

**REPORT TO THE LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS  
REVIEW OF PROPOSED ENDOWED CHAIRS  
FOR EMINENT SCHOLARS**

**BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND  
FISCAL YEAR 2017-18**

**March 15, 2018**

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**Report of the Review Panel for the Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars Program**  
**FY 2017-18 Competition for Board of Regents Support Fund Matching Funds**

**March 15, 2018**

The three-member Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars Subprogram external review panel received and reviewed the following documents:

- i. The current Board of Regents Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars Program Policy (revised July 2017);
- ii. Guidelines for the Submission of Proposals to the Competitive and Restricted Bequests Endowed Chairs Subprograms for fiscal year (FY) 2017-18; and
- iii. Eleven (11) proposals for chairs submitted in the Competitive Subprogram under the FY 2017-18 Guidelines.

On March 2 and 3, 2018, the panel met by teleconference. Submitting campuses were invited to provide no more than one (1) page of additional written materials to supplement, clarify, or correct the original proposal. These documents were made available prior to and consulted during the teleconference.

Following the teleconference, the panel rated and ranked the eleven (11) proposals submitted in the Competitive Subprogram. Reviewers based assessments on: (1) the written proposals and (2) additional written materials submitted by campus representatives. Prospective chairs were rated according to evaluation criteria defined in the RFP, including: (1) alignment with role, scope, mission, and strategic priorities (30 points); contribution to academic training in priority areas (25 points); potential to contribute to economic development in Louisiana (20 points); long-term campus investment & appropriateness of chair (15 points); and appropriateness of available resources (10 points). The burden of proof was on each submitting institution to demonstrate the manner and extent to which the proposal satisfactorily addressed these criteria.

**Attachment A** contains the rank-order prioritization of the eleven (11) proposed endowed chairs submitted in the Competitive Subprogram resulting from the rating of each proposal according to evaluation criteria set forth in the RFP. **Attachment B** contains a summary evaluation of each chair proposed in FY 2017-18.

Following are comments about the proposal submission and review process and suggestions for maximizing the impact of the Board of Regents Support Fund Endowed Chairs Program:

- (1) The external review panel members strongly affirm that the Program continues to effectively coordinate public and non-State resources for the purpose of improving the quality of higher education and its role in advancing Louisiana's economy, society, and culture. The overall merit of proposals continues to dictate funding decisions for the Endowed Chairs Program, which is increasingly important as monies available for matching decline. The review panel urges that every effort be made to provide additional resources to fund, in rank order according to merit, as

many of this year's excellent proposals as possible, to help attract scholars who are the hallmark of a superior higher education system.

- (2) The panel reminds applicants that, for Endowed Chairs to be truly transformational in priority academic areas, the campus must provide sufficient resources separate from the endowment to support not just recruitment, but retention of superior scholars. This must include a salary line sufficient to draw a senior, tenured faculty member with an outstanding record of scholarly/educational/professional accomplishments, as well as access to appropriate facilities, colleagues, and resources to pursue his/her professional work at the level of quality and impact that led to the chairholder's selection.
- (3) The panel strongly urges that the Board of Regents introduce a page limit on the proposal narrative, to encourage applicants to be strategic, cogent, and straightforward in the presentation of the funding request. Applicants should also be strongly encouraged to limit appendices to those items that speak directly to the proposed Chair, and avoid weighing down the document with excessive, only tangentially related material.
- (4) The panel again reinforces a key recommendation from earlier comprehensive reviews of the Endowed Chairs Subprogram that Board of Regents staff work with all stakeholders to establish an active website with managed content for a variety of audiences, including chairholders, administrators, the Board, legislators, and the public. Subsequent to and evolving from the successful implementation of this website, the Board should sponsor further development of a statewide Society of Eminent Scholars to promote synergies among chairholders, encourage chairholder participation in statewide strategic planning, and publicize individual and programmatic successes. Universities with sizable numbers of chairs should be encouraged to form internal advisory panels and engage chairholders as much as possible in institutional planning and assessment. The Board could also encourage the Society of Eminent Scholars, once operational, to provide advice, as appropriate, related to statewide and national research and development opportunities.

