



Consent Agenda Items
Meeting
of the
Board of Regents

August 20, 2020



**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

**August 20, 2020
College Station, Texas**

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

1. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

- 1.1 Approval of Fiscal Year 2021 Service Department Accounts, A&M System
- 1.2 Approval of Fiscal Year 2021 Operating Budgets, A&M System
- 1.3 Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System Permanent University Fund Bonds, A&M System
- 1.4 Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System Revenue Financing System Bonds, A&M System

2. COMMITTEE ON AUDIT

- 2.1 Approval of System Internal Audit Plan for Fiscal Year 2021, BOR (Draft Pending Committee Approval)

3. COMMITTEE ON BUILDINGS AND PHYSICAL PLANT

- 3.1 Approval of System Capital Plan for FY 2021 – FY 2025, A&M System
- 3.2 Approval of the Project Scope and Budget, Appropriation for Construction Services, and Approval for Construction for the Instructional Laboratory & Innovative Learning Building (ILSQ) Project, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas (Project No. 02-3272), A&M System
- 3.3 Approval of the Project Scope and Budget, Appropriation for Construction Services, and Approval for Construction for the Aquatics Center Project, Tarleton State University, Stephenville, Texas (Project No. 04-3264), A&M System
- 3.4 Approval of the Project Scope and Budget, Appropriation for Construction Services, and Approval for Construction for the Amarillo Center Phase III Project, West Texas A&M University, Amarillo, Texas (Project No. 18-3313), A&M System
- 3.5 Approval of the Project Scope and Budget, Appropriation for Construction Services, and Approval for Construction for the Ballistic Aero-Optics and Materials Facility Project, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station, Bryan, Texas (Project No. 28-3321), A&M System

**Certified by the general counsel or other appropriate attorney as confidential or information that may be withheld from public disclosure in accordance with Section 551.1281 and Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code.*

- 3.6 Approval of the Project Scope and Budget, Appropriation for Construction Services, and Approval for Construction for the BCDC: Innovation Proving Grounds Project, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station, Bryan, Texas (Project No. 28-3322), A&M System
- 3.7 Approval of the Project Scope and Budget, Appropriation for Construction Services, and Approval for Construction for the HVAC Replacement Lechner Hall Project, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas (Project No. 2019-07175), Texas A&M
- 3.8 Approval of the Project Scope and Budget, Appropriation for Construction Services, and Approval for Construction for the HVAC Replacement Wells Hall Project, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas (Project No. 2019-07176), Texas A&M
- 3.9 Approval of the Project Scope and Budget, Appropriation for Pre-Construction and Construction Services, and Approval for Construction of the ESCO 2021 Project at Texas A&M University at Galveston, Galveston, Texas (Project No.10-40646), Texas A&M

Informational Report

Report of System Construction Projects Authorized by the Board

4. COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

(no agenda items)

5. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS (*not assigned to Committee*)

- 5.1 Adoption of a Resolution Honoring the Memory of The Honorable John C. Otto for His Extraordinary Contributions to The Texas A&M University System and the State of Texas, A&M System
- 5.2 Approval of Progress Update to The Texas A&M University System Strategic Plan, A&M System
- 5.3 Appointment to the University Lands Advisory Board, BOR

Executive Session Items

- 5.4 *Authorization to Settle Claims Relating to *Imperial Construction, Inc. v. The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, et al.*, A&M System
- 5.5 *Authorization to Settle Contractual Dispute with Florida State University, A&M System
- 5.6 *Authorization for the President to Negotiate and Execute an Employment Contract with the Men's Basketball Coach, PVAMU
- 5.7 *Authorization to Purchase Property Located at 1920 W. Sloan in Stephenville, Erath County, Texas, Tarleton

**Certified by the general counsel or other appropriate attorney as confidential or information that may be withheld from public disclosure in accordance with Section 551.1281 and Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code.*

- 5.8 *Authorization to Negotiate and Execute a Lease for the Operation of an Oyster Resource & Recovery Center Near the Campus of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, in Nueces County, Texas, A&M-Corpus Christi
- 5.9 *Authorization to Purchase Land and Improvements in Two Strategic Locations of the State for Warehouse Facilities, TDEM

6. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The Texas A&M University System/Board of Regents

- 6.1 Approval of Minutes
- 6.2 Granting of the Title of Emeritus, August 2020
- 6.3 Confirmation of Appointment and Commissioning of Peace Officers
- 6.4 Approval of List of Authorized Signers for Revolving Fund Bank Accounts for System Members
- 6.5 Approval of Revisions to System Policy 22.02, *System Investment*
- 6.6 Approval of Extension to Bank Depository Agreements with Guaranty Bank & Trust and First Texas Bank & Trust
- 6.7 Adoption of a Resolution Recognizing the Importance of the Bryan-College Station Community to Texas A&M University

Prairie View A&M University

- 6.8 Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020
- 6.9 Approval of a New Master of Social Work Degree Program, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Tarleton State University

- 6.10 Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Communication Sciences and Disorders, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Texas A&M International University

- 6.11 Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020

Texas A&M University

- 6.12 Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020

**Certified by the general counsel or other appropriate attorney as confidential or information that may be withheld from public disclosure in accordance with Section 551.1281 and Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code.*

- 6.13 Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Data Science, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- 6.14 Approval for Dr. David Staack, a System Employee, to Serve as an Officer, Member of the Board of Directors and Employee of Geo-SPARC LLC., an Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System
- 6.15 Approval for Dr. Nasir Gharaibeh, a System Employee, to Serve as an Officer, Member of the Board of Directors and Employee of InfraFrame, LLC, an Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System
- 6.16 *Authorization to Establish Two Quasi-Endowments in the System Endowment Fund
- 6.17 *Naming of Athletics Facilities and Related Structures
- 6.18 *Naming of the Geosciences Career Center
- 6.19 *Naming of the Student Learning Center and Graduate Assistant Research Center Spaces Inside the Allen Building
- 6.20 *Authorization for the President to Negotiate and Execute an Agreement and Other Related Documents with Baylor Scott & White Health in Connection with the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium
- 6.21 *Authorization for the President to Negotiate and Execute a Contract Over \$500,000

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

- 6.22 Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020

Texas A&M University-Commerce

- 6.23 Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020
- 6.24 Approval of a New Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts Degree Program with a Major in Human Services, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- 6.25 Approval of New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Veterinary Technology, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- 6.26 *Renaming of the Gee Library and Gee Lake and Naming of Conference Room and Football Locker Room Space

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

- 6.27 Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020

- 6.28 Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Sport Management, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Texas A&M University-Kingsville

- 6.29 Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020
- 6.30 Approval of a New Bachelor of General Studies Degree Program, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Texas A&M University-San Antonio

- 6.31 Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020
- 6.32 Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Finance, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Texas A&M University-Texarkana

- 6.33 *Naming of Computer Aided Design Lab Room 247 in Building for Academic and Student Services

West Texas A&M University

- 6.34 Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020

Texas A&M AgriLife Research

- 6.35 Establishment of the Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Evidence Center

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service
(no agenda items)

Texas A&M Forest Service

- 6.36 Confirmation of Appointment and Commissioning of Peace Officer
- 6.37 Authorization to Execute FY 2020 Federal Non-research Grant Agreement, and any Amendments, Modifications or Extensions
- 6.38 Authorization to Execute 2020-2025 Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement, and any Amendments, Modifications or Extensions

Texas Division of Emergency Management
(no agenda items)

A&M System	The Texas A&M University System
A&M-Central Texas	Texas A&M University-Central Texas
A&M-Commerce	Texas A&M University-Commerce
A&M-Corpus Christi	Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
A&M-San Antonio	Texas A&M University-San Antonio
A/E.....	Architect/Engineer
AgriLife Extension.....	Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
AgriLife Research	Texas A&M AgriLife Research
BOR	Board of Regents
FP&C.....	Facilities Planning and Construction
POR.....	Program of Requirements
PUF	Permanent University Fund
PVAMU.....	Prairie View A&M University
RELLIS	Respect, Excellence, Leadership, Loyalty, Integrity and Selfless Service
RFS.....	Revenue Financing System
TAMHSC	Texas A&M Health Science Center
TAMIU	Texas A&M International University
TAMUG.....	Texas A&M University at Galveston
TAMUT	Texas A&M University-Texarkana
Tarleton.....	Tarleton State University
TEES.....	Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station
TEEX.....	Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service
Texas A&M at Qatar.....	Texas A&M University at Qatar
Texas A&M.....	Texas A&M University
Texas A&M-Kingsville.....	Texas A&M University-Kingsville
TDEM.....	Texas Division of Emergency Management
TFS.....	Texas A&M Forest Service
THECB.....	Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
TTI.....	Texas A&M Transportation Institute
TVMDL.....	Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory
UTIMCO.....	The University of Texas/Texas A&M Investment Management Company
WTAMU.....	West Texas A&M University

Agenda Item No. 6.1

**THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Board of Regents
July 15, 2020**

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Minutes

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The following minutes are approved:

**May 14, 2020, Regular Board Meeting,
May 29, 2020 Special Telephonic Meeting,
and June 15, 2020 Special Telephonic Meeting.”**

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Burt Spillers
Executive Director

Attachments (3)

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

BOARD OF REGENTS

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

HELD IN

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

May 14, 2020

(Approved August 20, 2020)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS May 14, 2020

CONVENE	1
RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION	1
RECONVENE	1
INVOCATION	1
CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS	2
CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS	3
MINUTE ORDER 050-2020 (ITEM 3.1) APPROVAL TO AMEND THE FY 2020-FY 2024 TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM CAPITAL PLAN TO ADD THE RELLIS CAMPUS INFRASTRUCTURE - PHASE III-A PROJECT (NO. 01-3323), FOR THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM RELLIS CAMPUS WITH A FY 2020 START DATE, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM	10
MINUTE ORDER 051-2020 (ITEM 3.2) APPROVAL TO AMEND THE FY 2020-FY 2024 TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM CAPITAL PLAN TO ADD THE BALLISTIC AERO-OPTICS AND MATERIALS FACILITY PROJECT (NO. 28-3321), FOR TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION WITH A FY 2020 START DATE, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM	11
MINUTE ORDER 052-2020 (ITEM 3.3) APPROVAL TO AMEND THE FY 2020-FY 2024 TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM CAPITAL PLAN TO ADD THE BCDC: INNOVATION PROVING GROUNDS PROJECT (NO. 28-3322), FOR TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION WITH A FY 2020 START DATE, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM	11
MINUTE ORDER 053-2020 (ITEM 3.4) APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT SCOPE AND BUDGET, APPROPRIATION FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, AND APPROVAL FOR CONSTRUCTION FOR THE WEST CAMPUS DINING FACILITY PROJECT (NO. 02-3277), TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.....	12
MINUTE ORDER 054-2020 (ITEM 3.5) APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT SCOPE AND BUDGET, APPROPRIATION FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, AND APPROVAL FOR CONSTRUCTION FOR THE RAILROAD QUIET ZONE PROJECT (NO. 2019-07296), TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY	12
MINUTE ORDER 055-2020 (ITEM 5.2) APPROVAL OF NEW EXPRESSIVE ACTIVITY ON CAMPUS RULES FROM MEMBER ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM	13
MINUTE ORDER 056-2020 (ITEM 5.3) APPROVAL OF CHANGES TO THE ADMISSIONS STANDARDS FOR SYSTEM MEMBER UNIVERSITIES FOR THE 2021-22 ACADEMIC YEAR, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM	13
MINUTE ORDER 057-2020 (ITEM 5.5) DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO THE CHANCELLOR TO APPROVE CERTAIN MINERAL LEASES, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.....	14
MINUTE ORDER 058-2020 (ITEM 5.6) AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE GROUND LEASE OF A 15-ACRE TRACT ON THE RELLIS CAMPUS TO BLINN COLLEGE, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM	14
MINUTE ORDER 059-2020 (ITEM 5.7) AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE PRIVATIZED STUDENT HOUSING PROJECTS AND TERMINATE GROUND LEASES, TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY	14
MINUTE ORDER 060-2020 (ITEM 5.8) AUTHORIZATION TO GRANT A CONDITIONAL ROADWAY EASEMENT IN COLLEGE STATION, BRAZOS COUNTY, TEXAS, TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY	15

MINUTE ORDER 061-2020 (ITEM 5.9) AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED WITH SETTLEMENT OF PROPERTY DAMAGE CLAIM TO MOSHER HALL, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 15

MINUTE ORDER 062-2020 (ITEM 5.10) AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PRESIDENT TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE EXISTING COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT AND NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE A NEW COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE TEXAS A&M COLLEGE OF MEDICINE’S FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAM, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 16

MINUTE ORDER 063-2020 (ITEM 5.11) AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PRESIDENT TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE NEW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS FOR ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH - OFFENSE COORDINATOR DARRELL DICKEY, ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH - WIDE RECEIVERS DAMEYUNE CRAIG, ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH - DEFENSIVE ENDS TERRENCE PRICE, HEAD FOOTBALL STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING COACH JERRY SCHMIDT, ASSOCIATE ATHLETICS DIRECTOR - FOOTBALL DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS MARK ROBINSON, ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH - DEFENSIVE TACKLES ELIJAH ROBINSON, ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH - SECONDARY TERRALL RUSHING II, ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH - RUNNING BACKS TOMMIE ROBINSON, ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH - TIGHT ENDS JAMES COLEY, ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH - LINEBACKERS TYLER SANTUCCI, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 16

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 17

MINUTE ORDER 064-2020 (ITEM 6.1) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 5, 2020, SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING; FEBRUARY 6, 2020, REGULAR BOARD MEETING; AND FEBRUARY 7, 2020, SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING, BOARD OF REGENTS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM 17

MINUTE ORDER 065-2020 (ITEM 6.2) GRANTING OF THE TITLE OF EMERITUS, MAY 2020, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM 17

MINUTE ORDER 066-2020 (ITEM 6.3) CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT AND COMMISSIONING OF PEACE OFFICERS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM 18

MINUTE ORDER 067-2020 (ITEM 6.4) APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2021 HOLIDAY SCHEDULES, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM 18

MINUTE ORDER 068-2020 (ITEM 6.5) RATIFICATION OF TEMPORARY WAIVER OF ACT/SAT REQUIREMENT FOR FALL 2020, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM 20

MINUTE ORDER 069-2020 (ITEM 6.6) APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO SYSTEM POLICY 18.01 (ATHLETIC COUNCIL) AND DELETION OF SYSTEM POLICIES 18.02 (PRINCIPLES FOR INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS PARTICIPATION) AND 18.03 (POST-SEASON ATHLETICS COMPETITION), THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM 21

MINUTE ORDER 070-2020 (ITEM 6.7) APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020, PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY 21

MINUTE ORDER 071-2020 (ITEM 6.8) GRANTING OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE FOR FY 2021, PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY 21

MINUTE ORDER 072-2020 (ITEM 6.9) APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020, TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY 21

MINUTE ORDER 073-2020 (ITEM 6.10) GRANTING OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE FOR FY 2021, TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY 22

MINUTE ORDER 074-2020 (ITEM 6.11) AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH TWO QUASI-ENDOWMENTS IN THE SYSTEM ENDOWMENT FUND ENTITLED THE CRYSTAL APPLE SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP QUASI-ENDOWMENT, AND TARLETON STAFF COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP QUASI-ENDOWMENT, TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY 22

MINUTE ORDER 075-2020 (ITEM 6.12) APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020, TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY 22

MINUTE ORDER 076-2020 (ITEM 6.13) APPROVAL OF A NEW DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE PROGRAM WITH A MAJOR IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE, AND AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST

APPROVAL FROM THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD,
TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY 22

MINUTE ORDER 077-2020 (ITEM 6.14) AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH A QUASI-ENDOWMENT
IN THE SYSTEM ENDOWMENT FUND ENTITLED THE MATIAS DE LLANO CHARITABLE TRUST
QUASI-ENDOWMENT AND NAMING OF THE MATIAS DE LLANO CHARITABLE TRUST
AUDITORIUM, TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY 23

MINUTE ORDER 078-2020 (ITEM 6.15) APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT SCOPE AND BUDGET,
APPROPRIATION FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, AND APPROVAL FOR CONSTRUCTION FOR
THE HVAC REPLACEMENT APPELT HALL PROJECT (NO. 2019-04001), TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY,
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 23

MINUTE ORDER 079-2020 (ITEM 6.16) APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020,
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 24

MINUTE ORDER 080-2020 (ITEM 6.17) ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION HONORING
MR. T. RANDALL “RANDY” CAIN ’82 FOR HIS OUTSTANDING DEDICATION AND SERVICE AS
TRUSTEE OF THE TEXAS A&M FOUNDATION, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 24

MINUTE ORDER 081-2020 (ITEM 6.18) APPROVAL OF TWO NEW GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS
WITH A MAJOR IN MARINE BIOLOGY, AND AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST APPROVAL FROM
THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 24

MINUTE ORDER 082-2020 (ITEM 6.19) AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PRESIDENT TO NEGOTIATE
AND EXECUTE CONTRACTS OVER \$500,000, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 25

MINUTE ORDER 083-2020 (ITEM 6.20) AUTHORIZATION FOR THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER TO MAKE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRANSFERS ON BEHALF OF
QUALIFYING ENTITIES, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 25

MINUTE ORDER 084-2020 (ITEM 6.21) AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH A QUASI-ENDOWMENT
IN THE SYSTEM ENDOWMENT FUND ENTITLED THE MARY S. YOUNG QUASI-ENDOWMENT
FOR THE STEVENSON COMPANION ANIMAL LIFE-CARE CENTER, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 25

MINUTE ORDER 085-2020 (ITEM 6.22) ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INSTITUTE FOR A DISASTER
RESILIENT TEXAS, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 26

MINUTE ORDER 086-2020 (ITEM 6.23) NAMING OF THE ROUTH FIRST GENERATION CENTER,
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 26

MINUTE ORDER 087-2020 (ITEM 6.24) NAMING OF THE DON AND ELLIE KNAUSS VETERAN
RESOURCE AND SUPPORT CENTER, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 26

MINUTE ORDER 088-2020 (ITEM 6.25) NAMING OF THE WM MICHAEL BARNES ’64
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL AND SYSTEMS ENGINEERING, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 26

MINUTE ORDER 089-2020 (ITEM 6.26) APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020,
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS 27

MINUTE ORDER 090-2020 (ITEM 6.27) GRANTING OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE FOR
FY 2021, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS 27

MINUTE ORDER 091-2020 (ITEM 6.28) APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020,
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE 27

MINUTE ORDER 092-2020 (ITEM 6.29) GRANTING OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE FOR
FY 2021, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE 27

MINUTE ORDER 093-2020 (ITEM 6.30) APPROVAL OF A NEW BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN
CYBERSECURITY DEGREE PROGRAM, AND AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST APPROVAL FROM
THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD,
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE 28

MINUTE ORDER 094-2020 (ITEM 6.31) APPROVAL OF A NEW BACHELOR OF SCIENCE WITH A
MAJOR IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS DEGREE PROGRAM, AND
AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST APPROVAL FROM THE
TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE..... 28

MINUTE ORDER 095-2020 (ITEM 6.32) APPROVAL OF A NEW MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEGREE PROGRAM, AND AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST APPROVAL FROM THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE..... 28

MINUTE ORDER 096-2020 (ITEM 6.33) APPROVAL TO AMEND THE FY 2020-FY 2024 TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM CAPITAL PLAN TO ADD THE ENERGY CONSUMPTION REDUCTION - PHASE II PROJECT (NO. 15-840120), WITH A FISCAL YEAR 2021 START DATE AND APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT SCOPE AND BUDGET, APPROPRIATION FOR THE PRE-CONSTRUCTION AND CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, AND APPROVAL FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE ENERGY CONSUMPTION REDUCTION - PHASE II PROJECT AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI 29

MINUTE ORDER 097-2020 (ITEM 6.34) APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI 30

MINUTE ORDER 098-2020 (ITEM 6.35) GRANTING OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE FOR FY 2021, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI 30

MINUTE ORDER 099-2020 (ITEM 6.36) APPROVAL OF TWO NEW GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS WITH A MAJOR IN MARINE BIOLOGY, AND AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST APPROVAL FROM THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI 30

