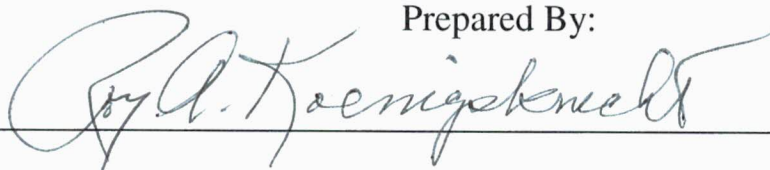


**REPORT TO THE LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS
REVIEW OF PROPOSED ENDOWED CHAIRS FOR EMINENT
SCHOLARS**

**BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND
FISCAL YEAR 2015-16**

March 7-8, 2016

Prepared By:



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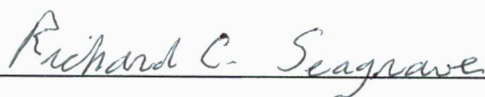


O. Ray Kling

Emeritus Professor, Former Dean of the Graduate College

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Report of the Review Panel for the Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars Subprogram

FY 2015-16 Competition for Board of Regents Support Fund Matching Funds Submitted to the Louisiana Board of Regents

March 7-8, 2016

- A. The three-member Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars Subprogram external review panel received and reviewed the following documents prior to meeting with representatives of the institutions submitting proposals:
- i. The current Board of Regents Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars Policy (revised March 2015);
 - ii. Guidelines for the Submission of Proposals to the Competitive and Restricted Bequests Endowed Chairs Subprograms for fiscal year (FY) 2015-16; and
 - iii. Eight (8) proposals for chairs submitted in the Competitive Subprogram under the FY 2015-16 Guidelines.
- B. On March 7, 2016, the panel conducted a series of interviews with representatives of each participating institution during assigned times to discuss its submitted proposal(s). Any additional printed materials provided by campus representatives relative to submitted proposals were also received at that time and approved for consideration. Representing the institutions were: **LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE** – Dr. Richard Koubek, Executive Vice President and Provost; Mr. Ryan Landry, Assistant to the Senior Vice Provost; Dr. Stacia Haynie, Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences; Dr. Troy Blanchard, Associate Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences; Ms. Ann Whitmer, Assistant Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences; Ms. Krista Allen, Senior Director of Development, College of Humanities and Social Sciences; and Dr. Renee Edwards, Chair, Department of Communication Studies; **LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER – NEW ORLEANS** – Dr. Joseph Moerschbaeher, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean, School of Graduate Studies; Ms. Nicole Baute Honoree, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Economic Development and Strategic Initiatives; Ms. Denise Flock-Williams, Senior Director of Development, Corporate and Foundation Relations; Dr. Augusto Ochoa, Director, Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center; Dr. Richard DiCarlo, Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Education; and Mr. Ryan Landry, Assistant to the Senior Vice Provost; **LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – SHREVEPORT** – Dr. Larry Clark, Chancellor; and Mr. Ryan Landry, Assistant to the Senior Vice Provost; **LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY** – Dr. Les Guice, President; and Dr. Hisham Higab, Dean, College of Engineering and Sciences; **TULANE UNIVERSITY** – Mr. David D. Meyer, J.D., Dean, Tulane University Law School; Dr. James McFarland, Executive Director, Entergy-Tulane Energy Institute; Ms. Luann Dozier, Vice President for Development; and Ms. Denise Breaux, Director of Special Projects, Office of Constituency Programs; **UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE** – Mr. Robert McKinney, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs: Faculty Affairs; and Dr. Gwen Fontenot, Interim Dean, B.I. Moody III College of Business Administration; and **UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT MONROE** – Dr. Eric Pani, Vice President for Academic Affairs; and Dr. Ron Berry, Dean, College of Business and Social Sciences.