The panel acknowledges and appreciates the careful coordination of the review process provided by the Board's Sponsored Programs staff. Further, the review panel commends the Regents for their insistence on the independence of the external review process.

**ATTACHMENT A**

**BoRSF Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars Program  
Proposal Scoring and Funding Recommendations, FY 2017-18**

Rank	Proposal #	Chair Title	Institution Name	BoRSF Match Requested	Alignment with Role, Scope, Mission, & Strategic Priorities (30 points)	Contribution to Academics/Training in Priority Areas (25 points)	Potential to Contribute to Economic Development in LA (20 points)	Long-term Campus Investment & Appropriateness of Chair (15 points)	Appropriateness of Available Resources (10 points)	Total Score (100 points)	BoRSF Match Recommended
1	002EC-18	Dodson and Hooks Endowed Chair in Maritime Law	LSU A&M	\$400,000	28	23	20	15	10	96	\$400,000
2	008EC-18	Scott and Marjorie Cowen Chair in Latin American Social Sciences II	Tulane	\$800,000	30	22	16	14	9	91	\$400,000
3	005EC-18	Cancer Crusaders Chair in Advanced Cancer Therapy Research	LSUHSC-New Orleans	\$400,000	30	22	17	13	8	90	\$400,000
4	004EC-18	Freeport-McMoRan Endowed Chair in Economics #2	LSU A&M	\$400,000	30	21	18	12	8	89	\$400,000
5	006EC-18	David Drez Jr., M.D. Chair	LSUHSC-New Orleans	\$400,000	30	21	16	14	7	88	\$0
6	009EC-18	B. W. Biedenharn Chair in Business	UL Monroe	\$400,000	30	20	15	15	7	87	\$0
7	003EC-18	Douglas L. Manship, Sr. - Dori J. Maynard Chair in Race, Media and Cultural Literacy	LSU A&M	\$1,200,000	30	22	14	12	7	85	\$0
8	010EC-18	Susan D. and William S. Banowsky Chair in Accounting	UL Monroe	\$400,000	26	20	18	13	7	84	\$0
9	001EC-18	Louisiana Farm Bureau Chair in Agricultural Policy	LSU Ag Center	\$400,000	30	19	18	9	7	83	\$0
10	011EC-18	ULM Endowed Chair in Agriculture	UL Monroe	\$400,000	30	20	15	9	7	81	\$0
11	007EC-18	Medical Center Clinics Endowed Chair for Graduate Medical Education	LSUHSC-Shreveport	\$800,000	30	12	10	5	5	62	\$0

**ATTACHMENT B**

## **RANKED 1: Dodson and Hooks Endowed Chair in Maritime Law (#002EC-18)**

The Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center is requesting \$400,000 to establish the \$1,000,000 Dodson and Hooks Endowed Chair in Maritime Law. LSU Law's vision for its Maritime Law program includes training the next generation of legal minds in the industry, as well as providing the resources to guide or establish legal structures to advance Maritime-related business. The Chair builds on a tradition of strength in the area. The Dodson and Hooks Chair will enhance the LSU Law Center's ability to recruit and retain outstanding first professional degree candidates interested in this area of law, as well as a superior faculty.

The Dodson and Hooks Chair is a good geographic and economic fit for Louisiana and the LSU Law Center. The U.S. maritime industry is unique within the maritime nations of the world in regard to magnitude, scope, and diversity. According to the Transportation Institute, the nation's maritime industry includes some 40,000 vessels, has an annual economic impact of \$92.5 billion, and supports over 470,000 jobs in the U.S. A recent report by the Institute indicated that the industry also generates some \$29 billion in wages and \$10 billion in tax revenues nationally.