MINUTE ORDER 100-2020 (ITEM 6.37) APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE 30

MINUTE ORDER 101-2020 (ITEM 6.38) GRANTING OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE FOR FY 2021, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE..... 31

MINUTE ORDER 102-2020 (ITEM 6.39) APPROVAL TO AMEND ONLINE DISTANCE EDUCATION FEES, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE 31

MINUTE ORDER 103-2020 (ITEM 6.40) AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH A QUASI-ENDOWMENT IN THE SYSTEM ENDOWMENT FUND ENTITLED THE ARRINGTON MATCH - GABRIELA HERNANDEZ '99 AND EDGAR GARCIA QUASI-ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE 31

MINUTE ORDER 104-2020 (ITEM 6.41) AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH A QUASI-ENDOWMENT IN THE SYSTEM ENDOWMENT FUND ENTITLED THE ARRINGTON MATCH - DAVID & MARIA E. CROWLEY COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION SCHOLARSHIP QUASI-ENDOWMENT, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE 32

MINUTE ORDER 105-2020 (ITEM 6.42) APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO 32

MINUTE ORDER 106-2020 (ITEM 6.43) APPROVAL OF A NEW BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM WITH A MAJOR IN CYBERSECURITY, AND AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST APPROVAL FROM THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO 32

MINUTE ORDER 107-2020 (ITEM 6.44) APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-TEXARKANA 33

MINUTE ORDER 108-2020 (ITEM 6.45) APPROVAL OF A NEW MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM WITH A MAJOR IN PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER, AND AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST APPROVAL FROM THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-TEXARKANA 33

MINUTE ORDER 109-2020 (ITEM 6.46) APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020, WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY..... 33

MINUTE ORDER 110-2020 (ITEM 6.47) AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD AN HONORARY DEGREE TO STANLEY SCHAEFFER, WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 33

MINUTE ORDER 111-2020 (ITEM 6.48) APPROVAL TO AMEND ONLINE DISTANCE EDUCATION FEES, WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 34

MINUTE ORDER 112-2020 (ITEM 6.49) ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTER FOR INTEGRATED ANALYSIS OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES, TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE RESEARCH..... 34

MINUTE ORDER 113-2020 (ITEM 6.50) AUTHORIZATION FOR TIME SENSITIVE AWARDS SIGNATURE AUTHORITY FOR FY21 AND FY22, TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXTENSION SERVICE 34

MINUTE ORDER 114-2020 (ITEM 6.51) AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE FY 2020 FEDERAL NON-RESEARCH GRANT AGREEMENTS, AND ANY AMENDMENTS, MODIFICATIONS OR EXTENSIONS, TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE..... 34

MINUTE ORDER 115-2020 (ITEM 6.52) APPROVAL OF THE TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EXTERNAL OPERATIONS RULE FOR DISASTER RECOVERY LOAN PROGRAM, TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT..... 35

MINUTE ORDER 116-2020 (ITEM 6.53) APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO SYSTEM POLICY 02.01 (BOARD OF REGENTS), THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM..... 35

MINUTE ORDER 117-2020 (ITEM 5.1) ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MR. LEVI MCCLENNY FOR HIS SERVICE AS THE 2019-2020 STUDENT MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM AND BESTOWING THE TITLE OF STUDENT REGENT EMERITUS, BOARD OF REGENTS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM 35

STUDENT REGENT REMARKS 36

ANNOUNCEMENTS 37

ADJOURN..... 37

DRAFT

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF REGENTS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

May 14, 2020

CONVENE

Chairman Elaine Mendoza convened a regular meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System at 9:01 a.m., Thursday, May 14, 2020, via telephone conference call.

Chairman Mendoza said that each party to the conference call should clearly identify himself or herself prior to speaking. The following members of the Board were present by telephone:

Ms. Elaine Mendoza, Chairman
Mr. Tim Leach, Vice Chairman
Mr. Phil Adams
Mr. Robert L. Albritton
Mr. Jay Graham
Mr. Michael A. Hernandez III
Mr. Bill Mahomes
Mr. Michael J. Plank
Mr. Clifton L. Thomas, Jr.
Mr. Levi McClenny, Student Regent

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Mendoza announced that the Board would recess to executive session as permitted by Chapter 551, Sections 71, 72, 73, 74 and 76 of the Texas Government Code. She said in accordance with the law, no final action, decision or vote with regard to any matter considered in executive session would be made or taken.

(Note: The Board met in executive session from 9:03 a.m. until 12:25 p.m.)

RECONVENE

Chairman Mendoza reconvened the meeting in open session at 2:00 p.m., with a quorum present.

INVOCATION

Chairman Mendoza called on Mr. David Brookins, a Texas A&M University Mechanical Engineering major pursuing a Master's degree in Finance at the Mays School of Business, who presented the invocation.

CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS

Chairman Mendoza welcomed everyone to the meeting. She said given the environment they were currently in due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting focused on time-sensitive items and the Regents had tightened up the agenda. She thanked Regent Mahomes, Chairman of the Committee on Buildings and Physical Plant, and Regent Albritton, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, for allowing the Board to address all items as a committee of the whole. Chairman Mendoza thanked Regent Thomas, Chairman of the Committee on Academic and Student Affairs, for conducting the “datapalooza meeting” on March 4, 2020. She said they were looking forward to hearing more about that meeting. She thanked Regent Adams, Chairman of the Committee on Audit, for holding the committee’s report until the August Board meeting. Chairman Mendoza pointed out that they would conclude today’s meeting by honoring Student Regent McClenny, whose one-year term would soon end.

Chairman Mendoza congratulated Vice Chairman Leach and Regent Hernandez on being named 2020 Texas A&M Distinguished Alumni. She said this was a well-deserved honor and they looked forward to celebrating with them later in the year.

Chairman Mendoza said that since last Board meeting, it was difficult to comprehend the seismic shift that had happened in the world. She added that while change came astonishingly fast, the A&M System’s rapid and robust response had been admirable. She said it spoke volumes about the students, faculty, staff and leadership in the System. Chairman Mendoza advised that they continued educating students, though remotely as opposed to in the class. She said they had stepped up the research on the critical COVID-19 front, and found new ways to serve the communities, state and nation. She noted that unfortunately, there was no way to hold graduation ceremonies that students had worked for, but this accomplishment was too important so institutions found a way to celebrate with innovation and sincerity. Chairman Mendoza said that the universities held various virtual ceremonies honoring the deserving graduates. She pointed out that this was not the conclusion to their collegiate career that students wanted or expected, but completing their education was a significant achievement, whether or not they walked across the stage. She said members of the spring class of 2020 had navigated unprecedented challenges to finish what they began and therefore knew they could do anything. Chairman Mendoza explained that the future was brighter because of these graduates that were resolute, purposeful and visionary. She congratulated each of them.

Chairman Mendoza reported that A&M System leaders had begun discussing reopening next fall while protecting the health and welfare of students, faculty and staff. She said no decision would be made at this meeting, but they continued to keep their eye on what was happening in Texas. She noted that first they must understand the past three months and the pandemic’s impact on students, faculty and staff, on academics and operations, as they acknowledged the System’s response.

CHANCELLOR’S REMARKS

Chancellor John Sharp said they could be proud of the A&M System’s response to the pandemic. He advised that across the System, the academic institutions moved quickly to make an emergency transition to remote learning to keep the faculty, students and staff safe. He said in an eight-day period, they moved 150,000 students online without incident. Chancellor Sharp pointed out that the May 2020 class graduated in a series of novel virtual ceremonies all over the System, while the remainder of the System moved to the front lines against the pandemic. He said Dr. Jeffrey Cirillo, Professor in the College of Medicine at the Texas A&M Health Science Center (TAMHSC), was vaccinating medical professionals with an almost century old Tuberculosis (TB) vaccine to prove that the drug mitigated the effects of COVID-19, reducing hospitalizations and death rate. He added that if it worked, the drug could buy time while a COVID-19 vaccine was developed. Chancellor Sharp said the Chancellor’s Research Initiative funded the six-month clinical trial, collaborating with the Harvard School of Public Health, MD Anderson and Baylor College of Medicine. He noted that millions of children around the world received the TB vaccinations until 1950, because of the near eradication of TB. He said the extension agents were assisting local officials, particularly in rural areas, as they did during Hurricane Harvey; but this time it related to online training to apply for more than two trillion dollars in federal relief. Chancellor Sharp explained that it might not be important to Harris County that had expertise, but to Refugio County and smaller counties, it was a great help. He said Texas A&M engineers used 3-D printers to manufacture face shields for the Baylor College of Medicine, and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi did the same for Driscoll Hospital. He commented that the Texas A&M College of Architecture produced 3D surgical face shields for emergency units at local hospitals, and a clinic built by Texas A&M students was sent to Memorial Herman Hospital in Houston.

Chancellor Sharp announced that the Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL) donated 2,000 sampling kits to hospitals around the state where regional campuses and Texas A&M were located. He said TVMDL had applied for a federal waiver to test COVID-19. He advised that TVMDL, larger than any laboratory in Texas, could process more than 3,000 tests per day, a key factor in reopening the economy. Chancellor Sharp said Texas A&M’s School of Law faculty helped Texans understand the benefits and implications of the federal government’s relief package in a series of one-hour seminars. He added that at West Texas A&M University, engineering students developed Copper Clean stickers for door handles. He said the highly engineered copper-alloy foil with adhesive backing helped alleviate the microbial burden on high-touch surfaces being tested for COVID-19 protection. Chancellor Sharp noted that Texas A&M AgriLife Research scientists were working on a proposal to build resilience in the food supply chain using artificial intelligence (AI). He said exploiting huge amounts of real time data, state-of-the-art AI algorithms would avoid the time-consuming process of manually redesigning supply chain logistics. He pointed out that Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service economists had developed a publication directing farmers and ranchers to help with resources for financial relief. Chancellor Sharp said TAMHSC was working with the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and Governor Greg Abbott to assist with the workforce from the faculty and students to provide contact-tracing operations as the state begins to reopen. He reported that 70% of Texas A&M’s senior nursing students left school a month early to join the front lines of the hospitals and clinics. He said the System began a television show, “COVID-19: The Texas A&M University System Responds,” to highlight great researchers, pandemic experts and others

responding to the pandemic. Chancellor Sharp stated that it airs at 7:00 p.m., Thursday on KAMU and public television stations in Amarillo, Austin, Dallas and San Antonio, and the A&M System's U-Tube channel. He said as the System responded to the pandemic, leadership had been assessing the impact. He explained that Mr. Billy Hamilton, Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer, and Dr. James Hallmark, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, would report on ideas for reopening the A&M System. Chancellor Sharp said System leaders were also planning how to reopen the campuses safely this fall. He emphasized that enrollment projections looked good but they must monitor the spread of the disease. He said fall 2020 could not look like the spring and summer without serious consequences. Chancellor Sharp remarked that they must be smart, reopen safely, and believed they had guidelines to do that. He said they would present the reopening plan to the Board at a later date. He thanked the Board for its leadership during these challenging times.

Impact on Academics and Student Life - Dr. Hallmark reported that the spring semester had been messy, but they survived and essentially moved all summer offerings to remote instruction. He added that some universities hoped to offer limited face-to-face instruction in July or August; however, summer would mostly be remote instruction. He said it was unlikely they would see many large packed classrooms in the fall. Dr. Hallmark said that as they moved beyond this crisis there would probably be a greater balance of face-to-face and online courses. He explained that they had been moving that direction and this experience accelerated that trajectory. He said the massive online presence at Texas A&M prior to spring was mostly at the graduate level, but should expand at the undergraduate level, while maintaining the physical presence and culture that current and former students, parents, and citizens of Texas, expected of Texas A&M. He said several A&M System institutions had a significant undergraduate and master's level presence online. He noted that the System member universities and leaders were routinely involved in statewide conversations when discussing leadership of online programming. He said consequently, the System was moving in that direction and fall 2021 and beyond would see even more of that.

Dr. Hallmark announced that in fall 2021 they would see a mix of four categories of courses: online courses, hybrid courses, hyflex courses and face-to-face courses. He said hybrid courses were a mix of face-to-face and online courses. He advised that the student might be required to attend class once a week or month for a concentrated period, or other format for face-to-face activities where best accomplished. Dr. Hallmark said much of the learning was delivered so that the course was a mix of online and face-to-face. He noted that in a face-to-face environment there was discussion, activities and experiential learning. He said the hyflex course was relatively new, and offered remotely and simultaneously face-to-face. Dr. Hallmark added that the student chose when they would attend class, such as a lecture they were interested in, found particularly challenging, or wanted to engage in face-to-face. He said they expected plenty of face-to-face courses because in some courses, it was difficult to convert to a fully online environment -- and the online learning environment was not the quality they expected. Dr. Hallmark reported that examples were courses where students needed to manipulate something with their hands or see patients, mix chemicals, weld things, play an instrument or dance. He said these also included discussion classes, because online discussion did not match face-to-face course discussion. He commented that also some students did not perform well in a remote environment they needed the structure, immediacy or accountability from attending class. Dr. Hallmark said those students were auditory learners noticing social cues that might not be there fully online. He remarked that this spring some students indicated they did not learn as well in that environment,

and the post-COVID-19 classroom must consider that. He said there would be a mix of online, face-to-face, hybrid and hyflex courses, and not entirely online or face-to-face. Dr. Hallmark stated that they would prioritize class and program space best accomplished through face-to-face instruction, and prioritize online instruction for courses and programs best accomplished online.

Dr. Hallmark said the A&M System campuses were open the entire spring semester. He added that they received daily and later weekly updates on number of students living in residence halls and other issues facing the universities and agencies, and the ways in which those agencies and universities served. He said the universities served their students, SSC cleaned, food service served food, and the buses ran at Texas A&M. Dr. Hallmark noted that they moved all classes to remote instruction and encouraged everyone that could to go home. He said instruction did not go online; instead, they had an emergency transition to remote instruction -- an important phrase, because emergency meant they did not plan for it. He advised that the faculty were untrained and students had not signed up for remote classes, but had to do it. Dr. Hallmark emphasized that online had a specific meaning and remote captured any possible means a faculty member might utilize to move their class instruction where the instructor and student were not in the same location. He said the A&M System faculty and students used every available means to keep the classes going.

Dr. Hallmark reported that students were utilizing interactive videos, Zoom and Webex, correspondence, posting on websites, and even texting pictures of assignments to faculty members. He said whatever it took to accomplish the goal, students and faculty pursued it, and were very creative. He stressed that the faculty, administration and instructional designers deserved high praise for what the teams pulled off. Dr. Hallmark said what was done this spring was not what they wanted for subsequent fall semesters. He explained that this past spring many faculty were untrained for the experience. He said courses designed for one mode of instruction were moved into another mode without the opportunity to redesign that course. Dr. Hallmark commented that teaching laboratories shifted from conducting experiments to watching the professor conduct the experiment and writing analyses of those observations. He said research laboratories were suspended; limited to essential activity, or research was put on hold. He remarked that students, faculty and staff with one computer in the house, competed with siblings or children completing class assignments, and/or parents, spouses and partners trying to work from home. Dr. Hallmark said many students, faculty and staff lacked sufficient internet. He stated that the universities checked out hundreds of laptops and hotspots flooded the parking lots with Wi-Fi signals. He said this was done similarly at AgriLife, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) and Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) scattered throughout the state to provide the connectivity that many in Texas did not have. Dr. Hallmark stated that libraries doubled efforts to deliver instructional materials electronically and/or remotely. He said tutoring and study sessions occurred online, or in Zoom rooms. He added that they did all they could to offer students the services they needed to be successful. Dr. Hallmark said student activities took a hit, such as Ring Day, clubs and organizations moved to Zoom, and scholarship dinners and honors banquets went virtual. He said of course, graduation ceremonies took on a very different form.

Dr. Hallmark said each Friday since Spring Break, Dr. Shonda Gibson, Associate Vice Chancellor, and Mr. James Searle, Program Director, Academic Affairs Initiatives, in Academic Affairs, joined him in a call with the Chancellor's Student Advisory Committee (CSAC), which included Student Regent McClenny. He added that CSAC students shared the challenges they

faced in their classes; like connectivity and assignments faculty members created in a face-to-face environment, now herculean in a virtual environment. Dr. Hallmark noted that they shared how their universities were providing Wi-Fi and devices for needy students, testing assignments, cheating and integrity problems. He said the CSAC students shared how student affairs and student activities were conducting elections, and scholarship and honors activities. He advised that they had questions about refunding fees for residence halls, food services, and others. Dr. Hallmark said each call left the team proud of the students and universities working together to meet each challenge that arose. He reported that eight universities employed Hanover Research's survey to assess students' experiences and utilized the data to better serve their students. He said several universities called each student. He said now they were working on a plan for the fall, engaging public health leaders, leaders in the provosts and student affairs office, presidents and medical experts. Dr. Hallmark reiterated that they would be sharing that plan in the coming days and weeks.

Dr. Hallmark reported that the academic quality, health, and safety of the university communities was the focus of their plans for this fall. He said they planned to reopen face-to-face instruction, class activities and residential living, but remained flexible to respond as the situation determined. He advised that not all classes would be face-to-face, but a mixture to meet the needs of the students. Dr. Hallmark referenced the four categories; online classes, hybrid classes, hyflex classes and face-to-face classes. He added that beyond those categories, the universities were devising ways to meet student needs this fall. Dr. Hallmark said working to protect the health and safety of students, faculty and staff consisted of testing, monitoring, protective equipment, cleaning and designing with flexibility in mind. He noted that they were "upping the ante" on quality academics, moving from remote to online. Dr. Hallmark said they needed to focus on moving from face-to-face to redesign those instructional classes to match the mode of instruction in which it would be offered, and train the faculty to teach in this new environment. He said six years ago under Chancellor Sharp's direction, initiated by the Council on Academic Technology and Innovative Education (CATIE), they began a Quality Assurance program, where using Quality Matters product and other processes, all online courses, faculty and programs went through a rigorous design and training procedure, which did not happen this spring. Chancellor Sharp said a task force working with the agencies and universities were developing steps for fall's reopening and would soon present their plan to the Board for consideration.

Regent Graham asked if related to the course descriptions provided, was the System suggesting that these be permanent changes going forward. He said were they making a conscious effort to do more online and different types of classes moving forward, regardless of the pandemic's outcome. Dr. Hallmark replied that they would be using those strategies for fall 2020. He said, as with any strategy, they would assess how it went in the fall 2020, and if effective continue it. He advised that they anticipated more online, hybrid, hyflex classes through fall 2023.

Regent Graham asked how they judged the effectiveness and what criteria they looked at. He asked if they communicated with students each semester, and how they determined the right techniques. Dr. Hallmark said they regularly assessed the learning outcomes for each class. He said they assessed the students' performances as a whole to understand the success of the particular strategy used. He advised that all universities assessed learning outcomes as part of their accreditation. Dr. Hallmark said if the assessments showed that a strategy was not effective, they

made adjustments. He pointed out that effective strategies were utilized more. He said their assessment process was based on if students learned what they needed to in that course.

Regent Graham said that going forward they needed to judge each student's situation, whether in a hybrid or other type of class. He said they needed to ensure that students had laptops, the right computer systems and access to Wi-Fi. He asked did they consider it the student or System's responsibility to provide necessary equipment to handle those learning situations. Dr. Hallmark replied that it had been handled through open computer laboratories at the university, as they did this spring. He said all these laboratories remained opened since many students did not have access to what they needed at home. He advised that moving forward they needed to consider the individual's devices and their quality. Dr. Hallmark said that already existed at some universities, particularly private institutions, where the student was required to own a specific device. He noted that a few programs did that in the System. He said certain majors required specific equipment or software, and that might grow. Dr. Hallmark explained that they were aware that the A&M System served a large number of students with significant financial challenges. He said they wanted to provide what they could from the institution. He added that there was a growing realization that students' personal devices were a significant part of their learning capability.