- C. Following the interview sessions, the panel rated and ranked the eight (8) proposals submitted in the Competitive Subprogram. Reviewers based assessments on: (1) the written proposals; (2) information provided in the interviews with the institutional representatives; and (3) any additional printed and/or presented materials provided by campus representatives. Prospective chairs were rated according to evaluation criteria defined in the RFP, including: (1) potential of the proposed chair to contribute to economic development - 36 points maximum; (2) contribution of the proposed chair to academic enhancement - 52 points maximum; (3) appropriateness, feasibility and likelihood of success of the proposed plan to recruit women and minority scholars in those fields at the institution in which there has been historical underrepresentation - 6 points maximum; and (4) appropriateness of the proposed chair to the mission of the campus/unit - 6 points maximum. The burden of proof was on each submitting institution to demonstrate the manner and extent to which the proposal satisfactorily addressed these criteria.
- D. **Attachment A** contains the rank-order prioritization of the eight (8) 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 2015-16.
- E. 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 Subprogram:
- (1) Once again the citizens of Louisiana and donors to the Endowed Chairs Subprogram, in the opinion of the external review panel members, are to be assured that the Subprogram is effectively coordinating public and non-State resources to improve the quality of higher education and its role in advancing the economy and the cultural life for the people of the State. Importantly, the overall merit of proposals continues to dictate funding decisions for the Endowed Chairs Subprogram.
 - (2) At a time when both local and national administrators in higher education may tend to yield to the resolution of short-term or immediate budget difficulties at the cost of the long-term future reputations of their institutions, every effort should be made by the Board of Regents to provide additional resources to fund, in rank order according to merit, as many as possible of this year's excellent proposals for permanent endowments in support of eminent scholars, who are the hallmark of an ascendant higher education system. It is also recommended that the central administration of each institution review the unfilled or vacant Endowed Chair positions, taking into account the commitment of the relevant academic unit's administrators for locating, attracting, and retaining eminent scholars able to increase the R&D funding level and academic standing of the unit. Specific

emphasis should be on their commitment to these objectives despite budget difficulties resulting from the State's underfunding of public campuses.

- (3) The review panel again commends the September 2013 revision of the BoRSF Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars Subprogram Policy distributed with the Guidelines for the Submission of Proposals. In particular, the revised guidelines, which encourage the consolidation of two or more extant chairs and/or the enhancement of the permanent endowment for existing chairs, are wholly consistent with the original long-term purposes for the use of these funds to promote the national standing and effectiveness of institutions of higher education in Louisiana. The objective is an enhanced ability to recruit and retain exceptional scholars who are critical to the positive reputation and economic influences of the academy in the region. The revised reporting requirements called for in the policy, with the specific emphasis on annual reports to donors, will yield further transparency and attractiveness for future potential donors. It should be noted that the external review panel strongly recommends that neither approved BoRSF Endowed Chairs nor submitted proposals for such a chair be permitted to be split into smaller entities. Such chairs with lesser funding would not be consistent with the intent of the competitive proposal which had the approval of the donor, institution, and management board submitting the proposal and which subsequently earned the external review panel's recommendation and positive action by the Board of Regents.
- (4) The panel again advises that the consideration of the merits and ranking of proposed endowed chairs is greatly enhanced by the panel's interviews with institutional representatives, particularly institutional and academic department and unit leaders. Understanding their perspectives and plans is vital to gauging the overall context for and likely long-term impact of proposed chairs with regard to expected productivity, alignment with institutional academic, research and development objectives and anticipated outreach to regional leaders in business, industry, and community development.
- (5) Panel members again reviewed current vacancy rates for previously awarded endowed chairs at institutions submitting new proposals. The recruitment of new eminent scholars may be influenced by reports of and rationales for existing vacancies among eminent scholar positions on campuses. It is imperative that institutions make greater efforts to fill vacant positions with aggressive searches conducted within two years of the receipt of Board of Regents matching funds or within two years of the departure of an existing chairholder. The panel recommends that the Board consider requiring that future awards be contingent on an institutional pledge to transfer the dollar amount of the chair's dedicated faculty salary or basis line pledged in the original proposal to the endowment corpus annually when a vacancy extends beyond three years.