By naming a national/international scholar to the Dodson and Hooks Endowed Chair in Maritime Law, the Law Center hopes to build its already strong reputation as a maritime law faculty committed to interdisciplinary teaching and scholarship. The addition of the Chair will provide synergy and academic prowess for the Law Center, helping to ensure its national or even international stature as a provider of Maritime and Admiralty legal education. The chairholder will actively engage with the Maritime bar, industry, government, and the academic arena. Because Maritime Law is an integrative area, the Chair will be a liaison to link separate disciplines, provide faculty mentoring, and maximize existing resources located throughout the LSU System, such as the LSU College of the Coast and Environment, The Water Institute of the Gulf, and other entities.

The Law Center proposes to provide \$526,820 to cover salary, summer research, a research assistant, professional association memberships, support for the Annual Judge Alvin B. Rubin Conference and CLE on Maritime Law, and administrative, office, and equipment support as well support for student law teams. In addition, total Law Center resources available to cover Maritime and Energy Law are substantial, at more than \$2,000,000.

This is an excellent proposal, and the panel strongly recommends funding of \$400,000 to complete the Dodson and Hooks Endowed Chair in Maritime Law. The Chair will greatly enhance the LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center's already very strong focus in Maritime and civil law.

## **RANKED 2: Scott and Marjorie Cowen Chair in Latin American Social Sciences II (#008EC-18)**

Tulane University is requesting \$800,000 to match \$1,200,000 in non-State support for the Scott and Marjorie Cowen Chair in Latin American Social Sciences II. A major priority area for Tulane, the Roger Thayer Stone Center for Latin American Studies has nine existing Chairs. This Chair, the second of two endowed positions for the Center devoted to social, political, and economic issues and policies in Latin America, will be based in the Department of Political Science. A search for the first Cowen Chair, housed in Economics, is complete, and the Felix Rioja Chair search will start in Fall 2018. The School of Liberal Arts will seek to fill the Cowen Chair through a national search for a preeminent scholar, researcher, and educator whose work lies in one or more of the major areas of contemporary Latin American political science.

The duties of the chairholder are anticipated to include collaboration with other senior faculty in the Stone Center to generate research, secure grant funding, and develop multidisciplinary programs. Coordination of conferences at Tulane on Latin America and connecting local leaders to the work of international colleagues are also expected to be major activities. Fluency in English and Spanish or Portuguese is required. The position offers a generous start-up package including a highly competitive salary, a tenured academic appointment at the level of full professor, an annual research fund of \$10,000 for the first three years, technology resources and moving expenses; the package should make Tulane competitive for national and international senior scholars.

The proposal is excellent. The three proposed Cowen Chairs are built on a solid theoretical foundation and a strong university commitment to research in Latin America. The reviewers do suggest that the university commit more of the proceeds from the Chair to discretionary uses such that a maximum of 25% of proceeds is salary supplement and 75% of proceeds are discretionary funds available to the chairholder. This will enhance the University's direct commitment to the Chair and boost its power as a recruitment tool.

As a result of the extremely limited budget available to the BoRSF Endowed Chairs program, the panel recommends partial funding of \$400,000 to provide one-half match for the Scott and Marjorie Cowen Chair in Latin American Social Sciences II. The university is encouraged to submit the remaining unmatched contribution for consideration in the next Endowed Chairs funding cycle.



### **RANKED 3: Cancer Crusaders Chair in Advanced Cancer Therapy Research (#005EC-18)**

The LSU Health Sciences Center – New Orleans’ Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center (SSSCC) is requesting \$400,000 in matching funds to establish the Cancer Crusaders Chair in Advanced Cancer Therapy Research. This Chair will combine basic, clinical and translational research, scholarly pursuits, and teaching/educational foci, with scholarly research as the pre-eminent objective. This is a resubmission from the 2017 competition and the Chair will provide exceptional value added for LSUHSC-NO.

Cancer Crusaders has provided more than \$4,000,000 to the SSSCC and the Tulane Cancer Center for research directed toward new treatments and potential cures for cancer. This request for establishing the Advanced Cancer Therapy Endowed Chair meets not only the donor’s objective, but also the goal of the SSSCC to develop new and better cancer treatment with a central focus on the elimination of this disease.