Financial and Budget Impact - Mr. Hamilton said the DSHS announced the first case of COVID-19 in Texas on March 4, and on March 13, President Trump declared a national emergency due to the epidemic. Mr. Hamilton said 22 known cases were in Texas. He noted that more cases began to appear in the state and by March 15, 56 cases were reported, a 155% increase from the day before. He said several major cities began issuing shelter-in-place orders and ordering closures of non-essential businesses. Mr. Hamilton advised that about March 15, universities began the planning and execution of moving classes to temporary remote status. He said that as shelter-in-place orders became increasingly common, Brazos County issued a stay-at-home order on March 23. He pointed out that on March 16, Chancellor Sharp directed System Governmental Relations to begin daily surveys of System members for a report to the Board, which changed to weekly reports in April. Mr. Hamilton stated that they focused on specific topics like dormitory populations and related issues. He said planning for the System's response was in progress with communications with state health authorities, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), other state university systems and the Texas Division of Emergency Management on best strategies for the System members and agencies. On March 18, Chancellor Sharp made the decision to keep System universities open for students needing to remain on campus with food, lodging, health care, internet and counseling services offered. He said some students had no place to go, or their situation would be more difficult at home -- without internet access, food insecurities or other issues. He remarked that other students were given the option to return home or shelter in place at their current residences. Mr. Hamilton said that 75% of Texas A&M students lived off campus and some were permanent residents of Bryan/College Station.

Mr. Hamilton reported that remote instruction began on March 23 for most campuses. He said the universities accomplished this in eight days. He advised that on March 23, the System issued guidance on housing and dining charges, and they began a process of credits and refunds for students electing to withdraw from onsite housing to return home. Mr. Hamilton said on March 23, they announced a systemwide flexible hiring freeze. He noted that System chief executive officers were given alternatives for conserving resources in anticipation of

epidemic-associated costs and the difficult economic situation in the fall and for the next two fiscal years. He said the federal government's Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was signed on March 27, which contained significant aid for higher education. Mr. Hamilton pointed out that on April 27, Governor Abbott released a statewide order to begin reopening the economy and on May 4, the System issued guidance on reopening of business operations, pointing to a reopening of campuses in fall 2020. He said details and further guidance would be issued as the pandemic's progress became clearer. He remarked that they also began financial pulse check online meetings with all System members to better assess their financial conditions and look to the pandemic's impact for the coming year. Mr. Hamilton said they worked System members to adjust debt service requirements when possible and deferring capital projects to ensure their budgets were not overstrained. He added that they continued to work through the System Capital Plan, and would present it at the August Board meeting. He said as in Hurricane Harvey and other state disasters, the System had been intricately involved in the response to the pandemic on a statewide basis.

Mr. Hamilton said that despite the best efforts of many individuals, there were economic and public health effects of the pandemic on the state and national economy. He explained that U.S. employment was struggling and the unemployment rate was currently at 14.7%. He said current numbers indicated that 36 million were unemployed and the unemployment rate would likely go above 20% before it began to ease. Mr. Hamilton reported that the Texas unemployment rate was currently 4.7%, but that data was not as recent as federal data. He said related to state finances, there was a 9.3% drop in sales tax last month, accounting for about 60% of state revenues. He stated that they anticipated a 20% to 25% drop this month, if not more. Mr. Hamilton said last month only reflected a part of March during which the shelter-in-place orders began, and there was still significant loss. He advised that May's sales tax was a quarterly peak, and those numbers would reflect significant loss. He said the same would be true of other major taxes; certainly, the oil and gas taxes would be impacted. Mr. Hamilton added that the motor vehicle sales tax would be impacted by essentially no sales and the franchise, hotel and motel taxes also. He said the Controller would release a revenue estimate revision in July. He noted that at the end of this month the numbers would tell them what happened through the end of May, and in June, they would reforecast revenues. Mr. Hamilton said there would likely be a substantial reduction in the current year's forecast and any forecast for years going forward. He pointed out that they had anticipated a significant surplus at the end of the fiscal year and likely, would face a deficit once those numbers became available. He said the impact would be significant, especially because it was driven by consumption-based taxes. Mr. Hamilton emphasized that they would be prepared for this eventuality. He said an important part of that preparation would be the Programmatic Budget Review (PBR) during the summer and the adoption of the budget at the August Board meeting.

Mr. Hamilton announced that overall, despite what they had seen about The University of Texas (UT) System and their substantial losses, without clinical revenues as the UT System had the A&M System's financial losses were considerably less in magnitude. He said funding to the universities and students under the CARES Act had significantly helped. He advised that current preliminary numbers were in the middle of the pandemic, and with each day, the losses would increase. Mr. Hamilton said in the fall, the meter would spin rapidly unless could begin to unwind the current situation. He added that a lot depended on the course of the pandemic over the summer. He said the total allocation to universities under the CARES Act was approximately \$113 million in U.S. Department of Education grants, split equally between students and institutions.

Mr. Hamilton explained that Emergency Financial Aids Grants to Students was allocated to students incurring expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19, and overall dollars were divided by universities between spring, summer and fall semesters to ensure assistance was available now and in the next academic year. He said additionally, they rolled balances into the current fiscal year from the Regents Grants -- small grants to assist students in need, which universities had access to if needed. He remarked that in addition to the CARES Act distributed to all universities, was a \$30 million allocation to Minorities Serving Institutions (MSI), for a total of about \$143 million. Mr. Hallmark said there were no matching requirements on this money. He said the agencies did not receive CARES Act funding, but were eligible for assistance under Category B of the Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), that required a 25% match to be accessed, and documentation requirements were stiff. He added that they worked with the agencies to ensure that any claims made under the Stafford Act were adequately documented.

Mr. Hamilton referred to financial charts (PowerPoint on file in the Office of the Board of Regents) indicating the distribution of funding allocated to each institution under the CARES Act. He said this funding was significant, but would not cover all the System institution's pandemic costs for lost revenue from housing, dining and others, and the direct costs of dealing with the pandemic. He said examples were the added costs of moving online, refunding housing and dining costs, additional cleaning protocols and personal protective equipment. Mr. Hamilton added that as of May 1, the System had occurred or would occur a total loss revenue and costs of \$120 million. He said from that they must net out the amount earmarked for direct student assistance. He noted that after those adjustments, the CARES Act funding covered all but about \$16.6 million in total losses to date. He said the effects were not distributed evenly among institutions, and any surplus or shortfall was not either. He emphasized that it was an ongoing exercise and the cost data was updated and reported to the Legislative Budget Board on a monthly basis. Mr. Hamilton said regarding what they knew, projected loss revenue estimates through August 31, the state's fiscal year, was \$73 million plus. He explained that Texas A&M accounted for \$27 million, related to housing and dining operations, waiver of summer distance education fees, athletics and so on. He said the agencies accounted for another \$28 million; \$20 million due to the TEEEX fire training school revenue loss and \$6 million from AgriLife Research losses in laboratory-generated fees and testing services. Mr. Hamilton reported that the agencies were particularly hard hit if they focused on training or research and testing fees that had come to a pause during the pandemic. He said expenses included housing and dining refunds projected at \$42 million through August 31, \$17 million in housing refunds, \$10 million in dining refunds, \$2.3 million in other auxiliary refunds such as parking, \$12.6 million in direct COVID-19 disruption and response expenses, personnel costs, additional faculty to cover the shift to remote instruction, faculty training, consumable supplies, custodial services, information technology equipment and testing. He commented that losses mounted daily, and although they would slow during the summer, in August as the fall semester began, associated costs could build up, including parking, housing and dining revenue, lost athletics revenue and other costs. Mr. Hamilton said that as they worked with public health experts on a detailed reopening plan for the fall, no idea was wasted as they attempted to figure out this pandemic. He stated that they PBRs would be held in late July or early August. He said at the August Board meeting, Regents would approve the System budget for the coming year, which began September 1, in addition to a System Capital Plan update. He announced that they would also be discussing legislative proposals and strategies for the upcoming biennium.

Chairman Mendoza said Regent Albritton had been working with Mr. Hamilton in preparation for the PBR meeting. She advised them to contact Chancellor Sharp and his team with questions until everything reopened in August. She said they would keep the information flowing.

Chairman Mendoza announced that they had not receive any requests for public testimony.

Mr. Russ Wallace, Executive Director of Facilities, Planning and Construction, presented Items 3.1 through 3.4.

Chairman Mendoza said the project in Item 3.5 would be managed directly by Texas A&M.

Dr. Jerry Strawser, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Texas A&M, presented Item 3.5.

Chairman Mendoza called for a motion on Items 3.1 through 3.5. Regent Adams moved for adoption of the minute orders contained in Items 3.1 through 3.5. Regent Hernandez seconded the motion. Chairman Mendoza called each regent's name for the vote. The record of the vote is as follows: Adams - yes, Albritton - yes, Graham - yes, Hernandez - yes, Leach - yes, Mahomes - yes, Plank - yes, and Thomas - yes.

The following minute orders were approved (050 through 054).

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**MINUTE ORDER 050-2020 (ITEM 3.1)**

**APPROVAL TO AMEND THE FY 2020-FY 2024  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM CAPITAL PLAN TO ADD THE  
RELLIS CAMPUS INFRASTRUCTURE - PHASE III-A PROJECT  
(NO. 01-3323), FOR THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM  
RELLIS CAMPUS WITH A FY 2020 START DATE,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The request to amend the FY 2020-FY 2024 Texas A&M University System Capital Plan to add the RELLIS Campus Infrastructure - Phase III-A Project for The Texas A&M University System RELLIS Campus with an FY 2020 start date and a total planning amount of \$12,348,000 is approved.

Contingent upon the completion of the Program of Requirements scoped to the approved budget, the amount of \$1,234,800 is appropriated from Account No. 01-084243, Permanent University Fund Debt Proceeds (AUF), for preconstruction services and related project costs.

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System (Board) reasonably expects to incur debt in one or more obligations for this project, and all or a portion of the proceeds received from the sale of such obligations is reasonably expected to be used to reimburse the account(s) for amounts previously appropriated and/or expended from such account(s).



**MINUTE ORDER 051-2020 (ITEM 3.2)**

**APPROVAL TO AMEND THE FY 2020-FY 2024  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM CAPITAL PLAN TO ADD THE  
BALLISTIC AERO-OPTICS AND MATERIALS FACILITY PROJECT  
(NO. 28-3321), FOR TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION  
WITH A FY 2020 START DATE,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The request to amend the FY 2020-FY 2024 Texas A&M University System Capital Plan to add the Ballistic Aero-Optics and Materials Facility Project for Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station with an FY 2020 start date and a total planning amount of \$25,000,000 is approved. The exception to system policy is approved to add the project to the Capital Plan prior to completion of a Program of Requirements.

Contingent upon the completion of the Program of Requirements scoped to the approved budget, the amount of \$2,500,000 is appropriated from Account No. 28-810076, AFC BAM Funding, for pre-construction services and related project costs.

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System (Board) reasonably expects to incur debt in one or more obligations for this project, and all or a portion of the proceeds received from the sale of such obligations is reasonably expected to be used to reimburse the account(s) for amounts previously appropriated and/or expended from such account(s).

As required by Section 5(a) of the Master Resolution of the Revenue Financing System, the Board hereby determines that it will have sufficient funds to meet the financial obligations of The Texas A&M University System, including sufficient Pledged Revenues to satisfy the Annual Debt Service Requirements of the Revenue Financing System and to meet all financial obligations of the Board relating to the Revenue Financing System and that the Participants, on whose behalf the debt is issued, possess the financial capacity to satisfy their Direct Obligations.

**MINUTE ORDER 052-2020 (ITEM 3.3)**

**APPROVAL TO AMEND THE FY 2020-FY 2024  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM CAPITAL PLAN TO ADD THE  
BCDC: INNOVATION PROVING GROUNDS PROJECT (NO. 28-3322),  
FOR TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION  
WITH A FY 2020 START DATE,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The request to amend the FY 2020-FY 2024 Texas A&M University System Capital Plan to add the BCDC: Innovation Proving Grounds Project for Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station with an FY 2020 start date and a total planning amount of \$42,000,000 is approved. The exception to system policy is approved to add the project to the Capital Plan prior to completion of a Program of Requirements.

Contingent upon the completion of the Program of Requirements scoped to the approved project budget, the amount of \$4,200,000 is appropriated from Account No. 28-810075, AFC IPG Funding, for pre-construction services and related project costs.

**MINUTE ORDER 053-2020 (ITEM 3.4)**

**APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT SCOPE AND BUDGET,  
APPROPRIATION FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES,  
AND APPROVAL FOR CONSTRUCTION FOR THE  
WEST CAMPUS DINING FACILITY PROJECT (NO. 02-3277),  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The project scope along with a project budget of \$15,000,000 for the West Campus Dining Facility Project is approved.

The amount of \$13,500,000 is appropriated from Account No. 02-808893, Campus Renovation, for construction services and related project costs.

The West Campus Dining Facility Project, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, is approved for construction.

**MINUTE ORDER 054-2020 (ITEM 3.5)**

**APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT SCOPE AND BUDGET,  
APPROPRIATION FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES,  
AND APPROVAL FOR CONSTRUCTION FOR THE  
RAILROAD QUIET ZONE PROJECT (NO. 2019-07296),  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The project scope along with a project budget of \$5,000,000 for the Railroad Quiet Zone Project is approved.

The amount of \$4,500,000 is appropriated from Account No. 02-021843, Income Equalization, for construction services and related project costs.

The Railroad Quiet Zone Project, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, is approved for construction.

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(Note: See Page 35 for approval of Item 5.1.)

Mr. Ray Bonilla, General Counsel, presented Item 5.2.

Dr. Hallmark presented Item 5.3.

(Note: The Item number 5.4 was not used.)

Chairman Mendoza announced that Items 5.5 through 5.11 were considered in executive session.

Chairman Mendoza called for a motion on Items 5.2, 5.3 and Items 5.5 through 5.11. Regent Plank moved for adoption of the minute orders contained in Items 5.2, 5.3 and Items 5.5 through 5.11. Regent Adams seconded the motion. Chairman Mendoza called each regent's name for the vote. The record of the vote is as follows: Adams - yes, Albritton - yes, Graham - yes, Hernandez - yes, Leach - yes, Mahomes - yes, Plank - yes, and Thomas - yes.

The following minute orders were approved (055 through 063).

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**MINUTE ORDER 055-2020 (ITEM 5.2)**

**APPROVAL OF NEW EXPRESSIVE ACTIVITY ON  
CAMPUS RULES FROM MEMBER ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The new expressive activity on campus rules for all member academic institutions of The Texas A&M University System, as shown in the attached exhibits, are approved, effective immediately.

**MINUTE ORDER 056-2020 (ITEM 5.3)**

**APPROVAL OF CHANGES TO THE  
ADMISSIONS STANDARDS FOR SYSTEM MEMBER  
UNIVERSITIES FOR THE 2021-22 ACADEMIC YEAR,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby approves the changes to the admissions standards of the member universities of The Texas A&M University System for the 2021-22 academic year, as shown in the attached exhibits, copies of which are attached to the official minutes.

**MINUTE ORDER 057-2020 (ITEM 5.5)**

**DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO THE  
CHANCELLOR TO APPROVE CERTAIN MINERAL LEASES,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System, or designee, following legal review by the Office of General Counsel, is authorized to negotiate, approve, execute and deliver mineral leases having: (a) a primary term of three years or less, and (b) a royalty of at least 20% in those situations where well payout forecasts do not predict that payout of revenue from unleased mineral interests will result within the first 24 months of production, and to take any and all additional action, and execute any and all ancillary documents, deemed necessary to consummate the transaction.

**MINUTE ORDER 058-2020 (ITEM 5.6)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE AN  
AMENDMENT TO THE GROUND LEASE OF A 15-ACRE  
TRACT ON THE RELLIS CAMPUS TO BLINN COLLEGE,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System, or designee, following legal review by the Office of General Counsel, is authorized to negotiate, execute and deliver an amendment to the ground lease agreement with Blinn College on the RELLIS Campus of The Texas A&M University System for an additional 10-year renewal option, and to take any and all additional action, and execute any and all ancillary documents, deemed necessary to consummate the transaction.

**MINUTE ORDER 059-2020 (ITEM 5.7)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE  
PRIVATIZED STUDENT HOUSING PROJECTS  
AND TERMINATE GROUND LEASES,  
TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY**

The Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System, or designee, following a review for legal sufficiency by the Office of General Counsel, is authorized to negotiate, execute and deliver all documents, and to take all other action necessary, to purchase three privatized student housing projects and terminate three related Ground Leases on the campus of Tarleton State University.

The amount of \$130,000,000 plus applicable closing costs is appropriated from Account No. 01-083540, Revenue Financing System Debt Proceeds (Housing Revenue), for the purchase of the three student housing projects.

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System (Board) reasonably expects to incur debt in one or more obligations for this project, and all or a portion of the proceeds received from the sale of such obligations is reasonably expected to be used to reimburse the account(s) for amounts previously appropriated and/or expended from such account(s).

As required by Section 5(a) of the Master Resolution of the Revenue Financing System, the Board hereby determines that it will have sufficient funds to meet the financial obligations of The Texas A&M University System, including sufficient Pledged Revenues to satisfy the Annual Debt Service Requirements of the Revenue Financing System and to meet all financial obligations of the Board relating to the Revenue Financing System and that the Participants, on whose behalf the debt is issued, possess the financial capacity to satisfy their Direct Obligations.

**MINUTE ORDER 060-2020 (ITEM 5.8)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO GRANT A  
CONDITIONAL ROADWAY EASEMENT IN  
COLLEGE STATION, BRAZOS COUNTY, TEXAS, TO  
THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System, or his designee, following a review for legal sufficiency by the Office of General Counsel, is authorized to take all steps necessary to negotiate, execute and deliver a conditional roadway easement to the Texas Department of Transportation for improvements along George Bush Drive (Farm to Market Road No. 2347) in the City of College Station, Brazos County, Texas, to remain in effect so long as the property is used for roadway purposes.

**MINUTE ORDER 061-2020 (ITEM 5.9)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED WITH SETTLEMENT  
OF PROPERTY DAMAGE CLAIM TO MOSHER HALL,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System, or designee, is authorized to sign a release in exchange for payment of \$573,062.13 for property damages to Mosher Hall.

**MINUTE ORDER 062-2020 (ITEM 5.10)**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PRESIDENT TO  
EXTEND THE TERM OF THE EXISTING COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT  
AND NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE A NEW COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT  
IN CONNECTION WITH THE TEXAS A&M COLLEGE OF MEDICINE’S  
FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAM,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System authorizes the President of Texas A&M University to extend the term of the existing cooperative agreement with CHI St. Joseph Health Regional Hospital and negotiate and execute a new cooperative agreement to supersede the existing agreement in connection with the College of Medicine’s Family Medicine Residency Program, and further authorizes the President to take all actions necessary to carry out the intents and purposes of the new cooperative agreement, subject to review for legal form and sufficiency by the Office of General Counsel.

**MINUTE ORDER 063-2020 (ITEM 5.11)**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PRESIDENT TO  
NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE NEW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS  
FOR ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH - OFFENSE COORDINATOR  
DARRELL DICKEY, ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH - WIDE RECEIVERS  
DAMEYUNE CRAIG, ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH - DEFENSIVE ENDS  
TERRENCE PRICE, HEAD FOOTBALL STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING  
COACH JERRY SCHMIDT, ASSOCIATE ATHLETICS DIRECTOR -  
FOOTBALL DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS MARK ROBINSON,  
ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH - DEFENSIVE TACKLES ELIJAH ROBINSON,  
ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH – SECONDARY TERRALL RUSHING II,  
ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH - RUNNING BACKS TOMMIE ROBINSON,  
ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH - TIGHT ENDS JAMES COLEY,  
ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH - LINEBACKERS TYLER SANTUCCI,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

Authority is hereby granted to the President of Texas A&M University to negotiate and execute new employment contracts, upon review for legal form and sufficiency by the Office of General Counsel, with the following persons:

- Assistant Football Coach - Offensive Coordinator - Darrell Dickey
- Assistant Football Coach - Wide Receivers - Dameyune Craig
- Assistant Football Coach - Defensive Ends - Terrence Price
- Head Football Strength and Conditioning Coach - Jerry Schmidt
- Associate Athletics Director - Football Director of Operations - Mark Robinson
- Assistant Football Coach - Defensive Tackles - Elijah Robinson
- Assistant Football Coach - Secondary - Terrall Rushing II
- Assistant Football Coach - Running Backs - Tommie Robinson
- Assistant Football Coach - Tight Ends - James Coley

Assistant Football Coach - Linebackers - Tyler Santucci

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CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Chairman Mendoza presented Items 6.1 through 6.53.