- (6) The panel again reinforces a key recommendation from earlier comprehensive reviews of the Endowed Chairs Subprogram that Board of Regents staff, working with all stakeholders, 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 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. Also universities with sizable numbers of chairs should form internal advisory groups 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 and possibilities for interdisciplinary, inter-institutional and private-sector collaboration.
 - (7) The panel of external reviewers again suggests designating funds to measure positive contributions of BoRSF Eminent Scholars across all institutions. One method, as stated last year, would be to compare the records of the annual competitive R&D funding secured by current chairholders to that obtained on average by all full professors from the same departments. Additional consideration could be given to methods of surveying all chairholders across all institutions regarding future economic opportunities in the region and/or possible consequences for the enhancements of the reputation of nationally competitive programs of higher education in the State of Louisiana.
- F. The careful coordination of the review process provided by the Board's Sponsored Programs staff is acknowledged and appreciated. Further, the review panel commends the Regents for their insistence on the independence of the external review process. It is important also to thank representatives of the institutions submitting proposals, who were genuinely open and responsive during the interview sessions with the panel.

ATTACHMENT A

**BoRSF Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars Subprogram
Proposals Submitted FY 2015-16**

Competitive Subprogram Scoring

Rank	Proposal Number	Institution	Title of Chair	BoRSF Match Requested	Economic Development (36 points)	Academic Enhancement (52 points)	Recruitment Plan (6 points)	Appropriateness to Role, Scope, and Mission (6 points)	Total Points (100 Points)
1	001EC-16	LSU and A&M College	Edwin K. Hunter Chair in the Traditions of Rhetoric and Argument in Communication Studies	\$1,200,000	35	52	6	6	99
2	006EC-16	Tulane University	McCulloch Chair in Energy Law	\$800,000	34	52	6	6	98
3	005EC-16	Louisiana Tech	Daniel D. and Linda D. Reneau Eminent Scholar Chair in Biomedical Engineering	\$400,000	33	51	6	6	96
4	003EC-16	LSUHSC-NO	Charles V. Sanders, M.D. Endowed Chair of Medicine	\$400,000	31	51	6	6	94
5	007EC-16	UL Lafayette	E. Gerald "T-Boy" and Martha Hebert/Board of Regents Support Fund Eminent Scholar Endowed Chair in Marketing	\$400,000	30	50	6	6	92
6	002EC-16	LSUHSC-NO	Cancer Crusaders Chair in Advanced Cancer Therapy Research	\$400,000	28	50	6	6	90
7	008EC-16	UL Monroe	B. W. Biedenharn Endowed Chair in Business	\$400,000	25	49	6	6	86
8	004EC-16	LSU Shreveport	Miriam M. Sklar Endowed Chair in Theoretical Math and Physics	\$400,000	23	35	6	6	70

ATTACHMENT B

RANKED 1: Edwin K. Hunter Chair in the Traditions of Rhetoric and Argument in Communication Studies (#001EC-16)

Louisiana State University and A&M College resubmitted the proposal with an elevated request for \$1,200,000 from the Support Fund, to be combined with \$1,800,000 received from an anonymous donor to create the Edwin K. Hunter Chair in the Traditions of Rhetoric and Argument in Communication Studies. The proposal for the Hunter Chair was highly rated in the FY 2014-15 competition; the revised proposal submitted in the FY 2015-16 competition more fully addressed the issue of the proposed Endowed Chair's potential for enhanced economic development in the State and region. The proposal cited informative relevant literature to support its argument, including McClosky's report that "...approximately one-quarter of the gross domestic product (GDP) is based on a specific type of communication, persuasion." The proposal also documented the myriad professions in which enhanced communication skills are essential. The proposal listed specific potential interdisciplinary collaborations in Engineering, Business, Law, and Political Science awaiting the scholar holding the Hunter Chair. It is anticipated that the Chair will greatly enhance a new initiative to offer a joint/dual degree program engaging the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and the LSU Law Center. The chairholder would also have the option to host the National Communication Association (NCA) Doctoral Honors Seminar.