Among novel therapies for cancer, two in which SSSCC investigators and clinicians have been active participants are considered most promising: procedures which target cancer cell growth and cancer immunotherapy, which helps the patient’s immune system find and destroy cancer cells. The SSSCC is a nationally designated Center of Excellence in Cancer Research, which provides the opportunity for its investigators and clinicians to participate in national cancer treatment trials. There is a strong need, then, to recruit a national scholar/leader to assist LSUHSC-NO as a participant in national protocols. The recruitment of a nationally recognized cancer scholar will also give the SSSCC additional leverage in the National Cancer Institute’s Blue Ribbon Panel for immunotherapy and combination therapies.

Recruitment of an eminent scholar in cancer therapy and research will yield a significant academic impact for the campus, the region and the State. Students and faculty will benefit from the scholar’s clinical and research experience and expertise; area physicians will learn from new knowledge provided through continuing education; and new cancer therapies will advance doctors’ and patients’ options for fighting cancer. The potential for economic impact is substantial considering the opportunity for developing new cancer therapies, which will be available to patients across Louisiana, nationally, and internationally. Of greater specific value to the region, as these new therapies are developed, patients will be able to receive treatment within their home areas rather than travelling to distant locations. This benefits the whole cancer treatment network: patient, physician, and community.

The SSSCC is approved for National Cancer Institute (NCI) clinical trials, allowing the campus to participate in national clinical protocols. LSUHSC-NO has developed a Clinical Research Center, which includes the infrastructure for assisting with the implementation and development of clinical trial protocols. This Chair will enhance the number and level of clinical research trials, which will allow SSSCC to meet requirements for designation as a NCI Cancer Center. The recruitment of a major cancer scholar to fill the Cancer Crusaders Chair is critical to meeting this objective. There is concern among reviewers that some expected responsibilities of the Chair, such as developing a tumor bank and a CME Program in Advanced Cancer Therapies, may be inconsistent with the clinical and research activities of someone with two RO1’s and the development of a SPORE proposal. The SSSCC pledges \$120,000 annually and the College of Medicine will commit additional funds necessary to establish a tenured faculty position at a level appropriate for the Chair. The scholar will be provided the necessary administrative, academic and research space within the Cancer Center. It is noted that startup costs for such an individual may be extensive.

Overall, the proposal is clearly written, with well-defined goals and objectives. The panel strongly recommends provision of \$400,000 in matching funds to complete the Cancer Crusaders Chair.

#### **RANKED 4: Freeport-McMoRan Endowed Chair in Economics #2 (#004EC-18)**

The E. J. Ourso College of Business at Louisiana State University and A&M College is requesting \$400,000 match to a donor's contribution to supplement the existing Freeport-McMoRan Endowed Chair in Economics. These funds would be added to the existing \$1,000,000 Chair, which was completed in 1996 with the Board of Regents match. The current chairholder, Dr. Dek Terrell, has been in the Chair since 2000. During this period, Dr. Terrell has used the Chair earnings primarily as seed money to fund a larger research organization and to support research activities within the Economics Department, particularly those of junior faculty. The current Freeport-McMoRan chairholder both directly and indirectly has contributed to Louisiana's economic development through extensive economic consulting and disaster impact analyses. The current chairholder has also coordinated the LSU Economics Department's annual Advances in Econometrics Conference.

The primary goal for the future is to expand the opportunities for academic research related to the Louisiana economy while also remaining responsive to the needs of the citizens of the State. The key challenge is that many economics grants and contracts focus very narrowly on the needs of a state or federal agency, providing no funding for converting that research into academic publications. By providing support for research by faculty and graduate students, endowment funding both enhances the academic reputation of LSU and allows for a more in-depth study of key issues of importance to Louisiana's citizens.

The \$600,000 provided by Freeport McMoRan is currently assigned to supplement the existing Endowed Chair. The Ourso College of Business is requesting a State match of \$400,000 to increase the Chair to \$2,000,000. The proposal makes a strong case that increasing the Chair's endowment level will yield significant added benefits, and is recommended for funding of the \$400,000 match.