Chairman Mendoza called for a motion on Items 6.1 through 6.53. Regent Thomas moved for adoption of the minute orders contained in Items 6.1 through 6.53. Regent Mahomes seconded the motion. Chairman Mendoza called each regent's name for the vote. The record of the vote is as follows: Adams - yes, Albritton - yes, Graham - yes, Hernandez - yes, Leach - yes, Mahomes - yes, Plank - yes, and Thomas - yes.

The following minute orders were approved (064 through 116).

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**MINUTE ORDER 064-2020 (ITEM 6.1)**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE  
FEBRUARY 5, 2020, SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING;  
FEBRUARY 6, 2020, REGULAR BOARD MEETING;  
AND FEBRUARY 7, 2020, SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING,  
BOARD OF REGENTS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The Minutes of the February 5, 2020, Special Workshop Meeting; the February 6, 2020, Regular Board Meeting; and the February 7, 2020, Special Workshop Meeting are hereby approved.

**MINUTE ORDER 065-2020 (ITEM 6.2)**

**GRANTING OF THE TITLE OF EMERITUS, MAY 2020,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

In recognition of long and distinguished service to The Texas A&M University System, the Board of Regents hereby confirms the recommendation of the Chancellor, and confers the title of "Emeritus" upon the individuals as shown in the attached exhibit, Emeritus Title List No. 20-03, and grants all rights and privileges of this title.

**MINUTE ORDER 066-2020 (ITEM 6.3)****CONFIRMATION OF  
APPOINTMENT AND COMMISSIONING OF PEACE OFFICERS,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

In accordance with System Policy 34.06 (Appointment, Commissioning and Authority of Peace Officers), the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System confirms the appointment and commissioning of campus peace officers by the presidents of their respective system member universities, in accordance with the requirements of the law, and as shown in the exhibit, attached to the official minutes, subject to their taking the oath required of peace officers.

**MINUTE ORDER 067-2020 (ITEM 6.4)****APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2021 HOLIDAY SCHEDULES,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

Holidays for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2021, for the System Offices of The Texas A&M University System, Texas A&M University, Texas A&M University at Galveston, Texas A&M University Health Science Center, West Texas A&M University, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station, Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service, Texas A&M Transportation Institute, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (A&M campus employees) and Texas A&M AgriLife Research (A&M campus employees), shall be as follows:

| Holiday                     | Number of Days | Dates                             |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Thanksgiving                | 2              | November 26-27, 2020              |
| Winter Break                | 7              | December 24, 2020-January 1, 2021 |
| Martin Luther King, Jr. Day | 1              | January 18, 2021                  |
| Spring Break                | 3              | March 17-19, 2021                 |
| Memorial Day                | 1              | May 31, 2021                      |

Exceptions are established as set forth below:

The proposed holiday schedule for Tarleton State University, Texas A&M University-Commerce and Texas A&M University-Kingsville is as follows:

| Holiday                     | Number of Days | Dates                             |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Labor Day                   | 1              | September 7, 2020                 |
| Thanksgiving                | 2              | November 26-27, 2020              |
| Winter Break                | 7              | December 24, 2020-January 1, 2021 |
| Martin Luther King, Jr. Day | 1              | January 18, 2021                  |
| Spring Break                | 2              | March 11-12, 2021                 |
| Memorial Day                | 1              | May 31, 2021                      |

The proposed holiday schedule for Texas A&M International University is as follows:

| Holiday      | Number of Days | Dates                             |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Thanksgiving | 2              | November 26-27, 2020              |
| Winter Break | 8              | December 23, 2020-January 1, 2021 |



|                             |   |                   |
|-----------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Martin Luther King, Jr. Day | 1 | January 18, 2021  |
| Spring Break                | 2 | March 18-19, 2021 |
| Memorial Day                | 1 | May 31, 2021      |

The proposed holiday schedule for Prairie View A&M University, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Texas A&M University-San Antonio and Texas A&M University-Texarkana is as follows:

| <u>Holiday</u>              | <u>Number of Days</u> | <u>Dates</u>                      |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Labor Day                   | 1                     | September 7, 2020                 |
| Thanksgiving                | 2                     | November 26-27, 2020              |
| Winter Break                | 7                     | December 24, 2020-January 1, 2021 |
| Martin Luther King, Jr. Day | 1                     | January 18, 2021                  |
| Spring Break                | 2                     | March 18-19, 2021                 |
| Memorial Day                | 1                     | May 31, 2021                      |

The proposed holiday schedule for Texas A&M University-Central Texas is as follows:

| <u>Holiday</u>               | <u>Number of Days</u> | <u>Dates</u>                      |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Labor Day                    | 1                     | September 7, 2020                 |
| Veteran’s Day                | 1                     | November 11, 2020                 |
| Thanksgiving                 | 2                     | November 26-27, 2020              |
| Winter Break                 | 7                     | December 24, 2020-January 1, 2021 |
| Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  | 1                     | January 18, 2021                  |
| Memorial Day                 | 1                     | May 31, 2021                      |
| Independence Day (Day after) | 1                     | July 5, 2021                      |

The proposed holiday schedule for the Texas Division of Emergency Management is as follows:

| <u>Holiday</u>               | <u>Number of Days</u> | <u>Dates</u>                      |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Labor Day                    | 1                     | September 7, 2020                 |
| Veteran’s Day                | 1                     | November 11, 2020                 |
| Thanksgiving                 | 2                     | November 26-27, 2020              |
| Winter Break                 | 2                     | December 24-25, 2020              |
| New Year’s Eve & Day         | 2                     | December 31, 2020-January 1, 2021 |
| Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  | 1                     | January 18, 2021                  |
| Presidents’ Day              | 1                     | February 15, 2021                 |
| Texas Independence Day       | 1                     | March 2, 2021                     |
| Memorial Day                 | 1                     | May 31, 2021                      |
| Independence Day (Day after) | 1                     | July 5, 2021                      |
| LBJ’s Birthday               | 1                     | August 27, 2021                   |

The proposed holiday schedule for Texas A&M University College of Dentistry is as follows:

| <u>Holiday</u>              | <u>Number of Days</u> | <u>Dates</u>                      |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Labor Day                   | 1                     | September 7, 2020                 |
| Thanksgiving                | 2                     | November 26-27, 2020              |
| Winter Break                | 8                     | December 23, 2020-January 1, 2021 |
| Martin Luther King, Jr. Day | 1                     | January 18, 2021                  |
| Memorial Day                | 1                     | May 31, 2021                      |
| Independence Day            | 1                     | July 5, 2021                      |

The proposed holiday schedule for Texas A&M University School of Law is as follows:

| Holiday                     | Number of Days | Dates                             |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Labor Day                   | 1              | September 7, 2020                 |
| Thanksgiving                | 2              | November 26-27, 2020              |
| Winter Break                | 7              | December 24, 2020-January 1, 2021 |
| Martin Luther King, Jr. Day | 1              | January 18, 2021                  |
| Spring Break                | 2              | March 18-19, 2021                 |
| Memorial Day                | 1              | May 31, 2021                      |

The proposed holiday schedule for Texas A&M University at Qatar\* is as follows:

| Holiday*                    | Number of Days | Dates<br><small>(Standard workweek is Sunday-Thursday)</small> |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Qatar National Day          | 1              | December 17, 2020                                              |
| Semester Break              | 5              | December 20-24, 2020                                           |
| Qatar National Sports Day** | 1              | February 9, 2021                                               |
| Eid Al-Fitr (projected)     | 3              | May 13, 16-17, 2021                                            |
| Eid Al-Adha (projected)     | 4              | July 19-22, 2021                                               |

\*While Texas A&M at Qatar’s proposed schedule does NOT observe Thanksgiving, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day or Memorial Day as required by System Policy 31.04, the Board may choose to waive this requirement in light of the fact that Texas A&M at Qatar is required to observe eight days of state/cultural holidays (of 14 total days) and also attempts to adopt a schedule similar to that of other academic institutions in Education City.

Texas A&M University is required in its agreement with the Qatar Foundation to “abide by the applicable laws and regulations of the State of Qatar, and shall respect the cultural, religious and social customs of the State of Qatar.”

\*\*The State of Qatar issued an Emiri decree that the 2nd Tuesday of February each year would be a required holiday. This holiday, Qatar National Sports Day, is to promote sports and physical activity.

The proposed holiday schedules for certain units of Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory, and Texas A&M Forest Service are shown on the attached exhibit.

The Chancellor is hereby authorized to modify the holiday schedules when such a change is deemed to be in the public interest.

**MINUTE ORDER 068-2020 (ITEM 6.5)**

**RATIFICATION OF TEMPORARY WAIVER  
OF ACT/SAT REQUIREMENT FOR FALL 2020,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System ratifies Chancellor John Sharp’s action providing The Texas A&M University System university presidents authority to waive the ACT/SAT requirement for fall 2020 admissions standards, as shown in the attached exhibit.

**MINUTE ORDER 069-2020 (ITEM 6.6)**

**APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO SYSTEM POLICY 18.01  
(ATHLETIC COUNCIL) AND DELETION OF SYSTEM POLICIES 18.02  
(PRINCIPLES FOR INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS PARTICIPATION)  
AND 18.03 (POST-SEASON ATHLETICS COMPETITION),  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The revisions to System Policy 18.01 (Athletic Council), and the deletion of System Policies 18.02 (Principles for Intercollegiate Athletics Participation), and 18.03 (Post-Season Athletics Competition), as shown in the attached exhibits, are approved, effective immediately.

**MINUTE ORDER 070-2020 (ITEM 6.7)**

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020,  
PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01 (Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure), hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty members at Prairie View A&M University as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-03.

**MINUTE ORDER 071-2020 (ITEM 6.8)**

**GRANTING OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE FOR FY 2021,  
PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 31.03, System Regulation 12.99.01 and Sections 51.101-108 of the Texas Education Code, authorizes faculty development leave to the faculty member as shown in the attached exhibit, Faculty Development Leave List FY 2021, Prairie View A&M University.

**MINUTE ORDER 072-2020 (ITEM 6.9)**

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020,  
TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01 (Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure), hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty members at Tarleton State University as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-03.

**MINUTE ORDER 073-2020 (ITEM 6.10)**

**GRANTING OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE FOR FY 2021,  
TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 31.03, System Regulation 12.99.01 and Sections 51.101-108 of the Texas Education Code, authorizes faculty development leave to the faculty member as shown in the attached exhibit, Faculty Development Leave List FY 2021, Tarleton State University.

**MINUTE ORDER 074-2020 (ITEM 6.11)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH TWO  
QUASI-ENDOWMENTS IN THE SYSTEM ENDOWMENT FUND ENTITLED  
THE CRYSTAL APPLE SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP QUASI-ENDOWMENT,  
AND TARLETON STAFF COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP QUASI-ENDOWMENT,  
TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System authorizes the President of Tarleton State University to establish two quasi-endowments in the System Endowment Fund entitled as follows.

- “The Crystal Apple Society Scholarship Quasi-Endowment”
- “Tarleton Staff Council Scholarship Quasi-Endowment”

**MINUTE ORDER 075-2020 (ITEM 6.12)**

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020,  
TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01 (Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure), hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty members at Texas A&M International University as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-03.

**MINUTE ORDER 076-2020 (ITEM 6.13)**

**APPROVAL OF A NEW DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY  
DEGREE PROGRAM WITH A MAJOR IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE,  
AND AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST APPROVAL FROM THE  
TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD,  
TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M International University leading to a Doctor of Philosophy in Criminal Justice.

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M International University's new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.

**MINUTE ORDER 077-2020 (ITEM 6.14)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH A  
QUASI-ENDOWMENT IN THE SYSTEM ENDOWMENT FUND  
ENTITLED THE MATIAS DE LLANO CHARITABLE  
TRUST QUASI-ENDOWMENT AND NAMING OF THE  
MATIAS DE LLANO CHARITABLE TRUST AUDITORIUM,  
TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System authorizes the President of Texas A&M International University to establish a quasi-endowment in the System Endowment Fund entitled "The Matias De Llano Charitable Trust Quasi-Endowment." Interest generated from the quasi-endowment will be used for leadership programs and a speaker series. The Board of Regents also hereby names the new Academic Innovation Center Auditorium "The Matias De Llano Charitable Trust Auditorium."

**MINUTE ORDER 078-2020 (ITEM 6.15)**

**APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT SCOPE AND BUDGET,  
APPROPRIATION FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES,  
AND APPROVAL FOR CONSTRUCTION FOR THE  
HVAC REPLACEMENT APPELT HALL PROJECT (NO. 2019-04001),  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The project scope along with a project budget of \$8,165,848 for the HVAC Replacement Appelt Hall Project is approved.

The amount of \$7,349,264 is appropriated from Account No. 01-083540 Revenue Financing System Debt Proceeds (Housing Revenue) for construction services and related project costs.

The HVAC Replacement Appelt Hall Project, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, is approved for construction.

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System (Board) reasonably expects to incur debt in one or more obligations for this project, and all or a portion of the proceeds received from the sale of such obligations is reasonably expected to be used to reimburse the account(s) for amounts previously appropriated and/or expended from such account(s).

As required by Section 5(a) of the Master Resolution of the Revenue Financing System, the Board hereby determines that it will have sufficient funds to meet the financial obligations of The Texas A&M University System, including sufficient Pledged Revenues to satisfy the Annual Debt Service Requirements of the Revenue Financing System and to meet all financial obligations of the Board relating to the Revenue Financing System and that the Participants, on whose behalf the debt is issued, possess the financial capacity to satisfy their Direct Obligations.

**MINUTE ORDER 079-2020 (ITEM 6.16)**

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01 (Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure), hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty members at Texas A&M University as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-03.

**MINUTE ORDER 080-2020 (ITEM 6.17)**

**ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION  
HONORING MR. T. RANDALL “RANDY” CAIN ’82  
FOR HIS OUTSTANDING DEDICATION AND SERVICE  
AS TRUSTEE OF THE TEXAS A&M FOUNDATION,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System adopted the resolution set forth in the attached exhibit.

**MINUTE ORDER 081-2020 (ITEM 6.18)**

**APPROVAL OF TWO NEW GRADUATE  
DEGREE PROGRAMS WITH A MAJOR IN MARINE BIOLOGY,  
AND AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST APPROVAL FROM THE  
TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of two new graduate degree programs at Texas A&M University at Galveston leading to a Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Marine Biology.

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University’s new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.

**MINUTE ORDER 082-2020 (ITEM 6.19)**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PRESIDENT TO  
NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE CONTRACTS OVER \$500,000,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System authorizes the President of Texas A&M University to negotiate and execute the contracts, and other related documents, listed in the exhibit, Contract List No. 20-03, subject to review for legal form and sufficiency by the Office of General Counsel.

**MINUTE ORDER 083-2020 (ITEM 6.20)**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER  
TO MAKE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRANSFERS  
ON BEHALF OF QUALIFYING ENTITIES,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System authorizes the Senior Vice President of the Texas A&M University Health Science Center, under the administration of Texas A&M University, to make one or more Intergovernmental Transfers to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission in support of qualifying entities participating in the 1115 Waiver Program and Network Access Improvement Program, subject to final review for legal sufficiency by the Office of General Counsel and outside counsel with respect to each transaction. The total amount of such IGTs shall not exceed \$10 million in the aggregate during fiscal year 2021.

**MINUTE ORDER 084-2020 (ITEM 6.21)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH A  
QUASI-ENDOWMENT IN THE SYSTEM ENDOWMENT FUND  
ENTITLED THE MARY S. YOUNG QUASI-ENDOWMENT FOR  
THE STEVENSON COMPANION ANIMAL LIFE-CARE CENTER,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System authorizes the President of Texas A&M University to establish a quasi-endowment in the System Endowment Fund entitled the “Mary S. Young Quasi-Endowment for the Stevenson Companion Animal Life-Care Center.” Income generated from the quasi-endowment will be used to support the general operations of the Stevenson Companion Animal Life-Care Center.

**MINUTE ORDER 085-2020 (ITEM 6.22)**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE  
INSTITUTE FOR A DISASTER RESILIENT TEXAS,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Institute for a Disaster Resilient Texas is hereby established as a component of Texas A&M University.

**MINUTE ORDER 086-2020 (ITEM 6.23)**

**NAMING OF THE  
ROUTH FIRST GENERATION CENTER,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby names the First Generation Center within the Office for Student Success on the campus of Texas A&M University, the “Routh First Generation Center.”

**MINUTE ORDER 087-2020 (ITEM 6.24)**

**NAMING OF THE  
DON AND ELLIE KNAUSS  
VETERAN RESOURCE AND SUPPORT CENTER,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby names the Veteran Resource and Support Center at Texas A&M University the “Don and Ellie Knauss Veteran Resource and Support Center.”

**MINUTE ORDER 088-2020 (ITEM 6.25)**

**NAMING OF THE  
WM MICHAEL BARNES '64 DEPARTMENT  
OF INDUSTRIAL AND SYSTEMS ENGINEERING,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby names the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering within the College of Engineering on the campus of Texas A&M University, the “Wm Michael Barnes '64 Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering.”



**MINUTE ORDER 089-2020 (ITEM 6.26)**

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01 (Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure), hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty members at Texas A&M University-Central Texas as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-03.

**MINUTE ORDER 090-2020 (ITEM 6.27)**

**GRANTING OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE FOR FY 2021,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 31.03, System Regulation 12.99.01 and Sections 51.101-108 of the Texas Education Code, authorizes faculty development leave to the faculty member as shown in the attached exhibit, Faculty Development Leave List FY 2021, Texas A&M University-Central Texas.

**MINUTE ORDER 091-2020 (ITEM 6.28)**

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01 (Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure), hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty members at Texas A&M University-Commerce as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-03.

**MINUTE ORDER 092-2020 (ITEM 6.29)**

**GRANTING OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE FOR FY 2021,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 31.03, System Regulation 12.99.01 and Sections 51.101-108 of the Texas Education Code, authorizes faculty development leave to the faculty members as shown in the attached exhibit, Faculty Development Leave List FY 2021, Texas A&M University-Commerce.

**MINUTE ORDER 093-2020 (ITEM 6.30)**

**APPROVAL OF A NEW BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
IN CYBERSECURITY DEGREE PROGRAM, AND  
AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST APPROVAL FROM THE  
TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Commerce leading to a Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity.

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University-Commerce's new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.

**MINUTE ORDER 094-2020 (ITEM 6.31)**

**APPROVAL OF A NEW BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
WITH A MAJOR IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE  
AND FOOD SYSTEMS DEGREE PROGRAM, AND  
AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST APPROVAL FROM THE  
TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Commerce leading to a Bachelor of Science in Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems.

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University-Commerce's new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.

**MINUTE ORDER 095-2020 (ITEM 6.32)**

**APPROVAL OF A NEW MASTER OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH DEGREE PROGRAM, AND  
AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST APPROVAL FROM THE  
TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Commerce leading to a Master of Public Health.

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University-Commerce's new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.

**MINUTE ORDER 096-2020 (ITEM 6.33)**

**APPROVAL TO AMEND THE FY 2020-FY 2024  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM CAPITAL PLAN TO ADD  
THE ENERGY CONSUMPTION REDUCTION - PHASE II PROJECT  
(NO. 15-840120), WITH A FISCAL YEAR 2021 START DATE AND APPROVAL  
OF THE PROJECT SCOPE AND BUDGET, APPROPRIATION FOR THE  
PRE-CONSTRUCTION AND CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, AND APPROVAL FOR  
CONSTRUCTION OF THE ENERGY CONSUMPTION REDUCTION - PHASE II  
PROJECT AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI**

The request to amend the FY 2020-FY 2024 Texas A&M University System Capital Plan to add the Energy Consumption Reduction - Phase II Project for Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi with an FY 2021 start date is approved.