This will be the first Endowed Chair in LSU's Department of Communication Studies, located in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Nationally, the Department of Communication Studies is highly regarded and has educated many of the preeminent faculty in the field, who are now located at leading departments across colleges and universities in the nation. Currently it enrolls 244 undergraduate majors and 31 doctoral students.

The proposal specifies that the Edwin K. Hunter Chair will combine research/scholarly and teaching/education foci, with the research/scholarship focus preeminent. The Chair will provide scholarly leadership in the department and mentorship for junior faculty. In addition, the chairholder is expected to play a central role in preparing undergraduate majors in at least 20 degree programs across the LSU campus, such as accounting and industrial engineering, by further developing communication and persuasion skills and training necessary for students to make significant contributions to business and industry.

The proposal well describes the national search process to be used in filling the Edwin K. Hunter Chair, including efforts to attract appropriate candidates from historically under-represented groups. There is an institutional commitment to provide a full professor line, including salary and benefits competitive with those expected for a nationally recognized eminent scholar. The current proposal details a significantly increased base salary as well as start-up/relocation funds for the recruited chairholder.

The external review panel strongly recommends provision of the requested \$1,200,000 in matching funds for the proposed Edwin K. Hunter Chair in the Traditions of Rhetoric and Argument in Communication Studies.

RANKED 2: McCulloch Chair in Energy Law (#006EC-16)

Tulane University is requesting \$800,000 to match a contribution of \$2,000,000 from James L. and Susan A. McCulloch to establish the McCulloch Chair in Energy Law at the Tulane University Law School. The Chair will position Tulane to attract an internationally recognized legal scholar who will lead the effort to establish and sustain an influential center in energy law on the University's uptown New Orleans campus. Tulane's energy law program will focus on the energy business enterprise, government policy, and business-government interactions that lead to worldwide successful commercial investments. The institution is extremely well configured to establish a preeminent interdisciplinary center within the Law School, with strong supporting departments, centers, and programs already in place.

It is proposed to search for a candidate for this Chair whose scholarship broadly intersects with the topics of environment, international relations, business, energy development, management, policy, and regulation. It is expected that the chairholder will attract significant external funding, mentor faculty, train students, and contribute to the legal curriculum. An international search is underway to recruit an eminent legal scholar for this position, which will have a value of nearly \$3,000,000 once BoRSF match is secured. The Law School will dedicate a salary line at the level of full professor and a competitive start-up package. There is demonstrated strong support from the Tulane Energy Center.

This is an excellent proposal from an exceptional program. The panel highly recommends provision of the requested \$800,000 in matching funds for the proposed McCullough Chair in Energy Law.

RANKED 3: Daniel D. and Linda D. Reneau Eminent Scholar Chair in Biomedical Engineering (#005EC-16)

Louisiana Tech University is seeking \$400,000 in matching funds to establish the Daniel D. and Linda D. Reneau Eminent Scholar Chair in Biomedical Engineering. Dr. Reneau served as president of the University for 26 years, during that time establishing the leading biomedical engineering program at both the graduate and undergraduate levels, as well as several other research and doctoral programs. Louisiana Tech's leadership is fully committed to filling the chair position as their highest priority. The chairholder is expected to be an experienced biomedical engineering researcher who has demonstrated the ability to establish and sustain an externally funded research program. Once recruited, the chairholder will teach courses, supervise graduate students, conduct research, and participate in technology transfer and economic development activities.

A national search process involving a distinguished panel of internal and external scientists and engineers is planned. To facilitate the recruitment of the Chair, Louisiana Tech has committed a faculty salary line at the level of full professor that will not supplant other faculty lines in the College of Engineering and Science. Any successful candidate will have a national and international reputation as an eminent scholar and teacher within biomedical engineering or a related discipline, as well as a record of leadership, an outstanding publication record, and a record of external funded research and innovation in teaching.