## **RANKED 5: David Drez Jr., M.D. Chair (#006EC-18)**

The Department of Orthopaedics at the LSU Health Sciences Center – New Orleans requests \$400,000 in matching funds to establish the David Drez, Jr., M.D. Chair in honor of Dr. Drez. Along with a colleague, Dr. Drez established the first sports medicine society in orthopaedics. LSUHSC-NO, early in recognizing the importance of sports medicine, established a relationship with Dr. Drez to develop the Sports Medicine program within Orthopaedic Surgery.

It is estimated that 2.6 million children and adolescents are treated in U.S. emergency rooms for sports-related injuries each year. Even more disturbing, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that more than half of all sports injuries in children are preventable. Expanded to include college and professional sports, the number of sports-related injuries is estimated to be 3.8 million annually. To help eliminate these unnecessary injuries, the CDC's HEADS-UP initiative provides information aimed at prevention to athletes, parents, coaches and care providers. LSUHSC-NO is developing comprehensive training and awareness initiatives incorporating Family Medicine, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Neurosurgery, Athletic Training, Kinesiology, Physical Therapy and Physician Assistant programs. The goal is to establish a broad, interactive team approach to education and treatment for sports-related injuries, including medical caregivers along with athletes, parents, coaches and sports organizations. The sports medicine scholar recruited for the Drez Chair will coordinate the mission of the injury prevention program and research being conducted by the programs listed above and through the Musculoskeletal Scientific Research Consortium. The presence of a prominent sports medicine researcher, educator and surgeon will immediately advance LSUHSC-NO to be competitive in the sports medicine marketplace in the State and the region.

One of the likeliest impacts of the recruited scholar is the expansion of collaborative opportunities available to researchers and faculty. Orthopaedic Surgery – Sports Medicine has established interactive programs, but this will advance the long-term goal to establish a "Sports Science Center" similar to one recently opened at Duke University. The holder of the Drez Chair will be a leader in this effort. The chairholder will also have the opportunity for broader collaboration with other Endowed Chairs, including four in Orthopaedic Surgery – Sports Medicine. Cross-university partnerships will also be encouraged, particularly with the Department of Kinesiology and Athletic Training at LSU A&M. This emphasis on collaborative work would provide a diverse academic, research and clinical environment to support the Chair, Department and LSUHSC-NO in reaching their goals.

It is expected that the economic impact of the Drez Chair will also be affected by the increased financial resources generated through research and the clinical care provided to those suffering from sports injuries. In addition, the development of a "Sports Science Center" would not only enhance the image and profile of LSUHSC-NO but also would provide services in critical areas broadly across the State. The academic and educational impact could be substantial, offering better training and education for medical students, physicians and the sports public in general. The recruitment of a senior scholar would also serve to build research capacity and external funding.

The search process for the Drez Chair is well defined and goals and expectations for the recruited scholar are clearly outlined in the proposal. LSUHSC-NO has provided a full professor salary of \$320,000 and the chairholder will have discretion to expend from endowment revenues. It is not clear that the resources

available for recruitment will be sufficient to secure a faculty member of the quality and prominence to accomplish the goals outlined for Chair. Nonetheless, the panel recommends the requested matching funds of \$400,000 be awarded to complete the David Drez, Jr., M.D. Chair should additional funds be available. The panel notes that the proposal could have been matched if BoRSF budget levels had not declined so precipitously, leading to a reduction of available matching dollars.

### **RANKED 6: B. W. Biedenharn Chair in Business (#009EC-18)**

The University of Louisiana at Monroe is requesting \$400,000 in matching funds to establish the B. W. Biedenharn Chair in Business, housed in the College of Business and Social Sciences. The College seeks to recruit and retain a prominent business faculty member who will enhance the reputation, visibility, and prestige of UL Monroe's business programs. The chairholder would focus attention on research, education, and community engagement activities that have a significant impact on the local area and the region. Accordingly, the scholarly focus of the Chair would be on practical, applied or pedagogical research. It is also anticipated that the chairholder will teach a twelve-hour load (four courses) each year. The university is committed to providing a minimum nine-month base salary of up to \$150,000 for a tenured professor, and support for one full-time graduate assistant per year. It is intended that the primary contribution of the Chair would be to raise the profile and prestige of business programs at ULM.