The project scope along with a project budget up to \$9,500,000 for the Energy Consumption Reduction - Phase II Project is approved.

The amount up to \$9,500,000 is appropriated from Account No. 01-083540 Revenue Financing System Debt Proceeds, (Energy Savings), for construction services and related project costs.

The Energy Consumption Reduction - Phase II Project, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, Texas, is approved for construction.

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System (Board) reasonably expects to incur debt in one or more obligations for this project, and all or a portion of the proceeds received from the sale of such obligations is reasonably expected to be used to reimburse the account(s) for amounts previously appropriated and/or expended from such account(s).

As required by Section 5(a) of the Master Resolution of the Revenue Financing System, the Board hereby determines that it will have sufficient funds to meet the financial obligations of The Texas A&M University System, including sufficient Pledged Revenues to satisfy the Annual Debt Service Requirements of the Revenue Financing System and to meet all financial obligations of the Board relating to the Revenue Financing System and that the Participants, on whose behalf the debt is issued, possess the financial capacity to satisfy their Direct Obligations.

**MINUTE ORDER 097-2020 (ITEM 6.34)**

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01 (Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure), hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty members at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-03.

**MINUTE ORDER 098-2020 (ITEM 6.35)**

**GRANTING OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE FOR FY 2021,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 31.03, System Regulation 12.99.01 and Sections 51.101-108 of the Texas Education Code, authorizes faculty development leave to the faculty members as shown in the attached exhibit, Faculty Development Leave List FY 2021, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

**MINUTE ORDER 099-2020 (ITEM 6.36)**

**APPROVAL OF TWO NEW GRADUATE  
DEGREE PROGRAMS WITH A MAJOR IN MARINE BIOLOGY,  
AND AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST APPROVAL FROM  
THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of two new degree programs at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi leading to a Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Marine Biology.

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi's new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.

**MINUTE ORDER 100-2020 (ITEM 6.37)**

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01 (Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure), hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty members at Texas A&M University-Kingsville as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-03.

**MINUTE ORDER 101-2020 (ITEM 6.38)**

**GRANTING OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE FOR FY 2021,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 31.03, System Regulation 12.99.01 and Sections 51.101-108 of the Texas Education Code, authorizes faculty development leave to the faculty members as shown in the attached exhibit, Faculty Development Leave List FY 2021, Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

**MINUTE ORDER 102-2020 (ITEM 6.39)**

**APPROVAL TO AMEND ONLINE DISTANCE EDUCATION FEES,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves amending the online distance education fees at Texas A&M University-Kingsville, effective with the fall 2020 semester.

**MINUTE ORDER 103-2020 (ITEM 6.40)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH A  
QUASI-ENDOWMENT IN THE SYSTEM ENDOWMENT FUND  
ENTITLED THE ARRINGTON MATCH - GABRIELA HERNANDEZ '99  
AND EDGAR GARCIA QUASI-ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System authorizes the President of Texas A&M University-Kingsville to establish a quasi-endowment in the System Endowment Fund entitled the "Arrington Match - Gabriela Hernandez '99 and Edgar Garcia Quasi-Endowed Scholarship." The scholarship will be funded by gift funds from Gabriela Hernandez and matched by existing funds from the Estate of Nadine Arrington held in a Texas A&M University-Kingsville account. Earnings from the newly created quasi-endowment will be used to provide one or more scholarships to full-time students in good standing pursuing a Bachelor of Science, Master of Science or Doctorate of Philosophy in the Frank H. Dotterweich College of Engineering at Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

**MINUTE ORDER 104-2020 (ITEM 6.41)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH A  
QUASI-ENDOWMENT IN THE SYSTEM ENDOWMENT FUND  
ENTITLED THE ARRINGTON MATCH - DAVID & MARIA E. CROWLEY  
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
SCHOLARSHIP QUASI-ENDOWMENT,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System authorizes the President of Texas A&M University-Kingsville to establish a quasi-endowment in the System Endowment Fund entitled the “Arrington Match - David & Maria E. Crowley College of Business Scholarship Quasi-Endowment.” The scholarship will be funded by gift funds from the Crowley’s and matched by funds from the Estate of Nadine Arrington existing funds held in a Texas A&M University-Kingsville account. Earnings from the newly created quasi-endowment will be used to provide one or more scholarships to full-time students in good standing pursuing a Bachelor of Business Administration in the College of Business at Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

**MINUTE ORDER 105-2020 (ITEM 6.42)**

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01 (Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure), hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty members at Texas A&M University-San Antonio as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-03.

**MINUTE ORDER 106-2020 (ITEM 6.43)**

**APPROVAL OF A NEW BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
DEGREE PROGRAM WITH A MAJOR IN CYBERSECURITY,  
AND AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST APPROVAL FROM  
THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-San Antonio leading to a Bachelor of Science degree with a Major in Cybersecurity.

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University-San Antonio’s new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.

**MINUTE ORDER 107-2020 (ITEM 6.44)**

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-TEXARKANA**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01 (Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure), hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty member at Texas A&M University-Texarkana as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-03.

**MINUTE ORDER 108-2020 (ITEM 6.45)**

**APPROVAL OF A NEW MASTER OF SCIENCE  
DEGREE PROGRAM WITH A MAJOR IN  
PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER,  
AND AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST APPROVAL FROM  
THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-TEXARKANA**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Texarkana leading to a Master of Science in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University-Texarkana's new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.

**MINUTE ORDER 109-2020 (ITEM 6.46)**

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, MAY 2020,  
WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01 (Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure), hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty members at West Texas A&M University as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-03.

**MINUTE ORDER 110-2020 (ITEM 6.47)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD AN  
HONORARY DEGREE TO STANLEY SCHAEFFER,  
WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The President of West Texas A&M University is authorized to award an Honorary Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration degree to Stanley Schaeffer.

**MINUTE ORDER 111-2020 (ITEM 6.48)**

**APPROVAL TO AMEND ONLINE DISTANCE EDUCATION FEES,  
WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves amending the online distance education fees at West Texas A&M University, effective with the fall 2020 semester.

**MINUTE ORDER 112-2020 (ITEM 6.49)**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE  
CENTER FOR INTEGRATED ANALYSIS OF  
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES,  
TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE RESEARCH**

The Center for Integrated Analysis of Agriculture and Natural Resources is hereby established as an organizational unit of Texas A&M AgriLife Research.

**MINUTE ORDER 113-2020 (ITEM 6.50)**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR  
TIME SENSITIVE AWARDS SIGNATURE  
AUTHORITY FOR FY21 AND FY22,  
TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXTENSION SERVICE**

The Director of The Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service, or designee, is authorized to execute, following a review for legal sufficiency by the Office of General Counsel, and following approval by the deputy chancellor and chief financial officer, Time Sensitive Awards to organizations in the government, private, or non-profit sectors (domestic and international) to provide training, technical assistance, and related services, for fiscal year 2021 and fiscal year 2022.

**MINUTE ORDER 114-2020 (ITEM 6.51)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE  
FY 2020 FEDERAL NON-RESEARCH GRANT AGREEMENTS,  
AND ANY AMENDMENTS, MODIFICATIONS OR EXTENSIONS,  
TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE**

The Director of the Texas A&M Forest Service, or designee, is authorized to execute, following review for legal sufficiency by the Office of General Counsel, grant agreements, amendments, modifications or extensions with the United States Department of Agriculture - Forest Service for the Fiscal Year 2020 Consolidated Programs Grant and Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant.



**MINUTE ORDER 115-2020 (ITEM 6.52)**

**APPROVAL OF THE  
TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
EXTERNAL OPERATIONS RULE FOR  
DISASTER RECOVERY LOAN PROGRAM,  
TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the Texas Division of Emergency Management’s external operations rule, Disaster Recovery Loan Program, as shown in the exhibit.

**MINUTE ORDER 116-2020 (ITEM 6.53)**

**APPROVAL OF  
REVISIONS TO SYSTEM POLICY 02.01 (BOARD OF REGENTS),  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The revisions to System Policy 02.01 (Board of Regents), as shown in the attached exhibit, are approved, effective immediately.

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Chairman Mendoza presented Item 5.1.

Chairman Mendoza called for a motion on Item 5.1. Regent Hernandez moved for adoption of the minute order contained in Item 5.1. Vice Chairman Leach seconded the motion. Chairman Mendoza called each regent’s name for the vote. The record of the vote is as follows: Adams - yes, Albritton - yes, Graham - yes, Hernandez - yes, Leach - yes, Mahomes - yes, Plank - yes, and Thomas - yes.

The following minute order was approved (117).

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**MINUTE ORDER 117-2020 (ITEM 5.1)**

**ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING  
MR. LEVI MCCLENNY FOR HIS SERVICE AS THE 2019-2020  
STUDENT MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM AND BESTOWING  
THE TITLE OF STUDENT REGENT EMERITUS,  
BOARD OF REGENTS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System adopted the resolution set forth in the attached exhibit.

~~~~~

STUDENT REGENT REMARKS

Student Regent McClenny presented these remarks (a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Board of Regents).

Regent Hernandez said he had been extremely impressed with Student Regent McClenny. He added that he had a maturity and level of comprehension on many subjects that often he was unable to figure out. He wished Student Regent McClenny the best of luck.

Regent Graham noted that Student Regent McClenny's comments about not imagining asking a question that was asked by another Regent hit home. He said he knew that at that age he would not have thought to ask the questions that Student Regent McClenny did. Regent Graham added that it had been an honor working with him, and having his two sons get to know him. He said he would be proud if his sons could make the impact at Texas A&M in their time that Student Regent McClenny had. He stated that he had done a great job and wished him all the best.

Regent Adams agreed with Regents Hernandez and Graham. He said Student Regent McClenny had been an outstanding student regent. He noted that he had seen many student regents since he came on the Board, 19 years ago. Regent Adams said Student Regent McClenny was among the top. He pointed out that the Board had great student regents, including Mr. Tyson Voelkel, President of the Texas A&M Foundation. He said Student Regent McClenny was very bright. Regent Adams advised that engineers were thoughtful, always asked the right questions, had good judgement, were good problem solvers and they expected big things from him. He said Student Regent McClenny had been an outstanding student regent and they wished him the best and hoped to see a lot of him.

Regent Plank said he came on the Board with Student Regent McClenny, and it had been a pleasure to work with him. He added that as others stated, he also had interacted with many student appointees, including at the THECB. He said Student Regent McClenny had come to every Board meeting as well prepared as anyone. Regent Plank pointed out that he had done his homework and was extremely well prepared. He said he was a very articulate and accomplished young man, it had been a privilege to serve with him, and wished him the best.

Regent Mahomes noted that it had been an absolute joy to serve on the Board with Student Regent McClenny this year. He said he often forgot that he was a student regent because he participated as much as other Regents, which he really enjoyed. He thanked him for his service.

Vice Chairman Leach congratulated him and said it was a job well done. He said he was not going to tell him anymore about how great he was, but wished him good luck and he looked forward to seeing him in the future.

Regent Thomas told him not to be a stranger. He asked him to keep in touch, and wished him good luck.

Regent Albritton added that it had truly been a pleasure getting to know Student Regent McClenny and working with him. He said there was no doubt that his future was very bright. He noted that they hoped to see him often, and congratulated him on a job well done.

Chairman Mendoza said the other Regents had said it very well, and she was sorry this could not have been in person. She advised that typically they would honor him with a luncheon and share the accolades and appreciation for what he brought to the Board. She said they had all grown and learned from him, and thanked him. Chairman Mendoza added that the year flew by so quickly, but Student Regent McClenny had made a great impression. She wished him all the best in the future. She said he had made a difference and they really appreciated him.

Student Regent McClenny said it was an honor to work with Chairman Mendoza and all the Regents. He said it had been an incredible year, and he really appreciated their comments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Mendoza thanked each Regent for giving time among the turmoil toward the Strategic Plan. She said they had provided great feedback and comments. She added that they were keeping it in motion and with any luck, they would vote on it in August. She said they were lucky to meet this way and that they were all safe and healthy. Chairman Mendoza advised that coming together in this format had not been easy. She thanked Ms. Vickie Spillers, Executive Director, Ms. Jackie Bell, Assistant to the Board of Regents, and their team. Chairman Mendoza also thanked Mr. Jason Muchow, Associate Director of Rudder Theatre Complex. She said they had done tremendous work for all they had done to make this as smooth as possible and as easy for all of them as possible.

Chairman Mendoza thanked the System office leaders, beginning with Chancellor Sharp. She said they appreciated the institutions' leadership and university presidents for all they were doing for students, faculty and staff and their communities. She emphasized that during this crazy time, their actions mattered, and the A&M System could not be in better hands. Chairman Mendoza said the System could not be the shining light for the future that it was today without them doing what they were. She added that God willing they would meet face-to-face in August. She said until then, stay well and know the Board had an enormous amount of gratitude for their leadership and the things they were doing.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairman Mendoza asked for a motion to adjourn. On motion of Regent Plank, seconded by Regent Mahomes, the meeting was adjourned at 3:32 p.m.

Vickie Burt Spillers
Executive Director, Board of Regents

(Minutes transcribed by Gwen Kirby, Office of the Board of Regents.)

MINUTES

**SPECIAL TELEPHONIC MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS**

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

HELD IN

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

May 29, 2020

(Approved August 20, 2020)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL TELEPHONIC MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS**

May 29, 2020

CONVENE.....1

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION1

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION2

*MINUTE ORDER 118-2020 (ITEM 1) APPROVAL OF THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM'S
COVID-19 RESPONSE PLAN FOR REOPENING MEMBER CAMPUSES AND PROGRAMS FOR
2020-2021, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM*7

*MINUTE ORDER 119-2020 (ITEM 2) ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SECUREAMERICA INSTITUTE,
TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION*8

ADJOURN.....8

DRAFT

**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL TELEPHONIC MEETING
BOARD OF REGENTS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

May 29, 2020

CONVENE

Chairman Elaine Mendoza convened a special telephonic meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System at 8:32 a.m., Friday, May 29, 2020, Room L526, Memorial Student Center, on the campus of Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas.

Chairman Mendoza said the Board had two agenda items for consideration and action as shown in the agenda materials and posted with the Secretary of State. She said that each party to the conference call should clearly identify himself or herself prior to speaking.

The following members of the Board were present by phone:

Ms. Elaine Mendoza, Chairman
Mr. Tim Leach, Vice Chairman
Mr. Phil Adams
Mr. Robert L. Albritton
Mr. Jay Graham
Mr. Michael A. Hernandez
Mr. Bill Mahomes
Mr. Michael J. Plank
Mr. Clifton L. Thomas, Jr.
Mr. Levi McClenny (Student Regent)

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Mendoza announced that the Board would recess to executive session to consider matters as permitted by Chapter 551, Section 71 of the Texas Government Code. She said in accordance with the law, no final action, decision, or vote with regard to any matter considered in the executive session would be made or taken.

(Note: The Board met in executive session from 8:34 a.m. until 9:44 a.m.)

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman Mendoza reconvened the meeting in open session at 9:44 a.m. and announced that the Board had met in executive session from 8:34 a.m. until 9:44 a.m., and conferred with Chancellor Sharp, administration and attorneys on legal matters.

Chancellor Sharp began his remarks by saying that the worldwide pandemic and our nation's response to it had brought them to make a series of decisions they could not have imagined a few months ago. He said that countless hours of research, debate and thought had gone into the recommendations being made. He said that they sought counsel from medical experts, teachers, current and former students and the Board. Chancellor Sharp expressed that there is a strong desire to reopen System campuses and agencies, but they must do it safely taking prudent precautions while acknowledging the need to remain diligent in their pursuit of safely educating our greatest treasure, our students. He said that the campus experience is invaluable and although it is possible to educate someone online, the campus experience brought camaraderie, personal experiences and reinforced traditions that shaped the young adults they sent into the world. Chancellor Sharp said you can get a degree online pretty easy, but it is very hard to become an Aggie online. He said this statement is true for all campuses with each having its own rich traditions and opportunities for personal experiences. He said this is the first time the public will see the A&M System's plan for reopening the campuses. He said the guidance they are considering has the elements needed to educate in a way that protects students, faculty, and staff. Chancellor Sharp said the plan includes social distancing, testing, contact tracing and most importantly options for students to either attend class, take classes remotely or a mix of both. He said that it is important for young people to continue their education and take prudent precautions to protect one another. He added that he was sure each System institution would improve upon the recommendations made by tailoring the document to its individual needs. Chancellor Sharp said as the campuses change, we must adapt, but we cannot abandon who we are.

Dr. James Hallmark, A&M System Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, explained the recommendations presented to the Board. He began by saying that many hours and many individuals worked on a plan for reopening member campuses and programs in the academic year 2020-21 while imposing strict sanitation and health standards. Dr. Hallmark said Board approval is requested because the plan has significant financial, strategic and policy implications for the System and its member universities and agencies. He added that the agenda item advances all six strategic plan imperatives by enabling each member to meet applicable imperatives to reopen its facilities and programs to faculty, staff, students and the public. Dr. Hallmark reviewed selected highlights from the document. He said first, the document establishes that academic quality in our teaching, research and service and the health and safety of our faculty staff and students must be at the forefront of all we do. He said the plan is open for face-to-face instruction including classes, activities, residential living, and athletics, unless it becomes necessary to do otherwise. He said all of this would be done responsibly. Dr. Hallmark said secondly, the document is System-level guidance and therefore must allow flexibility for adaptation in a wide variety of situations. He said for example, the academic calendar in Canyon is very different from the academic calendar in Texarkana; residential living needs are different in Kingsville than they are in Laredo. The testing scenarios at A&M-San

Antonio will be different from the scenario in College Station. Nevertheless, they all share a common approach, a common understanding and a common guidance. Dr. Hallmark said that each university and agency has been working on specific plans that will be consistent with System-level guidance. He said that although the plan targets academic year 2020-21, much of the work would occur in preparation for the fall and our universities and agencies are already at work, and decisions made today would help them as they prepare for the fall. Dr. Hallmark said that in regards to physical facilities, the central component is physical distancing needs. He said all meeting spaces must have their maximum capacity adjusted to reflect the current standards. For example, a room that previously seated 50 people may now only accommodate 15 to 20 people. That decision is unique to each space because of egress issues, ventilation, and furniture arrangement. He said ultimately those decisions on space accommodations combined with the number of hours in a day or week, determine how much can be done face-to-face this fall. He said that if you had visited any store in the past six weeks, you noticed spacing markers and foot traffic patterns, and plexiglass barriers. He said that all of our facilities are going through that same process to facilitate physical distancing standards. Dr. Hallmark said that heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems are being adjusted to minimize recirculation of air and maximum outside air intake because fresh air is better air. He added that there are a number of physical facility kind of adjustments in this plan that will vary based on the campus and its specific needs and capabilities. He said a number of procedures must be developed. Dr. Hallmark said all students, faculty and staff will be required to self-certify that they have not been infected by the virus that causes COVID-19, they do not have the symptoms identified by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), they have not been in contact with anyone who has been infected within the past 14 days and have not travelled from or through an area with travel restrictions in the previous 14 days. He said those who could not respond positively to these criteria must self-quarantine following CDC guidance. He said self-certification would be a continuing duty on the part of the employee or student to notify the applicable university or agency official if the answer to any of these questions becomes “no.” Dr. Hallmark said that all students, faculty and employees needed training and a training module for employees had already been pushed out along with self-certification. He said that they plan to develop a more entertaining version of this training module for students, one that they hope they will voluntarily view repeatedly similar to what you see in the viral videos on social media. Dr. Hallmark said procedures would be developed for keeping track of students and employees that were more careful than had been necessary in the past, but in a manner that did not facilitate the transmission of the disease. He used the example that a student affairs event a year ago might have had a sign-up sheet, but we cannot do that now. Lunches that we sponsored routinely used a sign-in to document attendees for payment purposes; we cannot do that in the fall. He said that all such monitoring and sign-in must be in a form that does not facilitate transmission of the virus. He said class attendance rolls could not be sign-in sheets. Dr. Hallmark said it would be in our best interest and the students’ best interest to monitor our students more than normal so that we can help them facilitate their health and procedures, and protocols for cleaning would be essential. He said that we need to procure the supplies necessary and develop procedures to ensure all facilities are frequently cleaned thoroughly similar to what you see at stores and businesses in the community. Dr. Hallmark said that they had been working with our partners such as SSC Service Solutions to achieve these goals. He said there remains much to be done as we gear up for the fall. Dr. Hallmark said face-to-face classes would resume but not all classes may be offered in a face-to-face setting. He added that the universities and agencies

offering courses must take into consideration the adjusted maximum capacity of the space in determining the courses to be offered in various formats. He said they are currently prioritizing which courses are most important to offer in our face-to-face instruction, for example, first year success classes may be a priority, or performance-based classes such as private voice lessons or speech classes, laboratories, and clinicals. Dr. Hallmark said ultimately the universities and agencies would use different formats based on the capacity of their facilities and the needs of the specific courses. He said that they would use hybrid models and hybrid models, expand the instructional day as far as possible by perhaps expanding the instructional week, use remote instruction and online courses, or adjust the calendar to start earlier than we might otherwise have done. Dr. Hallmark said that regardless of how they approached it, all courses taught face-to-face must be designed to shift to a remote environment if the conditions warrant. He said should a second wave of the virus hit in the fall, or a spike in infections occurs in a location, or local health officials or the Governor directed us to cease face-to-face instruction, courses would be designed from the start to do so with less disruption than was experienced this past spring.

Dr. Hallmark said that residence halls would vary greatly across the system because P3 Partners operate some, some are wholly owned and operated by the university, some are very modern apartment-style formats, and some look like the residence halls with a shared restroom and bath facility at the end of the hall. He said there would be variance in operations based on these factors. He added that by monitoring the health of the residents, charging the residents to engage in responsible, shared-living arrangements and empowering them to do so, engaging in regular cleaning and disinfecting residence halls could operate at relatively normal levels. He said they would encourage students, including those in residence halls, not to leave the university area for the duration of the semester and to have no day or overnight visitors in their rooms. He said this is important for keeping the residence hall communities safe. Dr. Hallmark said they also recognize that students may leave the area and might be exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19. He said in this case a student would be required to report their exposure and may be required to place himself or herself in self-quarantine per CDC guidance. He added that the plan calls for campuses with residence halls to set aside space for quarantine and/or isolation. He said the plan encourages students to complete their required quarantine at their permanent residence but they know that would not always be possible -- residence halls are preparing for that possibility.

Dr. Hallmark said the university education is not a checklist of courses, instead the leadership development that students experience occurs within the organizations, experiences, and activities associated with co-curricular activities. He said these activities would continue in the spring with limitations on the size of the gathering and observing all precautions recommended by local health authorities at the time of the activity. Dr. Hallmark briefly discussed athletic events and said the document says little on athletics recognizing that the university resumption of athletics would depend on direction from the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) or National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and the conferences in which the universities are members.

Dr. Hallmark closed his overview by commenting on testing, contact tracing and monitoring. He said testing for the virus that causes COVID-19 would be administered

strategically in connection with the check-in process and throughout the year. He said testing for the virus, not antigens or antibodies, and testing would be available for students, faculty and staff. Dr. Hallmark said testing would be prioritized and focused on those who showed COVID-19 symptoms and would be targeted using testing strategies to be implemented in accordance with local public health and medical guidance. He said anyone who tests positive by real-time PCR lab equipment would receive appropriate treatment and would be required to place himself or herself in self-isolation as dictated by CDC guidance. This would be conducted in conjunction with local medical and public health professionals. Dr. Hallmark said that in order to be able to return to physical engagement with the university or agency community, their health care provider must clear them. He said that contact tracing is a key tool as well. He said universities and agencies would coordinate contact tracing with local health authorities and the Texas Department of State Health Services. Contact tracing for those who test positive for the virus would be led as dictated by local public health officials.

Dr. Hallmark discussed a useful tool they intend to implement -- the monitoring of sewage leaving selected facilities such as residence halls. He said they expect to develop the protocol and process at Texas A&M and roll it out to other locations in the fall. He said this is a proven public health strategy that would inform us of spikes in the virus in locations allowing us to quickly take steps to intervene. Dr. Hallmark said the plan includes many other components not mentioned but perhaps are helpful in considering the plan. He said the plan is a step in this process, there is still much to figure out between now and the fall but this plan will help guide us toward that goal.

Regent Plank asked a clarifying question. He said that on page 5 of the document under the category upon arrival on campus, the fourth paragraph from the bottom talked about self-certification and basically put the onus on an employee or student to notify the university or agency if the answer to any question over the course of time becomes “no.” He said he assumed that meant that all of the questionnaire related to self-certification would have an acceptable response to be in the affirmative. Dr. Hallmark responded that this was correct.

Student Regent McClenny asked a question regarding the 14-day isolation period, and a student not being able to return to campus if they travelled or came from an area with travel restrictions. He asked how they would address the issue if that student lives on campus and does not have another place to stay. Dr. Hallmark said theoretically speaking, a person who lives in the residence hall who returns from travelling home, and has been exposed to the virus, they recommend that the student returns home to their permanent residence for isolation and take classes online. Dr. Hallmark said that they recognize that this may not always be possible so space is being set aside on campuses to accommodate them. He said that this is assuming that the numbers are relatively small but if it becomes larger, campuses are working on contingency plans to address a large population. He said space would be set aside in specific residence halls for quarantine purposes for individuals for whom it is not feasible to return home.

Regent Graham inquired about face-to-face classes. He said that he assumed they would not be creating or assigning any face-to-face classes in rooms where enrollment in that class exceeded the occupancy rate. Dr. Hallmark responded not necessarily. If the enrollment for the class is 50 and the adjusted occupancy is 20, then 20 students can be in the room at any given

time but the remaining 30 students could be watching the class on Zoom or taking the course remotely. He said that campuses are dealing with this differently, but the same concept would be true for all campuses. There would still be 50 in the class but 20 in the room at any given time.

Regent Graham asked if students would be assigned slots or would it be first-come first-served. He asked what happened if 30 students show up. Dr. Hallmark gave the example of a Tuesday/Thursday class with a maximum capacity of 25 students in the classroom. Twenty-five students would be assigned to attend on Tuesday and the other 25 students would be assigned to attend on Thursday. In a scenario where there might be 20 people and 150 were in the course, there needs to be a sign-up process to control who shows up because they do not want 40 people showing up and 20 people congregating in the hall while they figure out who is allowed to come in. He said that it needs to be a coordinated/organized process.

Regent Graham asked if a student in one of those classes tests positive for the virus, would the other students that attended class with them be required to self-quarantine or would they just be notified and then either need to be tested or watched for symptoms? Dr. Hallmark responded that if a student tests positive, they would be relying on the local public health contact tracing models. It is conceivable that an entire class might not be required to self-quarantine. He clarified that self-quarantine meant if you do not know that you have the disease but have been exposed. Whereas, self-isolation is when you actually have the disease. He said that it is possible that some portion of the course would need to go into self-isolation or self-quarantine. Dr. Hallmark said that they would also look at the possibility of an entire course reverting to an online basis even if the rest of the university is operating normally.

Regent Mahomes asked a follow up question on face-to-face courses. He said the plan said that the university might choose to adjust the calendar to start classes earlier or to make other changes in the calendar to carry out face-to-face instruction. He asked if they anticipated this happening. Dr. Hallmark responded that he would not announce anything the universities are intending to do; he would leave that to them. He did say that at least two universities are close to making that decision. Dr. Hallmark said that there are very few teaching days after Thanksgiving. He said that it varies from campus to campus and might be as few as three or four days. He said that if they move the instructional days to August and have all instruction done before Thanksgiving, the students could go home at Thanksgiving and not return and have reading days and final exams remotely from their permanent residence. Some of our campuses are examining this possibility now and will make announcements fairly soon in order for students, faculty and staff to adjust their calendars and housing arrangements as necessary. Dr. Hallmark said he expects movement of calendars but not across the board.

Chairman Mendoza thanked Chancellor Sharp and Dr. Hallmark for the work they and their team had done to keep students, faculty, staff and administrators safe throughout this process.

Chairman Mendoza called on Dr. Katherine Banks, Vice Chancellor of Engineering and National Laboratories, to present Item 2. Dr. Banks said that the SecureAmerica Institute would focus on development of smart manufacturing technologies and the use of secure automation

in manufacturing and supply chain networks. She said that the institute would have two primary goals that would lead to wide-spread adoption and maximum impact: 1) Ensure the security and resilience of critical manufacturing and supply chain infrastructures against cyber-attacks and threats; and 2) transform manufacturing into value creation driver for U.S. global competitiveness into the future, through development and adoption of next generation cyber secure manufacturing automation. Dr. Banks said The SecureAmerica Institute implements a public/private partnership model of more than 120 industrial partners, national laboratories, academia, not-for-profits and government agencies to maximize research output and drive innovation into the marketplace. She said that Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) would provide the base funding for the institute, and the partners have committed to engage with the SecureAmerica Institute through various cost share commitments providing significant leverage of TEES resources.

Chairman Mendoza said that this is an exciting opportunity and thanked Dr. Banks for her innovative thinking and for leveraging the partnerships that have been established.

Chairman Mendoza called for a motion on Items 1 and 2. Regent Thomas moved for adoption of the minute orders contained in Items 1 and 2. Regent Plank seconded the motion. Chairman Mendoza called each regent’s name for the vote. The record of the vote is as follows: Adams – yes, Graham – yes, Hernandez – yes, Leach – yes, Mahomes – yes, Plank – yes, and Thomas – yes.

(Note: Regent Albritton disconnected from the meeting at approximately 9:28 a.m.)

The following minute orders were approved (118 and 119).

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**MINUTE ORDER 118-2020 (ITEM 1)**

**APPROVAL OF  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM’S  
COVID-19 RESPONSE PLAN FOR REOPENING  
MEMBER CAMPUSES AND PROGRAMS FOR 2020-2021,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The Texas A&M University System’s COVID-19 Response Plan for Reopening Member Campuses and Programs for 2020-2021, as detailed in the attached exhibit, is approved.

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MINUTE ORDER 119-2020 (ITEM 2)

**ESTABLISHMENT OF
THE SECUREAMERICA INSTITUTE,
TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION**

The SecureAmerica Institute is hereby established as an organizational unit of the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, on motion of Regent Mahomes, seconded by Regent Adams, Chairman Mendoza adjourned the meeting at 10:11 a.m.

Vickie Burt Spillers
Executive Director, Board of Regents

(Minutes transcribed by Jackie Bell, Office of the Board of Regents.)

MINUTES

**SPECIAL TELEPHONIC MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS**

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

HELD IN

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

June 15, 2020

(Approved August 20, 2020)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL TELEPHONIC MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS**

June 15, 2020

CONVENE.....1
RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION1
RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION2
*MINUTE ORDER 120-2020 (ITEM 1) APPROVAL OF THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM'S
\$100 MILLION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TO ASSIST SYSTEM ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS REFLECT
THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM*3
ADJOURN.....3

DRAFT

**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL TELEPHONIC MEETING
BOARD OF REGENTS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

June 15, 2020

CONVENE

Chairman Elaine Mendoza convened a special telephonic meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System at 10:00 a.m., Monday, June 15, 2020.

Chairman Mendoza said the Board had one agenda item for consideration and action as shown in the agenda materials posted with the Secretary of State. She said that each party to the conference call should clearly identify himself or herself prior to speaking.

The following members of the Board were present by phone:

Ms. Elaine Mendoza, Chairman
Mr. Tim Leach, Vice Chairman
Mr. Phil Adams
Mr. Robert L. Albritton
Mr. Jay Graham
Mr. Michael A. Hernandez
Mr. Bill Mahomes
Mr. Michael J. Plank
Mr. Clifton L. Thomas, Jr.
Mr. Levi McClenny (Student Regent)

Chairman Mendoza congratulated Student Regent McClenny on his recent appointment by Governor Abbott to be the student representative on the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Mendoza said the Board would recess to executive session to consider matters as permitted by Chapter 551, Section 71 of the Texas Government Code. She said in accordance with the law, no final action, decision, or vote with regard to any matter considered in the executive session would be made or taken.

(Note: The Board met in executive session from 10:02 a.m. until 11:03 a.m.)