The proposal would be strengthened by a fuller description of the economic development benefits to the region resulting from the Chair, as well as some assurances that the level of start-up costs essential to successful recruitment of an appropriately strong candidate will be available. Provided written assurances are furnished from Louisiana Tech affirming this commitment, indicated verbally during the panel interview, the panel highly recommends provision of the requested \$400,000 in matching funds for the proposed Daniel D. and Linda D. Reneau Eminent Scholar Chair in Biomedical Engineering.

RANKED 4: Charles V. Sanders, M.D. Endowed Chair of Medicine (#003EC-16)

The LSU Health Sciences Center – New Orleans is requesting \$400,000 in matching funds to establish the Charles V. Sanders, M.D. Chair of Medicine. The recruited holder of this Chair will also serve as the Chair of the Department of Medicine, a position Dr. Sanders has held for the past 25 years.

This resubmitted proposal has been expanded to include a more detailed discussion of how the Sanders Chair will benefit the Department and School of Medicine and their economic contributions to the local and State economy. The focus for the Sanders Chair is on medical education with a primary emphasis on patient physical examination and diagnosis. With the rapid development of technology in medical care, the role of the comprehensive patient examination by the physician has given way to more convenient but costly technology-based diagnostic tests. Several recent studies have indicated that a well-administered physical examination by a trained and knowledgeable physician can, in many instances, provide a more detailed insight into many disease processes, leading to a more practical and personal approach to the treatment of the disease and the patient. The LSUHSC-NO Department of Medicine has developed a “Back to Bedside” visiting professor program to bring nationally recognized medical educators to emphasize to physicians and students the importance of teaching and the physical examination. Since its inception, the program has hosted four medical educators who are national experts in patient diagnosis and examination.

The Department of Medicine is the most diverse department in the School of Medicine, with the largest resident physician program and a joint resident program with the Department of Pediatrics. Research activity is extensive and broad in focus, including the Bogalusa Heart Study, the longest and most detailed study of a biracial population of children in the world, an NIH-funded Center in Alcohol Research which has received \$35 million in funding, an extensive Section in infectious disease, and the Comprehensive Pulmonary Hypertension Center, which is anticipated to become a regional referral center for patients with pulmonary hypertension. The establishment of the Sanders Chair is expected to help the Department and School of Medicine to bring back into focus the need for and importance of physician-patient interaction through a knowledge-based patient examination. The holder of the Sanders Chair will take the leadership role in setting the priorities for training in fundamental physical examination. A prioritized set of skills will be developed to form the basis of “LSU 32”, a training model for both medical students and practicing physicians. “LSU 32” is based on the very successful “Stanford 25” developed by the Stanford University School of Medicine. By focusing the educational experience on a patient-based approach, the program will create an enhanced academic environment, attracting the very best medical students and resident physicians.

The expertise and revenue of the Sanders Chair will be strategically aligned with the current Edgar Hull Endowed Chair in Medicine, supporting the Department of Medicine’s Vice Chair for Education. The new Sanders/Department Chair will participate in the recruitment of a new scholar for the Hull Chair and the chairholders will work together to achieve common goals in medical education. This effort will be enhanced by the School of Medicine’s first major revision of the medical school curriculum in 15 years. The new curriculum will shift to a focus on system-based teaching and integrate clinical concepts earlier in the course of study, providing more time for teaching clinical

concepts and skills. This change will contribute directly to the “LSU 32” educational concept. In addition, a website will be developed with teaching aids, video and audio clips, and photographs to enhance and augment physical exam skills. The spread of the “LSU 32” concept will be enhanced by the Center for Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice, an initiative to integrate education among all health care professions.

This is a strong proposal with well-developed goals and objectives for the Chair. The search procedure is clearly defined and the committee will include a BoRSF chairholder. The School of Medicine has committed a fully funded faculty position at a level necessary to attract a national scholar. The panel highly recommends provision of the requested \$400,000 in matching funds for the proposed Charles V. Sanders, M.D. Endowed Chair of Medicine.