A national search is planned with a committee consisting primarily of senior business faculty in the College. The successful candidate would be an author of nationally recognized and adopted textbooks or other educational materials, or substantial pedagogical research. Alternatively, the Chair could be filled by an individual with a national reputation for applied research in a business discipline or significant community or industry engagement. The College provides community support through the Small Business Development Center, the Center for Business and Economic Research, the Small Business Risk Management Institute, and the Northeast Louisiana Business and Community Development Center, and the chairholder could have a major impact in these areas.

The proposal identifies modest metrics, appropriate to the scope of the Chair as proposed, that would be used to evaluate the impacts of the chairholder's activities. Expected scholarly activity is in applied research as described in the proposal, though the quantity and range of work expected of the chairholder, from research to education to service, is extensive; it would be helpful to understand how this level of productivity differs from other faculty in the Department and College.

This is a very good proposal and the panel recommends provision of the requested \$400,000 match, should additional funds be available. The panel notes that the proposal could have been matched if BoRSF budget levels had not declined so precipitously, leading to a reduction of available matching dollars.

**RANKED 7: Douglas L. Manship, Sr.-Dori J. Maynard Chair in Race, Media and Cultural Literacy (#003EC-18)**

Louisiana State University and A&M College is requesting \$1,200,000 in matching funds to establish the \$3,000,000 Douglas L. Manship, Sr.-Dori J. Maynard Chair in Race, Media & Cultural Literacy within the Manship School of Mass Communication. This Chair is meant to serve the full range of American news and information consumers in an increasingly diverse public. The Chair is named for Douglas L. Manship, Sr., who for more than fifty years in journalistic management and leadership in Louisiana was known as a forceful and articulate advocate of American press freedom, as well as for Dori J. Maynard, who as president of the Robert C. Maynard Institute for Journalism Education, located in Oakland, California, was dedicated to helping the nation's news media accurately and fairly portray all segments of society. Dori Maynard's father was the first African American to own and operate a mainstream newspaper and her family is legendary in journalism communities across the United States.

The Manship School is an ideal location for the focal area of the Manship-Maynard Chair: diversity and the media. Accredited by the American Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, the Manship School has been described in a major institutional review as "in the ranks of the country's strongest programs within this field." With a central theme of research and teaching focusing on the intersection of media and public affairs, the Manship School offers undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degree programs in media and public affairs and is well known for its social-media laboratory. Now active for more than 100 years, the Manship School has reported directly to the Provost since 1994 and has a \$30 million endowment.

The critical issue of race in the newsroom has been a tacit and explicit focus of the Manship School over the past several years, and the faculty recently voted to require a course in media and diversity for all students. This Chair is described in the proposal as "shining a light on media diversity," which seems appropriate in a State with a 36% minority citizenry. It is noted that the Manship School anticipates that "more than 26% of full-time faculty will be people of color when classes begin in August." The unit received the first Equity and Diversity Award from the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication in 2009. These factors underscore the unique qualities of the Manship School, which make it appropriate to host the Manship-Maynard Chair, the first such endowed faculty position of its kind.

The proposed Chair clearly aligns with the mission of the University and the School. However, the proposal does not make a clear case for how the Chair would enhance academics and training in priority areas. While the development of the media and diversity course is clearly a plus, the course is already required. The role of the Chair in enhancing scholarship and education within the School is not clear. The proposal also does not clearly connect the Chair to the ongoing economic development of Louisiana. While enhancing the journalistic capacity of Louisiana news organizations certainly meets some of that goal, the proposal needs to be clearer about the long-term economic impact of the Chair. Finally, the proposal does not provide sufficient information on the University's commitment to the position. The proposal should specify the University resources that will be linked to the Chair.

Despite these concerns, this is a meritorious proposal that could be funded if additional resources were available, provided the per-campus funding cap established in the program policy was lifted.

