budgets have been reduced with no indication of the manner in which the reduction should/must be accomplished, the principal investigator/project director will be allowed to reduce the budget as he/she deems most appropriate to accomplish the objectives set forth in the proposal as originally submitted.

2. There has been a change in the employment status of any individual listed as a lead principal investigator, or of any other individual named in the application who is critical to the successful completion of the proposed project as originally submitted.
3. The same or a very similar project has already been funded or will be funded in the near future from another source.
4. Problems exist or funding stipulations have been recommended that cannot be resolved within the next few weeks, which, therefore, might preclude the Board's being able to award Support Fund money by June 30, 2015, or at all. Problems of this type include but are not limited to: (a) the

institution's inability to fulfill a promised institutional matching commitment as set forth in the proposal; or (b) the Support Fund award being contingent upon the applicant's success in securing additional funding from, for example, a Federal agency or industry.

Institutions with proposals recommended for funding for which none of the preceding conditions apply must also provide written assurance that (a) no problems will exist if the proposal(s) recommended are funded in the manner and at the budgetary level(s) stipulated by the consultants; and (b) the commitments made by the applicant(s) and the institution, as set forth in the original proposal(s) and/or required in consultants' stipulations, will be met. These responses are also due in writing no later than April 20, 2015.

We strongly prefer that your office coordinate and submit all responses from your institution. This enables us to give you the maximum amount of time available to gather and submit your responses and ensures consistency in information transmitted.

All responses must be emailed to Ms. Carrie Robison, Associate Commissioner for Sponsored Programs Administration (carrie.robison@la.gov). If you require other arrangements to submit your response, contact Ms. Robison via email or at (225) 342-4253 x671.

The effective date of contracts for funded projects will be June 1, 2015, with the exception of Graduate Fellows projects. As indicated in program requests for proposals, contracts for Traditional Graduate Fellows and Graduate Fellowships for Teachers projects approved for funding in FY 2014-15 will have an effective date of August 1, 2016, and BoR/SREB projects an effective date of August 1, 2015. Applicants whose projects are funded will be informed as quickly as possible after Board approval is granted of the items required for their contracts.

If you have any questions about this memorandum or the consultants' reports, please feel free to contact me via email or phone.

cc: System and Campus Heads