RANKED 5: E. Gerald “T-Boy” and Martha Hebert/Board of Regents Support Fund Eminent Scholar Endowed Chair in Marketing (#007EC-16)

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette is requesting \$400,000 in matching funds to establish the E. Gerald “T-Boy” and Martha Hebert/BoRSF Eminent Scholar Endowed Chair in Marketing in the Department of Marketing and Hospitality in the B.I. Moody III College of Business Administration. The purpose of this Chair is to create new research and scholarship in the area of professional sales, including customer relationship management, negotiation, and sales management. This will be accomplished by developing continuing education and training opportunities, enhanced academic offerings for undergraduate and graduate students, and collaborations between faculty and local/regional and State business leaders.

This proposal bases the need for greater numbers of professional sales and sales management graduates on well-documented demand at State and national levels for these positions over the next ten years. UL Lafayette and the Moody College of Business have an established reputation for close collaboration with local and regional business communities and the focus on professional sales is strongly supported throughout these networks. In 2012 the Department of Marketing began offering a twelve-credit-hour concentration in Professional Sales and in 2015 this was expanded to an eighteen-hour minor. The campus has hired a full-time tenure track faculty member with expertise in professional sales, who will begin teaching in the professional sales curriculum in August 2016. This demonstrates strong commitment to expansion of the Professional Sales program and is part of the enriched environment available to the scholar recruited to fill the Hebert Chair.

The recruitment of a national scholar to fill the Hebert Chair in Marketing will provide significant academic and economic benefits. There will be an increase in curricular offerings and student enrollment in Professional Sales, enhanced research and scholarly participation by the scholar, faculty and students, and a continuing commitment to meet the workforce and training needs of the community. Economic impact will be realized by growing the number of trained salespeople in the region, leading to business expansion and related increases in professional employment positions.

A competitive start-up package and full salary line are committed in the proposal and the search procedure for the scholar is well defined. The panel notes that five previously matched Endowed Chairs in business at UL Lafayette have been vacant for several years, with most not filled since they were established. Though these vacancies and several others across UL Lafayette remain a serious concern, campus officials assured the panel that four of the five in Business are now undergoing searches with one offer pending and three strong candidates identified. The panel was told that all resources necessary, including full salary lines and related costs, are in place to hire immediately for all five existing Chairs as well as the Hebert Chair. The College of Business has developed a strategy for this influx of new faculty to serve as a major unified core within the College and University. Assuming these vacant chairs are filled by the current search procedures implemented, the panel recommends provision of the requested \$400,000 in matching funds for the proposed E. Gerald “T-Boy” and Martha Hebert/Board of Regents Support Fund Eminent Scholar Endowed Chair in Marketing.

RANKED 6: Cancer Crusaders Chair in Advanced Cancer Therapy Research (#002EC-16)

The Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center (SSSCC) at the LSU Health Sciences Center – New Orleans is requesting \$400,000 in matching funds to establish the Cancer Crusaders Chair in Advanced Cancer Therapy Research. The Chair will combine basic, clinical and translational research, scholarly pursuits, teaching and educational foci, with scholarly research as the preeminent objective.

Since its inception in 1978, 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 is consistent with those objectives. Among novel therapies for cancer, two are considered most promising; development of procedures which target cancer cell growth and survival and cancer immunotherapy which helps the patient's own immune system find and destroy cancer cells. SSSCC investigators and clinicians have been active participants in both therapy areas and this, along with the many other contributions to cancer diagnosis and treatment, has led its designation as a Center of Excellence in Cancer Research. The designation provides the opportunity for investigators and clinicians at SSSCC to participate in national cancer treatment trials and protocols. There is a strong need for LSUHSC-NO to recruit a national scholar into a primary leadership role to assist as a major participant in national cancer protocols.

Recruitment of an eminent scholar in cancer therapy and research will have a significant academic impact on the Center, 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 benefit from new knowledge provided through continuing education, and new cancer therapies will create awareness among community practitioners and individuals. As these new therapies are developed, local patients will be able to receive treatment at home, rather than having to travel. This benefits all: patient, physician, community, State, and University.