**RANKED 8: The Susan D. and William S. Banowsky Chair in Accounting (#010EC-18)**

The University of Louisiana at Monroe is requesting \$400,000 in matching funds to create the \$1,000,000 Susan D. and William S. Banowsky Chair in Accounting in the College of Business and Social Sciences. The Banowsky Endowed Chair position will help the College recruit and retain a prominent Accounting faculty member with national and/or international recognition and will enhance the reputation, visibility, and prestige of the Accounting program. Consistent with the mission of the University and College, it is stated that the chairholder will focus attention on research, transformative education, and community engagement that has a significant impact on the local area, region, and country, and have a research/scholarly focus preeminent over teaching/education.

As required by Board of Regents policy, the institution plans to hire the chairholder through a national search. The panel notes that the base salary cited in the proposal is low for this subject area and may not be sufficient to attract the profile of candidates in accounting described in the proposal. Although this salary would be supplemented by \$20,000 annually from endowment earnings, the institution is required by Board of Regents policies to fully fund a salary, separate from the endowment, at a level necessary to attract the kind of candidate sought and, at a minimum, at the full professor level. Also provided for the chairholder would be support for a full-time graduate assistant from the MBA program and a reduced teaching load of four courses per year.

It is recommended that the \$400,000 match be awarded, should additional funds be available.



### **RANKED 9: Louisiana Farm Bureau Chair in Agricultural Policy (#001EC-18)**

The LSU Agricultural Center is seeking \$400,000 to match a commitment of \$640,000 from the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation to establish an Endowed Chair in Agricultural Policy. The chairholder would have a twelve-month tenure-track faculty position in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness with joint appointments in the LSU College of Agriculture and the LSU Agricultural Center. A successful candidate for the Chair is expected to combine research, extension/outreach, and teaching, with approximate position splits of 40 percent extension, 40 percent research, and 20 percent teaching. The chairholder would be expected to develop a nationally recognized program of research, extension and teaching in the areas of agricultural commodity, food and natural resource policy, and analysis of national agricultural policy issues, including farm bill commodity policy. The chairholder would also be responsible for evaluating the program's impacts on and implications for agricultural production operations in the State, region and nation.

The Chair will reside in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, a department within the LSU Agricultural Center and the College of Agriculture. Courses that the chairholder might teach in areas such as production economics and agricultural policy would directly contribute to the graduate education program of the department, filling a current void within this area of graduate instruction. As the primary faculty member working in the area of national agricultural policy, the chairholder's research results and education outreach activities should provide a substantial base of information to be utilized by other researchers, extension agents, commodity organizations and State and national governmental agencies.

The LSU Agricultural Center will provide a base salary for the chairholder that will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. The level of funds dedicated to the position appears to be competitive within the LSU Agricultural Center and the agricultural economics field. However, the proposal needs to be more specific with respect to the longer-term campus investment and the appropriateness of the Chair to existing priorities, in particular with regard to the research focus of the chairholder. With some revisions and clarifications, this could be a very good proposal, though it should be funded as-is, at the requested level of \$400,000 should additional funds be available.

### **RANKED 10: ULM Endowed Chair in Agriculture (#011EC-18)**

The University of Louisiana at Monroe is requesting \$400,000 in matching funds to create the \$1,000,000 ULM Endowed Chair in Agriculture with a focus on agricultural business within the College of Business and Social Sciences. The proposal states that the recruitment and retention of a prominent faculty member in agricultural business would enhance the visibility and prestige of the Agribusiness program at the university, consistent with the mission of the college, focusing on teaching, research, service, and community engagement, and having a significant impact on students, the community, the region, and the country. The initial goals and objectives of the proposed position would include enhancing extramural funding, publication of research in the area of precision agriculture, collaboration with faculty in other disciplines, and the development of an industrial advisory board to provide guidance and support to the Agribusiness program.