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman Mendoza reconvened the meeting in open session at 11:04 a.m. and announced that the Board had met in executive session from 10:02 a.m. until 11:03 a.m., and conferred with Chancellor Sharp, administration and attorneys on legal matters including Item 1.

Chancellor Sharp said that the Strategic Plan calls for the A&M System to ensure that cost and a lack of support for diverse students does not prevent qualified students from attending and finding success at one of the A&M System’s institutions. He said that the proposed scholarship program had been in the works and they had planned to bring it before the Board later in the year but the COVID-19 pandemic necessitated that the project be accelerated. He said many students’ families, particularly low-income families, need financial help to attend college now more than ever. Chancellor Sharp said that too often the A&M System institutions are being outbid for great kids by out-of-state schools that can make larger scholarship offers. He said the goal of the \$100 million scholarship fund is to make the A&M System’s 11 universities look like Texas and ensure that qualified students are not turned away because of the financial hardships of COVID-19 in particular. He said that system-wide the 11 universities are within a few percentage points of reflecting the State’s demographics; the student population on some individual campuses is not where they wanted them to be. Chancellor Sharp said the Strategic Plan calls for all universities to better represent the population of the State of Texas and they intend to do that with this scholarship fund. He said it would address diversity issues as well as concerns of students who are first-generation or from low-income families.

Regent Mahomes commended Chancellor Sharp and those working with him for finding a way to get this done. He said that while the timing is great, even greater is that it meets the need that the Board has been talking about for a long time. He said this is something they all want and this will be good, not just for scholarships but will also help the State of Texas meet its goal of serving underserved students, as well as help with diversity goals.

Chairman Mendoza said that she not only applauded Chancellor Sharp but also the steadfast commitment that the Board has to diversification and serving underrepresented groups. She said this has been a part of the Strategic Plan and has cumulated into a great strategy by which they can serve Texans at this time.

Chairman Mendoza called for a motion on Item 1. Regent Mahomes moved for adoption of the minute order contained in Item 1. Regent Graham seconded the motion. Chairman Mendoza called each regent’s name for the vote. The record of the vote is as follows: Adams – yes, Albritton – yes, Graham – yes, Hernandez – yes, Leach – yes, Mahomes – yes, Plank – yes, Thomas – yes, and Chairman Mendoza voted “yes.”

The following minute order was approved (120).

Chairman Mendoza thanked the Board, Chancellor Sharp and his team for their active showing and demonstration of their commitment to the people of Texas during this time of need. She said that they are showing that System institutions will reflect the state by

aggressively reaching out to underserved groups from all parts of the state. She said they will move forward not only with the scholarship program and efforts to recruit and retain students but also all the infrastructure needed for persistence, reducing time to graduation.

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**MINUTE ORDER 120-2020 (ITEM 1)**

**APPROVAL OF  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM'S  
\$100 MILLION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TO  
ASSIST SYSTEM ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS  
REFLECT THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The Texas A&M University System's \$100 million scholarship program is approved, and the Chancellor is delegated authority to create the scholarship program criteria and distribution methods.

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ADJOURN

There being no further business, on motion of Regent Adams, seconded by Vice Chairman Leach, Chairman Mendoza adjourned the meeting at 11:11 a.m.

Vickie Burt Spillers
Executive Director, Board of Regents

(Minutes transcribed by Jackie Bell, Office of the Board of Regents.)

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
June 25, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Granting of the Title of Emeritus, August 2020, The Texas A&M University System

In accordance with System Policy [31.08, Emeritus](#), the designation of “Emeritus,” to be added to the rank or position upon retirement of a person, may be granted by the board upon the recommendation of the chancellor.

The chief executive officers of The Texas A&M University System recognize individuals from their respective institutions and agencies, as shown on the attached Emeritus list, who have made outstanding contributions through their dedicated and loyal service.

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“In recognition of long and distinguished service to The Texas A&M University System, the Board of Regents hereby confirms the recommendation of the chancellor, and confers the title of “Emeritus” upon the individuals as shown in the attached exhibit, Emeritus Title List No. 20-04, and grants all rights and privileges of this title.”

Respectfully submitted,

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

Patrick J. Stover
Vice Chancellor and Dean
Agriculture and Life Sciences

Mark A. Hussey, President
Texas A&M University-Kingsville

Walter V. Wendler, President
West Texas A&M University

Bruce L. Akey, Director
Texas A&M Veterinary
Medical Diagnostic Laboratory

Michael K. Young, President
Texas A&M University

Jeffrey Hyde, Ph.D., Director
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

**THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
CONFIRMATION OF EMERITUS TITLES
EMERITUS TITLE LIST NO. 20-04**

| System Member
Honoree | Years
of
Service | Current Rank | Title Conferred | Effective Date |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|---|---|
| TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY | | | | |
| Dr. Susan A. Bloomfield | 27 | Professor | Professor Emerita of Health and Kinesiology | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |
| Dr. Lynn M. Burlbaw | 31 | Professor | Professor Emeritus of Teaching, Learning, and Culture | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |
| Dr. Glenda Elkins Byrns | 16 | Clinical Professor | Clinical Professor Emerita of Educational Psychology | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |
| Dr. Norman O. Dronen, Jr. | 46 | Professor | Professor Emeritus of Ecology and Conservation Biology | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |
| Dr. Benjamin S. Giese | 26 | Professor | Professor Emeritus of Oceanography | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |
| Dr. Thomas A. Green | 42 | Professor | Professor Emeritus of Anthropology | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |
| Dr. Ira F. Greenbaum | 42 | Professor | Professor Emeritus of Biology | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |
| Dr. Kevin M. Heinz | 25 | Professor | Professor Emeritus of Entomology | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |
| Dr. Katrin Hinrichs | 21 | Regents Professor | Regents Professor Emerita of Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |

| System Member
Honoree | Years
of
Service | Current Rank | Title Conferred | Effective Date |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------|---|---|
| Dr. Claudia Nelson | 16 | Professor | Professor Emerita of English | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |
| Ms. Lynne H. Rambo | 23 | Professor | Professor Emerita of the School of Law | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |
| Dr. Cynthia Ann Riccio | 23 | Professor | Professor Emerita of Educational Psychology | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |
| Dr. Nova J. Silvy | 46 | Regents Professor | Regents Professor Emeritus of Ecology and Conservation Biology | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |
| Dr. Asghar Zardkoohi | 39 | Professor | Professor Emeritus of Management | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |
| TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE | | | | |
| Mr. Fred Bryant | 23 | Director | Director Emeritus of Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |
| Dr. Timothy Fulbright | 38 | Research Scientist | Research Scientist Emeritus of Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |
| Dr. Thomas McGehee | 31 | Professor | Professor Emeritus of Physics and Geosciences | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |
| Dr. Chuck Wissinger | 16 | Professor | Professor Emeritus of Art | Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement |

| System Member
Honoree | Years
of
Service | Current Rank | Title Conferred | Effective Date |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|

WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

| | | | | |
|----------------|----|-----------|------------------------------------|---|
| Dr. Duane Rosa | 33 | Professor | Professor Emeritus of
Economics | Upon Approval by the
Board and the
Honoree's Retirement |
|----------------|----|-----------|------------------------------------|---|

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE

| | | | | |
|-------------|----|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Dale Dunlap | 28 | District
Extension
Director | District Extension
Director Emeritus | Upon Approval by the
Board and the
Honoree's Retirement |
|-------------|----|-----------------------------------|---|---|

| | | | | |
|--------------|----|---|------------------------------------|---|
| Armon Hewitt | 13 | County
Extension
Agent-Ag and
Natural
Resources | County Extension
Agent Emeritus | Upon Approval by the
Board and the
Honoree's Retirement |
|--------------|----|---|------------------------------------|---|

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|----|---|------------------------------------|---|
| Raymond "Roy"
Walston | 32 | County
Extension
Agent-Ag and
Natural
Resources | County Extension
Agent Emeritus | Upon Approval by the
Board and the
Honoree's Retirement |
|--------------------------|----|---|------------------------------------|---|

| | | | | |
|------------------|----|---|------------------------------------|---|
| Sandra L. Kunkel | 39 | County
Extension
Agent-Family
and
Community
Health | County Extension
Agent Emeritus | Upon Approval by the
Board and the
Honoree's Retirement |
|------------------|----|---|------------------------------------|---|

TEXAS A&M VETERINARY MEDICAL DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY

| | | | | |
|-----------------|----|--------------|--------------------------|---|
| Dr. Jay Hoffman | 23 | Section Head | Section Head
Emeritus | Upon Approval by the
Board and the
Honoree's Retirement |
|-----------------|----|--------------|--------------------------|---|

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Phillip Ray, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Confirmation of Appointment and Commissioning of Peace Officers

Proposed Board Action:

In accordance with System Policy [34.06, Appointment, Commissioning and Authority of Peace Officers](#), the Board of Regents shall confirm the appointment and commissioning of peace officers by the presidents of their respective members of The Texas A&M University System, as shown in the exhibit.

Background Information:

Presidents of member universities are authorized by system policy to appoint and commission campus police as peace officers, subject to confirmation by the Board of Regents.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

None.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

5. The A&M System will provide services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas by providing a safe place to learn, work and visit. Police Officers are an imperative part of providing these services to Texans.

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
System Office of Business Affairs
July 6, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Confirmation of Appointment and Commissioning of Peace Officers

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“In accordance with System Policy 34.06, *Appointment, Commissioning and Authority of Peace Officers*, the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System confirms the appointment and commissioning of campus peace officers by the presidents of their respective system member universities, in accordance with the requirements of the law, and as shown in the exhibit, attached to the official minutes, subject to their taking the oath required of peace officers.”

Respectfully submitted,

Phillip Ray
Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

Ruth J. Simmons, President
Prairie View A&M University

Dr. James Hurley, President
Tarleton State University

Pablo Arenaz, President
Texas A&M International University

Mark J. Rudin, President
Texas A&M University-Commerce

Walter V. Wendler, President
West Texas A&M University

The Texas A&M University System
Appointed and Commissioned Peace Officers
July 6, 2020

| University Officer's Name | Title | Hire Date |
|---|---------------|------------------|
| PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY | | |
| Holloway, Ashley C. | Peace Officer | 04/02/2020 |
| Offer, DeWayne L. | Peace Officer | 06/02/2020 |
| Sheikh, Sabeeh I. | Peace Officer | 04/28/2020 |
| TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY | | |
| Miller, Bryce V. | Peace Officer | 06/22/2020 |
| Miller, Donald B. | Peace Officer | 06/22/2020 |
| Thomson, Sherri L. | Peace Officer | 06/01/2020 |
| TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY | | |
| Ugarte, Jose P. | Peace Officer | 06/15/2020 |
| TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE | | |
| Thomas J. Brandenburgh | Peace Officer | 04/14/2020 |
| WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY | | |
| Fenwick, Michael B. | Peace Officer | 05/04/2020 |
| Nutt, Kensley B. | Peace Officer | 06/01/2020 |

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Maria L. Robinson, Chief Investment Officer and Treasurer
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of List of Authorized Signers for Revolving Fund Bank Accounts for System Members

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the revised list of authorized signers for revolving fund bank accounts for members of The Texas A&M University System, as required by the General Appropriations Act, Article III, Section 6.3, 86th Legislature, Regular Session.

Background Information:

This agenda item has been compiled from information submitted by the system members which reflects the maximum revolving amounts, the depository bank and the personnel authorized to approve disbursements from these accounts. These accounts are used to facilitate the payment of nominal expenses, debt service and payrolls, as well as to pay bills within cash discount periods. Funds disbursed from the revolving fund bank accounts in the United States are reimbursed from respective appropriations by the State Comptroller and deposits are covered by appropriate and sufficient surety bonds or securities. Accounts with Commercial Bank in Qatar follow the rules set forth in Chapter 51.003(f) of the Texas Education Code.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Not applicable.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

This item advances Strategic Plan Imperative 6, which provides that “The A&M System, in adhering to the high standard of excellence and growth required in this strategic plan, will display prudent financial stewardship and sustainability.”

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Chief Investment Officer and Treasurer
July 9, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of List of Authorized Signers for Revolving Fund Bank Accounts for System Members

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“Under the authority of the General Appropriations Act, and effective September 1, 2020, the employees of The Texas A&M University System members named below, and their successors in office, are hereby authorized to sign checks for the withdrawal of such funds according to law.

**Source of Funds: Institutional Funds (or Qatar Foundation as indicated)
Depository Bank: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. (or Commercial Bank-Qatar as indicated)**

1. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$115,000,000 (Operating and Debt Service)

Employees authorized to sign checks:

**Maria L. Robinson, Chief Investment Officer and Treasurer
Elaine N. Welch, Associate Director, Financial Management Services
David Verghese, Director, Investments
All Texas A&M University Signers listed below**

2. TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY (TAMU)

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$50,000,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

**John McCall, Associate Vice President for Finance and Controller
Debbie Phair, Executive Director, Financial Management Operations
Solomon Loche, Director of Departmental Accounting Services
Verna Fritsche, Director of Accounting Services
Janet Guillory, Associate Controller
Linda Kettler, Director, Financial Management Services**

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$15,000,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

All TAMU Signers listed above

TEXAS A&M SYSTEM – SPONSORED RESEARCH SERVICES

Employees authorized to sign checks:

All TAMU Signers listed above

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AT GALVESTON

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$2,000,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

All TAMU Signers listed above

**Susan Hernandez Lee, Associate Vice President for Finance and Compliance
Officer**

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AT QATAR (TAMU AT QATAR)

Source of Funds – Qatar Foundation

Depository Bank – Commercial Bank - Qatar

Employees authorized to sign checks:

John McCall, Associate Vice President for Finance and Controller, TAMU

Janet Guillory, Associate Controller, TAMU

**Joseph P. Pettibon II, Vice President for Enrollment & Academic Services,
TAMU**

Cesar O. Malave, Dean, TAMU at Qatar

**Rosalie Nickles, Assistant Dean for Finance & Administration, TAMU at
Qatar**

Hassan S. Bazzi, Associate Dean for Research, TAMU at Qatar

Ioannis G. Economou, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, TAMU at Qatar

Jean Laird, Director of Human Resources, TAMU at Qatar

3. TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$5,500,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Lori Beaty, Vice President for Finance & Administration and CFO

Kem Morgan, Associate Vice President for Finance & Administration

Jo Anna Ince, Associate Director, Accounting Services

Karen Fincher, Financial Analyst III

Taylor Keith, Financial Accountant II

Kristel Jones, Financial Accountant III – ACH/Wire Transfer only

Christina Dunagan, Financial Accountant III – ACH/Wire Transfer only

Angie Chabina, Student Account Specialist II – ACH/Wire Transfer only

4. PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$7,000,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Cynthia Carter-Horn, Senior Vice President for Business Affairs and CFO

Rod Mireles, Associate Vice President for Financial Management Services

Cozette Turner, Director

Dianne Evans, Budget Director

Equilla Jackson, Director, Treasury Services – ACH/Wire Transfer only

**Martha Ewane, Assistant Director, Treasury Services –ACH/Wire Transfer
only**

Stephanie Redd, Financial Accountant I – ACH/Wire Transfer only

Jacory Scroggins, Financial Accountant I – ACH/Wire Transfer only

5. TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE RESEARCH

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$4,000,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Patrick Stover, Director

Elizabeth Parker, Associate Director

Steve Schulze, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Administration

Deanie Dudley, Assistant Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

**Debra Cummings, Assistant Director and CFO, Texas A&M AgriLife
Research**

**Donna Alexander, Assistant Director and CFO, Texas A&M AgriLife
Extension Service**

**Vic S. Seidel, Assistant Agency Director, Texas A&M Veterinary Medical
Diagnostic Laboratory**

Shiao-Yen Ko, Manager of Accounting Services

Loree Lewis, Coordinator of Management Information

Kim Payne, Assistant Financial Manager

6. TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$4,000,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Jeffrey Hyde, Director

Steve Schulze, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Administration

Deanie Dudley, Assistant Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

**Donna Alexander, Assistant Director and CFO, Texas A&M AgriLife
Extension Service**

**Debra Cummings, Assistant Director and CFO, Texas A&M AgriLife
Research**

**Vic S. Seidel, Assistant Agency Director, Texas A&M Veterinary Medical
Diagnostic Laboratory**

Shiao-Yen Ko, Manager of Accounting Services

Loree Lewis, Coordinator of Management Information

Kim Payne, Assistant Financial Manager

7. TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$3,000,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

M. Katherine Banks, Director

John Crawford, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Business Management and CFO

Andrew B. Hinton, Controller

Terry Martin, Assistant Controller

Karen Gregory, Assistant Controller

Courtney Cammack, Financial Management Supervisor I

Gina Gressett, Financial Accountant II

TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION at QATAR

Source of Funds – Qatar Foundation

Depository Bank – Commercial Bank - Qatar

Employees authorized to sign checks:

**John Crawford, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Business Management and
CFO, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station**

Andrew B. Hinton, Controller, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station

Hassan S. Bazzi, Associate Dean for Research, TAMU at Qatar

Cesar O. Malave, Dean, TAMU at Qatar

8. TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXTENSION SERVICE

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$3,000,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Robert Todd, Associate Agency Director and CFO

Brian Stipe, Assistant CFO

Carolyn Abt, Financial Manager

Ana Guerrero, Financial Manager

Adrienne Person, Financial Manager – ACH/Wire Transfer only

9. TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$3,500,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Tom G. Boggus, Director

Robby DeWitt, Associate Director for Finance & Administration

Travis Zamzow, Budgets and Accounting Department Head

Madelyn Galloway, Policy and Review Coordinator

Claudia Dominguez, Financial Management Supervisor

John Powell, Management Review Officer

10. TEXAS A&M TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$1,000,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Joseph Dunn, Assistant Agency Director and CFO

Rodney Horrell, Assistant CFO

Tyler Theobald, Controller

Karen Coleman, Assistant Director, Accounting

Weining Yang, Accounting Supervisor

Randi Marshall, Financial Accountant IV

TEXAS A&M TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE at QATAR

Source of Funds – Qatar Foundation

Depository Bank – Commercial Bank - Qatar

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Joseph Dunn, Assistant Agency Director and CFO

Rodney Horrell, Assistant CFO

11. TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$5,500,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Kelly Miller, President

Jaclyn Mahlmann, Vice President for Finance & Administration

Judy Harral, Executive Director of Administrative Services

Rebecca Torres, Associate Vice President for Finance and Controller

Rosanne Gorny, Assistant Vice President and Chief Budget Officer

Yolanda Castorena, Assistant Comptroller

**Will Hobart, Director of Procurement & Disbursements and HUB
Coordinator**

Cassie Eyring, Accountant Manager

John Boeye, Financial Accountant III

Eliza Garcia, Financial Accountant III

Vacant, Financial Accountant II

Kristen Contreras, Accounting Assistant III

12. TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$3,500,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Pablo Arenaz, President

Juan J. Castillo, Jr., Vice President for Finance & Administration

Elena Martinez, Comptroller

Federico Juarez III, Associate Vice President for Finance & Administration

Carlos Bella, Assistant Comptroller

Maria Elena Hernandez, Assistant Comptroller/Receivables

Melisa Rangel, Financial Accountant IV

Patricia Ornelas, Financial Accountant IV

Vacant, Financial Accountant III

13. TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$5,000,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Mark Hussey, President

Jacob Flournoy, Vice President for Finance and CFO

Maricela Cisneros, Executive Director

Joanne Macias, Executive Director and Controller

Claudia Conard, Financial Analyst II

Vilma Castillo, Associate Director, Accounting

Robyn Wallace, Financial Analyst II

Shelby Liendo, Property Records Officer

14. TEXAS A&M VETERINARY MEDICAL DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$3,800,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Bruce Akey, Director

Steve Schulze, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Administration

Vic S. Seidel, Assistant Agency Director
Deanie Dudley, Assistant Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Donna Alexander, Assistant Director and CFO, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Debra Cummings, Assistant Director and CFO, Texas A&M AgriLife Research
Shiao-Yen Ko, Manager of Accounting Services
Loree Lewis, Coordinator of Management Information
Kim Payne, Assistant Financial Manager

15. WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$4,500,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Randy Rikel, Vice President for Business and Finance
Shelly Davis, Associate Vice President and Controller
Mark Hiner, Associate Vice President
Todd McNeill, Director of Finance
Julie Harvell, Bursar

16. TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$5,500,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Mark Rudin, President and Chief Executive Officer
Tina Livingston, Vice President for Finance & Administration
Paula Hanson, Associate Vice President for Business and Administration and Controller
Sarah Baker, Director of Accounting and Financial Reporting
Erica Contreras, Director of Budgets
Janet Anderson, Budget Coordinator
Vacant, Budget Analyst
Amanda Reams, Senior Accountant
ArLana Martin, Budget Analyst
Rocio (Rose) Moreno, State Accounting Manager
Denise Calixto, Financial Reporting and Reconciliation Accountant
Kim Jefferies, Coordinator of Gift Processing
Debbie Gonzalez, Grant Accountant and Property Manager
Vacant, Staff Accountant

17. TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-TEXARKANA

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$2,000,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Emily F. Cutrer, President
Jeff Hinton, Vice President for Finance & Administration
Rhonda Jones, Controller
Toni Burton, Director of Accounting
Cathy Adams, Financial Accountant IV

18. TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$2,500,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Marc Nigliazzo, President

Todd Lutz, Interim Vice President of Finance & Administration and CFO

Susan Bowden, Controller and Director of Business Affairs

Arnetta Brown, Director of Business Services

Eileen Thomas, Senior Accountant

Danielle Clouden, Senior Accountant

19. TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$3,500,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Cynthia Teniente-Matson, President

Kathryn Funk-Baxter, Vice President for Business Affairs and CFO

Chris Leach, Associate Vice President for Financial Services and Controller

Denis Cano, Associate Controller and Director of Accounting Services

Patricia Hayes, Director of Business Services

Jesus Martinez, Financial Analyst III

20. TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$50,000,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

John McCall, Associate Vice President for Finance and Controller

Debbie Phair, Executive Director, Financial Management Operations

Solomon Loche, Director of Departmental Accounting Services

Verna Fritsche, Director of Accounting Services

Janet Guillory, Associate Controller

Linda Kettler, Director, Financial Management Services”

Respectfully submitted,

Maria L. Robinson

Chief Investment Officer and Treasurer

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Billy Hamilton, Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Revisions to System Policy 22.02, *System Investment*

Proposed Board Action:

Approve revisions to System Policy 22.02, *System Investment*.

Background Information:

The following revisions are proposed for Board approval.

Section 4.2.1: New language clarifies that member CEOs can establish working funds in board-approved depositories. Working funds to be established in a depository bank other than board-approved depositories must be approved by the chancellor. All signers on the accounts must be approved by the member CEO.

Section 5.3.2: Addition of the term “traditional” to “fixed income” clarifies that the duration calculation does not apply to non-traditional credit investments described in Section 2.2.13.

Section 6.3.3: Deletion of the term “weighted average” conforms to the fixed income duration calculation for the Cash Concentration Pool with the System Endowment Fund described in Section 5.3.2.

Section 6.3.4: The edit makes it clear the equity allocations will be diversified across various managers and asset classes. The policy sets out the diversification requirements for each investment manager within the equity allocations.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

None.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

This item advances Strategic Plan Imperative 6, which provides that “The A&M System, in adhering to the high standard of excellence and growth required in this strategic plan, will display prudent financial stewardship and sustainability.”

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
System Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer
June 15, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Revisions to System Policy 22.02, *System Investment*

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The revisions to System Policy 22.02, *System Investment*, as shown in the attached exhibit, are approved, effective immediately.”

Respectfully submitted,

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

22.02 System Investment

~~Reviewed April 11, 2019 (MO 038-2019)~~

~~Revised August 20, 2020 (MO -2020)~~

Next Scheduled Review: ~~August 20, 2021~~ ~~April 11, 2020~~

Click to view [Revision History](#).



Policy Summary

This policy sets out the responsibilities of the Board of Regents (board), as assigned by law, to act as a fiduciary in the management of assets under the control of The Texas A&M University System (system) and delineates the roles and responsibilities of the chancellor and system staff regarding the management of assets under the control of the board.

Policy

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 As provided in the Texas Education Code, each board member has the legal responsibilities of a fiduciary in the management of funds under the control of the system. All investments will be made in accordance with applicable state and federal regulations. All assets of the system will at all times be vested in the board, and such assets will be deemed to be held by the board as a fiduciary regardless of the name in which the securities may be registered.
- 1.2 The board has granted to the chancellor the authority for the purchase, sale, assignment, transfer and management of all investments of any kind or character of the system or any member thereof and has authorized the chancellor to execute on behalf of the board or any member thereof any and all documents required in the purchase, sale, assignment, transfer and management of these investments.