The goals and objectives for the chairholder are ambitious but realistic considering the environment in which the scholar will reside. The SSSCC is a nationally recognized center of cancer expertise; LSUHSC-NO is recognized as a premier teaching, clinical and research facility; and numerous existing chairholders and other scholars are working in areas directly relevant to the cancer treatment focus. There was little detail in the proposal outlining these possible interactions, though such a discussion would provide additional support for claims of value added by this Chair.

The SSSCC has committed the necessary support to the chairholder, including salary, space, and start-up costs. The search processes and procedures as outlined in the proposal are reasonable. The panel recommends provision, if sufficient funds are available, of the requested \$400,000 in matching funds for the proposed Cancer Crusaders Chair in Advanced Cancer Therapy Research.

RANKED 7: B. W. Biedenharn Endowed Chair in Business (#008EC-16)

The University of Louisiana at Monroe is requesting \$400,000 in matching funds to establish the B. W. Biedenharn Endowed Chair in Business in the College of Business and Social Sciences. The purpose of the Chair is 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 public engagement that has a significant impact on the community and the region. The scholarly focus of the Chair is required to be on practical or applied or pedagogical research. It is also anticipated that the chairholder would teach a twelve-hour load (four courses) each year.

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. In addition, the academic focus of the business programs is on student training and success. Interview discussions illuminated the College's unique emphasis – to be extended to the chairholder – on teaching, student mentoring, and placement, which was not well described in the proposal.

The University is committed to providing a minimum nine-month base salary of \$97,750 for a tenured professor and support for one full-time graduate assistant per year. It is stated that the primary contribution of the Chair will be to raise the profile and prestige of the business programs at the UL Monroe. A national search is planned with a search committee consisting primarily of senior business faculty. It is expected that the successful candidate would be an author of nationally recognized and adopted textbooks, other educational materials, or 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 industrial engagement.

The proposal does not identify the metrics that would be used to evaluate the impacts of the chairholder's activities. The level of expected scholarly activity as described in the proposal does not appear to be consistent with the goals of the Endowed Chairs Program, though more emphasis could be given to the training and service aspects of the Chair. The panel does not recommend funding of this proposal in its current form, but recommends further development of the chairholder's anticipated role in the business programs and ways to measure success, along the lines of discussions during the interview, prior to submission of a revised proposal.

**RANKED 8: Miriam M. Sklar Endowed Chair in Theoretical Math and Physics
(#004EC-16)**

Louisiana State University in Shreveport (LSUS) is seeking \$400,000 in matching funds to establish the Miriam M. Sklar Endowed Chair in Theoretical Math and Physics. As described in the submitted proposal, the holder of the Chair would combine research and some scholarly work with a focus on undergraduate teaching and education, thereby directly and indirectly maximizing economic and academic impacts resulting from improving opportunities for undergraduate students in mathematics and physics and publicizing successes at local and regional levels. The chairholder would also be involved in undergraduate teaching in both mathematics and physics. It is asserted that the stature of and support for these subjects is diminishing in the region, and the thrust of this proposal is to create a Chair to address and reverse this trend.

The efforts of the chairholder would leverage the generous funding of the Sklar Foundation, which began with an initial contribution of \$60,000 to establish the Miriam M. Sklar Endowed Professorship in 2009. The Sklar family has long been instrumental in supporting the University, establishing the Daniel S. Sklar Endowed Merit Scholarship and the Professorship, as well as many other contributions.

The submitted proposal does not identify the metrics that would be used to evaluate the effects of the chairholder's activities, nor does it indicate whether the University is guaranteeing a funded salary line for the necessary faculty position. The level of expected scholarly activity as described in the proposal does not appear to be consistent with the goals of the Endowed Chairs Program.

During the interview with the review panel, an alternative proposal, which addresses many of the points raised above, was introduced. Based on this discussion, the panel encourages the campus to develop and submit a revised proposal along these lines during the next funding cycle, provided donor approval of the restructuring is granted.