The program curriculum currently supports career opportunities in the production, commercial processing, and marketing of food, fiber, and oil-based agricultural products. The College of Business and Social Sciences houses centers that provide economic and community development support, including small business development, economic research, and risk management, all of which would be applicable to the agribusiness focus of the Chair. Less clear, however, was the need for an endowed faculty position at the highest level to support the existing Agribusiness program, which is averaging ten graduates per year. What added value does an eminent scholar/teacher, supported with supplementary endowment earnings, provide to the program as it seeks to grow? What resources are in place to attract a nationally competitive agribusiness expert to Monroe and retain him/her over the long term, particularly in the absence of other agriculture programs?

The institution would hire the chairholder through a national search and provide a nine-month base salary of at least \$110,000 for a tenured associate or full professor. This salary would be supplemented by \$20,000 annually from endowment earnings. Also provided would be support for a full-time graduate assistant from the MBA program and a reduced teaching load of four courses per year. This support, though not at a high level, is adequate.

Should additional funds become available, the panel recommends that the \$400,000 match be awarded.

## **RANKED 11: Medical Center Clinics Endowed Chair for Graduate Medical Education (#007EC-18)**

LSU Health Sciences Center – Shreveport is requesting \$800,000 to establish the Medical Center Clinics Endowed Chair in Graduate Medical Education. The \$1,200,000 in matching funds was received from the Medical Center Clinics, a teaching facility associated with the School of Medicine organized 48 years ago to provide clinical services to patients generated by the faculty physicians and the other disciplines and associates of LSUHSC-S. Since its inception it has provided funding for six BoRSF-matched Endowed Professorships. The purpose of this Chair is to support graduate medical education, particularly residencies.

Graduate medical education programs are designed to prepare physicians for practice within medical specialty areas. Upon graduation from medical school, graduates are granted the M.D. degree. In order to be licensed to practice medicine, however, they are required to enter a graduate medical education program ranging from three to seven years, depending on the specialty area of training. This requirement for all medical school graduates to complete a graduate medical training program and the recent advancement of technology-based medical procedures have created a need for additional training opportunities. The primary focus of the Medical Center Clinics Chair is to assist LSUHSC-S to enhance current training programs and develop additional programs and procedures.

The proposal identifies three major responsibilities for the Chair: education, research and resident/fellow wellness. The purpose of the Chair as presented in the proposal is to provide enhancements for residents, including new and upgraded equipment, research opportunities, and support programs for students. To target efforts to enhance graduate medical training, a committee of institutional officials would be established. This committee would solicit and review all proposals received for graduate medical education and forward recommendations to the chairholder for review and selection. The academic impact is defined as the overall enhancement to training and education for all graduate medical education residents and fellows. The enhanced programs at LSUHSC-S, the proposal argues, will attract more and better-qualified applicants, resulting in a higher quality of physician for Louisiana. The economic impact will be realized primarily by these physicians practicing in Louisiana.

The proposal provides expectations and objectives for the Chair, but the activities and structure do not seem well aligned with the BoRSF Endowed Chairs subprogram's purpose of recruiting and retaining eminent scholars. Though some of the reviewers' criticisms of the previous application have been addressed, there are other concerns that remain. While qualifications of the faculty recipient have now been addressed, there is still little mention of whether a national search is planned, though it is required by Board of Regents policy, or the function of the Chair within the campus or regional research community. As described, the position still appears to be primarily that of an administrator, with the bulk of effort going to direct support of the residency programs. While this is admirable and necessary, it is not within the scope of the BoRSF Endowed Chairs program.

While the current proposal is an improvement on the previous submission, it is still not recommended for funding in its current form. Any resubmission of the Chair should be based on the purposes, goals, objectives, and priorities of the BoRSF Endowed Chairs program as set forth in policy and the RFP, including scoring weights. The panel feels it might be possible to structure the Chair in such a way that it alleviates these concerns and even is trailblazing in identifying and addressing major challenges in residency programs through serious scholarship. These changes may, however, result in a Chair that is less

directly able to provide operational support for the residency programs and thus of dramatically different function from that envisioned by the donors and the campus. The campus and donors should then weigh carefully whether the pursuit of State matching is worth a fundamental directional shift.