- 1.3 The chancellor may delegate to treasury personnel the authority to execute any and all documents required to accomplish the actions outlined above and the deposit, withdrawal, or transfer of assets on behalf of the members.
- 1.4 Investments are defined to include, but are not limited to, any monetary or negotiable asset or property right held by a member including all operating, non-operating and other funds. This includes any asset or property right acquired or held by any member as trustee of a trust or as executor of an estate. Assets will include land and other real property, market investments, business enterprises and any other investments of any kind or character held or acquired by such funds.
- 1.5 Prudent Investor Rule – Each person responsible for making or retaining each and all investments and in acquiring, investing, reinvesting, exchanging, retaining, selling, supervising and managing funds will do so in good faith and with the care an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances.

- 1.6 In the management of system investments, consideration will be given to general economic/capital market conditions, the possible effect of inflation or deflation, the expected tax consequences, the role that each investment or course of action plays within the overall investment portfolio and the requirements for liquidity, diversification, safety of principal, yield, maturity, quality and capability of investment management, with the primary emphasis on safety. Consideration will also be given to incur only costs that are appropriate and reasonable in relation to the assets.
- 1.7 The overall objective of the investment policy is to invest the system's available funds in such a manner as to earn as high a level of return as can reasonably be achieved within the framework of the policy and consistent with the system's primary objective of the safety and preservation of capital.
- 1.8 Each custodian bank will furnish monthly statements to the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer that will include cost and market value for all positions, industry segmentation and percentage composition of the portfolio represented by each issue. The custodian bank statements will be used as the basis for quarterly investment performance reports to the board.
- 1.9 Coordination of investment policy, cash management and system depositories' activities will be maintained by the chancellor through the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer.
- 1.10 The chancellor will provide the board's Committee on Finance an annual report on the need to revise the system investment policy in regard to authorized securities, asset allocation, payout or any other pertinent matters.

2. INVESTMENT OF FUNDS

2.1 Quality Restrictions

For the purpose of this policy all traditional fixed income securities which use long-term credit ratings must be rated the equivalent of "B" or better by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. The fixed income portfolios must have an overall credit rating of "A" or better by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. Securities using short-term credit ratings must be rated at least A-2, P-2, F-2 or the equivalent by a nationally recognized statistical rating service.

2.2 Authorized Investments

- 2.2.1 Direct obligations of the principal and interest which are guaranteed by the United States Government or its agencies to include:
 - (a) obligations of the U.S. Treasury.
 - (b) direct obligations guaranteed by the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank (FICB), Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA), Federal Farm Credit Bank (FFCB), Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA), Student Loan Marketing Association (SLMA), Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC), Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB),

Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and other government-sponsored entities (GSE).

- 2.2.2 Obligations of states, agencies, counties, cities and other political subdivisions of any state.
- 2.2.3 United States dollar denominated debentures or obligations and preferred and common stocks issued by corporations, associations or other institutions, and convertible securities of all kinds issued by corporations. Not more than 4.9% of the voting stock of any one corporation will be owned by the system at any given time. This includes participation in publicly traded domestic Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs).
- 2.2.4 Debentures or obligations, and preferred or common stock of international governments and corporations. International preferred and common stock issues must be listed on an organized stock exchange. Utilization of derivatives for the hedging of currency risk is permissible.
- 2.2.5 Certificates of Deposit issued by state and national banks not to exceed 10% of banks' total deposits. Certificates of Deposit must be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or its successor, or secured (collateralized) by surety bond, or obligations described in this policy, with such collateral to be held by a third party, and that at all times will have a market value of not less than the principal amount of the certificates or in any manner and amount provided by law for deposits of the investing entities, and with the additional provision that all collateral based on direct agency or instrumentality issued mortgage backed securities must have been rated the equivalent of "AAA" by a nationally recognized credit rating organization (NRSRO).
- 2.2.6 Negotiable Certificates of Deposit issued by a bank that has a certificate of deposit rating of at least 1 or the equivalent by a nationally recognized rating agency or that is associated with a holding company having a commercial paper rating of at least A-1, P-1 or the equivalent by a nationally recognized credit rating agency.
- 2.2.7 Deposits in federally insured savings and loan associations, building and loan associations, and state and national banks not to exceed the amount insured by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or their successors.
- 2.2.8 Bankers Acceptances, accepted by a bank organized and existing under laws of the U.S. or any state, in accordance with Section 2.1.
- 2.2.9 Money Market Mutual Funds. Funds must be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, have a maximum maturity of 13 months and be no-load funds. Fund must have assets consisting of securities authorized under this policy.
- 2.2.10 Mutual Funds. Funds must be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and invest in assets authorized under this policy.

- 2.2.11 Direct Security Repurchase Agreements. Direct Repos must be fully secured (collateralized) by obligations authorized under this policy. Such collateral must be held by a third party. All agreements will be in compliance with Federal Reserve Bank guidelines.
- 2.2.12 Securities Lending. The securities lending agent is required to provide indemnification against borrower default. Further, loan exposure to borrowers must be diversified and managed within prudent limits to avoid concentrated borrower risk. The securities lending agent must provide credit approval for all borrowers and is required to perform on-going review and monitoring of borrower default risk and exposures. The amount of the portfolio out on loan must be limited to one-third of each portfolio. Cash collateral will be held in excess of the market value of lent securities in an amount no less than 102% of the market value. The securities lending agent is required to market the value of collateral daily and must review collateral positions and prices to ensure adequate collateral is received and prices used are current and valid. The investment collateral must be invested within the restrictions delineated under SEC Rule 2a-7 under the Investment Company Act of 1940. Basis risk in the portfolio is limited to 30 days when accounting for variable rate securities and loans by their respective reset dates. If loans are not in accordance with these guidelines, they are subject to termination.
- 2.2.13 Investments in bank loans and other non-traditional credit investments may be used to diversify and enhance the return of the portfolio.
- 2.2.14 Derivative instruments may be used in place of underlying securities to modify risk/return characteristics or to cost-effectively implement change in asset allocation. Additional uses of derivatives require written approval of the chancellor or designee. Derivative investments will not be utilized for the purpose of introducing leverage to the portfolio other than in accordance with Section 2.2.16.
- 2.2.15 Investments in venture capital and/or private equity partnerships may be used to enhance the expected return of the portfolio. These investments are long-term, illiquid, private partnerships with high variability of returns. No investment will be made that would comprise more than 10% of total commitments to a single fundraise, which includes commingled and separately managed funds.
- 2.2.16 Investments in absolute return strategies may be used to diversify and enhance the return of the portfolio. Absolute return strategies may invest in derivative instruments, employ leverage and sell securities short. Hedge fund investments may be made in offshore limited partnership shares or by using blocker corporations in order to avoid unrelated business income tax (UBIT). No investment will be made that will comprise more than 10% of any partnership's assets other than a separate fund mandate for portfolio assets.
- 2.2.17 Real assets investments including timber, energy and real estate may be used to diversify and enhance the return of the portfolio. These investments are long-term, illiquid and have high variability of returns. No investment will be made that would comprise more than 10% of total commitments to a single fundraise, which includes commingled and separately managed funds.

2.3 Stock Rights, Fractional Shares, and Proxies

In each instance, exercise or sale of the rights is to be made at the discretion of the chancellor. The chancellor is authorized to execute proxies within the approved investment policy.

2.4 Quasi-Endowments

The board may, on recommendation of the chancellor, establish a quasi-endowment using any source of funding at its disposal except educational (program) and general funds and restricted gifts or grants. Income from funds held in quasi-endowments is available for the purpose established by the board. The corpus of such funds will be held until such time as the board, on recommendation of the chancellor, abolishes the quasi-endowment, at which time the corpus is available for such purpose(s) as may be designated by the board. All quasi-endowments established by the board will be invested in the System Endowment Fund.

2.5 Matching of Private Gifts from Available University Fund (AUF)

Subject to the availability of matching funds appropriated for that purpose by the board, and with the approval of the chancellor, the presidents of Texas A&M University and Prairie View A&M University are authorized to accept private gifts and to match such gifts with AUF monies, provided such actions are reported to the board at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Authorization for the expenditure of AUF to match endowments is in the general appropriations act, subject to biennial renewal by the legislature. Matching may be completed as long as the pledge is received during a time when the rider authorization is in effect.

2.6 Investment Transactions

Sales, purchases and exchanges will be effected through financial institutions or through well-capitalized, nationally known investment firms which are recognized as being major participants in the equity and fixed income markets, in accordance with normal investment practices, if, in the judgment of the chancellor, these services will produce the maximum benefit to the system.

2.7 Use of Outside Investment Managers

2.7.1 The chancellor, within statutory and other regulatory authority, may place selected funds of the system with investment managers outside the system for investment purposes. The investment of such funds will be subject to the same authorizations and criteria as prescribed for investments consistent with this investment policy.

2.7.2 External investment manager(s) will be governed by either a Letter of Instruction outlining investment instructions and asset allocation parameters expressed in writing by the chancellor or subscription/limited partnership/similar agreement(s). The Letter of Instruction will detail the specific investment benchmark to be used to evaluate the external investment manager.

2.7.3 Consistent with this investment policy statement and the Letter of Instruction or subscription/limited partnership/similar agreement(s), the external investment manager(s) will be responsible for making decisions on a fully discretionary basis. This includes buy, hold, sell and timing decisions.

2.7.4 An external manager(s) will invest only into the security class(es) for which the external manager(s) is retained to manage. A fixed income manager(s) has full discretion to place funds into cash; however, the fixed income manager(s)'s performance will be measured against the investment benchmark detailed in the Letter of Instruction.

2.7.5 When prudent, system investment personnel may accept appointments on advisory boards or committees for external managers, serving in an advisory capacity with no additional compensation other than reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses.

3. CASH MANAGEMENT

3.1 A centralized cash management program will be maintained with the objective that all available cash or cash equivalents are invested and reported in accordance with applicable rules and regulations.

3.2 The cash management system will provide competitive and enhanced returns for each member. There will be no subsidy from one member to another. The benefits of the cash management system will exceed the full incremental costs associated with implementing and managing the system.

3.3 The Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer is assigned staff responsibility for the management oversight of the system-wide cash management system, in coordination with appropriate member officials.

4. INVESTMENTS AND OTHER RELATIONSHIPS WITH DEPOSITORIES

4.1 The Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the overall coordination and direction of banking relationships, to include investments, deposits, custody and other services with banking and similar financial institutions for the system and its members. Once each year, the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer will provide to the chancellor certification that the investments and banking relationships are in compliance with the policy.

4.2 System Depositories

4.2.1 The system is authorized to maintain time and demand bank deposits with only those depositories recommended by the chancellor and approved by the board which have executed a depository agreement. Depository agreements will be executed in accordance with System Policy 25.07, *Contract Administration*. Depositories will be selected on the basis of competitive bids, and the bids will be reviewed by the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer and made a part of the permanent records of the system. The only exceptions to the above are those working funds (~~imprest funds~~) which may be authorized within the system with the approval of the ~~chancellor~~ member chief executive officer

(CEO). Working funds established in a bank other than the approved depository bank must be approved by the chancellor, and all signers on the account must be approved by the member CEO. Such working funds are excluded from the provisions of the system investment policy inasmuch as such funds are not authorized to be invested. Whenever the amount of a working fund is in excess of needs, the excess will be transferred to the appropriate fiscal officer for management in accordance with system investment policy.

4.2.2 The amount of funds which may be deposited with any system bank will be limited to \$100,000,000 or 10% of total deposits, whichever is less. Collateral of 102% will be pledged against all deposits.

4.2.3 Only the chancellor and those officers and/or employees of the members specifically designated in writing by the chief executive officer of each member are authorized to deposit, withdraw, invest, transfer or otherwise manage local funds of the respective members in time and demand deposits with system depositories.

4.3 Responsibilities of System Offices

The Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the overall administration of system banking relationships. This responsibility includes:

- (a) identification of proposed depositories;
- (b) securing approval of depositories by the board;
- (c) negotiating System Depository and Pledge Agreement(s);
- (d) preparation of depository, safe keeping and trust accounts agreements with depositories and trustee institutions for execution by the chancellor;
- (e) acceptance and release of securities pledged to secure deposits of the system;
- (f) maintenance of relationships with depositories and trustee institutions;
- (g) monitoring the amount of funds on deposit for each member in each depository and maintaining collateral at sufficient levels; and
- (h) maintenance of records of the specific deposits and related collateral levels for each member for both time and demand deposits;

4.4 Responsibilities of the Chancellor or the Chancellor's Designee at each Member

Within the overall investment and cash management program of the system, the chancellor or the chancellor's designee at each member and his or her successor in office, is responsible for:

- (a) reporting and making available for investment by the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer all local funds for the member in deposits or other arrangements with system depositories;
- (b) designating in writing those persons who are authorized to withdraw, transfer or otherwise place local funds for the member in system depositories; and

- (c) furnishing one copy of each designation required by (b) above to the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer.

5. SYSTEM ENDOWMENT FUND

5.1 Fund Name, Purpose and Eligibility for Participation

- 5.1.1 The System Endowment Fund as herein established will be known as "The Texas A&M University System Endowment Fund" (SEF) and will be under the control of the board, as Trustee.
- 5.1.2 The purpose of the SEF is to provide for the collective investment of all endowment and trust funds held by the system or by the board in a fiduciary capacity. The SEF is to provide funding for scholarships, fellowships, professorships and academic chairs and other uses as specified by donors.
- 5.1.3 No endowment or trust fund will be admitted unless it is under the sole control, with full discretion as to investments, of the board and/or an official or officials of the system in their official capacity. However, no such official, other than the board or chancellor will have any control over the management of the SEF other than to request admittance or withdrawal of any endowment or trust fund under his or her control as designated trustee thereof. No endowment or trust will be admitted which contains a specific provision against commingling or whose investment restrictions prohibit purchase of securities authorized in this system investment policy.

5.2 Investments

Investments of system funds must be accomplished in accordance with the following principles, objectives and purposes:

- 5.2.1 There are two primary investment objectives. One is to provide a continuing and dependable cash payout, stable and preferably growing in real terms, after giving effect to inflation. The second is to cause the total value of the fund to appreciate, over time, exclusive of growth derived from donations.
- 5.2.2 The cash payout requirement on the SEF is substantial and continuous. Income and capital appreciation must be sufficient to provide an adequate and consistent cash stream for the development of excellence and distinction in the academic programs of the system. In addition, the SEF needs to appreciate to ensure preservation of the purchasing power of the SEF and also to satisfy the need for payout growth in the future.
- 5.2.3 Management of the SEF attempts to meet these objectives by maximizing the return on the SEF's investments, consistent with an appropriate level of risk. Additionally, the SEF must be diversified at all times to provide reasonable assurance that investment in a single security, a class of securities or industry will not have an excessive impact on the SEF.
- 5.2.4 A goal of the SEF is to maintain a balance between investment objectives and liquidity needs. Liquidity is necessary to meet the cash payout requirements and

any extraordinary events. In many instances, the most appropriate investment option is one that comes with liquidity constraints. The tradeoff between appropriateness and liquidity will be considered throughout the portfolio construction process.

5.3 Asset Allocation

5.3.1 The SEF's asset allocation policy will be consistent with the investment objectives and risk tolerances. These policies, developed after examining the historical relationships of risk and return among asset classes and integrating an analysis of both assets and liabilities, are designed to provide the highest probability of meeting or exceeding the SEF's return objectives at the lowest possible risk. The overall objective of the SEF is to invest the funds in such a manner as to achieve a reasonable balance of growth of corpus and consistent payout while maintaining the purchasing power of these endowments, as can reasonably be achieved within the framework of the policy consistent with the system's objective of the safety and preservation of capital. Although dynamic capital markets may cause fluctuating risk/return opportunities over a market cycle, the following standards will be used as a flexible framework for asset allocation as measured at market value. The targets outlined below represent the current allocation objective of the board and must be adhered to within the range for each asset class as outlined below. The board recognizes markets will fluctuate and accordingly charges the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer with aligning the actual allocation towards these targets on a quarterly basis.

| <u>Asset Class</u> | <u>Target</u> | <u>Range</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Fixed Income | 15% | 10% - 20% |
| Domestic Equity | 15% | 10% - 25% |
| International Equity | 15% | 10% - 25% |
| Real Assets | 15% | 10% - 25% |
| Absolute Return | 15% | 10% - 20% |
| Private Equity | 25% | 15% - 35% |

The SEF will compare total fund performance to a Policy Index that approximates the long-term asset allocation. The investment benchmarks that comprise the Policy Index will be those detailed in the Letters of Instruction and/or designated by the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer.

5.3.2 Traditional Fixed income will be managed with a duration of +/- 30% of the effective duration of the investment benchmark detailed in the Letter of Instruction while seeking to outperform the investment benchmark and to attain performance in the top quartile when compared to an appropriate manager universe over a five-year moving time period. Long-term preservation of capital is the primary objective when making any fixed income investment.

5.3.3 The equity allocation will be diversified among the various management styles in order to attain the desired expected return within appropriate risk tolerances. These assets will be managed at a risk level (beta) of no greater than 1.20 times the investment benchmark detailed in the Letter of Instruction while seeking to

outperform the investment benchmark and to attain performance in the top quartile when compared to an appropriate manager universe over a five-year moving time period. Diversification of each equity manager's portfolio will require no more than 25% of equities in one industry. Each equity manager is expected to stay fully invested in equities. In general, cash or cash equivalents should not exceed 5% of the market value of each equity portfolio. In the event of severe economic/capital market conditions or strong liquidity needs, the investment managers may raise a significant amount of cash. Any such decision arising from economic/capital market conditions must be explained in writing to the system staff within 10 working days thereafter. Any other deviations must first be communicated to, and approved in writing by, the designated member of the system staff. Long-term appreciation of the fund is the primary objective when making any equity investment.

5.3.4 Real Assets, Absolute Return and Private Equity investments will be selected and evaluated based on, but not limited to, the following criteria: Tenure and track record of management team, expertise in targeted areas of investment, diversification strategy, use of leverage, liquidity of investments and performance relative to similar investments.

5.4 Distribution of Income

Distribution will be made quarterly as soon as practicable after the last calendar day of November, February, May and August of each fiscal year to the endowment and trust funds participating in the SEF during the respective quarter. The income distribution per unit for each fiscal year will be to distribute, excluding fees, 5% of the 20-quarter average market value per unit as of the end of the previous February.

5.5 Amendment or Termination of Plan

The board reserves the right to amend or terminate the SEF as it deems necessary or advisable.

6. SYSTEM CASH CONCENTRATION POOL

6.1 Fund Name, Purpose and Eligibility for Participation

6.1.1 The Cash Concentration Pool herein established will be known as "The Texas A&M University System Cash Concentration Pool" (Pool) and will be under the control of the board. The direction of the Pool will be under the chancellor in accordance with Section 1.3.

6.1.2 The purpose of the Pool is to provide for the collective investment of all operating, non-operating and other funds resting with system or its members. The Pool was established to provide incremental return to assist in meeting the operating needs of the system.

6.1.3 All funds deposited into the Pool must be under sole control of the board and/or an official or officials of the system in their official capacity. However, no such official, other than the chancellor, will have any control over the management of the Pool other than to request deposits or withdrawals on the fund.

6.2 Investments

The Pool will be limited to such investments as are eligible under system investment policy as adopted by the board as amended from time to time.

6.3 Asset Allocation

6.3.1 The Pool's asset allocation policy will reflect, and be consistent with, the investment objectives and risk tolerances. These policies, developed after examining the historical relationships of risk and return among asset classes and integrating an analysis of both assets and liabilities, are designed to provide the highest probability of meeting or exceeding the Pool's return objectives at the lowest possible risk. The overall objective of the Pool is to invest the funds in such a manner as to achieve a reasonable balance of growth of corpus and consistent payout to meet the operating needs of the system, as can reasonably be achieved within the framework of the policy consistent with the system's objective of the safety and preservation of capital. Although dynamic capital markets may cause fluctuating risk/return opportunities over a market cycle, the following standards will be used as a flexible framework for asset allocation and portfolio structure (as measured at market value). The targets outlined below represent the current allocation objective of the board and must be adhered to within the range for each asset class as outlined in this section. The board recognizes markets will fluctuate and accordingly charges the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer with aligning the actual allocation towards these targets on a quarterly basis. All allocation percentages are to be exclusive of debt proceeds which are to be invested in the Short-Term Portfolio.

| <u>Asset Class</u> | <u>Target</u> | <u>Range</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Short-Term Portfolio | 8% | 6% - 12% |
| Fixed Income | 32% | 27% - 37% |
| Domestic Equity | 20% | 15% - 25% |
| International Equity | 20% | 15% - 25% |
| Absolute Return | 20% | 15% - 25% |

6.3.2 The Short-Term Portfolio will be managed to meet short-term cash requirements with a duration not to exceed one year.

6.3.3 ~~Traditional~~ Fixed Income will be managed with a ~~weighted average~~ duration +/- 30% of the effective duration of the investment benchmark detailed in the Letter of Instruction, while seeking to outperform the investment benchmark and to attain performance in the top quartile when compared to an appropriate manager universe over a five-year moving time period.

6.3.4 The ~~Equity allocations Portfolios~~ will be diversified among the various management styles and equity asset classes in order to attain the desired expected return within appropriate risk tolerances. These assets will be managed at a risk level (beta) not to exceed 1.20 times the investment benchmark detailed in the Letter of Instruction while seeking to outperform the investment benchmark and

to rank in the top quartile when compared to an appropriate manager universe over a five-year moving time period. Diversification of each manager's portfolio will require no more than 25% of equities in one industry. Each equity manager is expected to stay fully invested in equities. In general, cash and cash equivalents should not exceed 5% of the market value of each equity portfolio.

6.3.5 Absolute return strategies will be selected and evaluated based on, but not limited to, the following criteria: Tenure and track record of management team, expertise in targeted areas of investment, diversification strategy, use of leverage, liquidity of investments, level of general partner investment, fees and potential conflicts of interest.

6.4 Amendment or Termination of Plan

The board reserves the right to amend or terminate the Pool as it deems necessary or advisable.

7. PLACEMENT AGENTS

The purpose of this provision of the system investment policy is to ensure all system investment transactions and decisions are free from improper influence or the appearance of such consistent with the board's fiduciary responsibilities. The system requires transparency and accountability of the role of the placement agent. Prior to investing with an investment manager, the system must obtain a statement from the manager that it did not use a placement agent in connection with the system's investment or, if the manager has used a placement agent, it will disclose certain information regarding the payment of or the incurrence of an obligation to pay any placement fee and the services to be performed by the placement agent including as set forth in the placement agent questionnaire submitted to treasury personnel. Furthermore, the fund or manager must certify, represent and warrant that the disclosures required by the questionnaire are complete, true and correct in all material respects. The system cannot be responsible or liable for the payment of any placement fee unless such amounts are completely offset by reductions to the management fees or other fees payable by the system to the fund.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[System Policy 07.01, Ethics](#)

[System Policy 07.03, Conflicts of Interest, Dual Office Holding and Political Activities](#)

[System Policy 25.07, Contract Administration](#)

Tex. Educ. Code §§ [51.003](#), [51.0031](#)

[Tex. Prop. Code Ch. 163](#)

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

System Office of Treasury Services
(979) 458-6330

22.02 System Investment

Revised [August 20, 2020](#) (MO -2020)
Next Scheduled Review: August 20, 2021
Click to view [Revision History](#).



Policy Summary

This policy sets out the responsibilities of the Board of Regents (board), as assigned by law, to act as a fiduciary in the management of assets under the control of The Texas A&M University System (system) and delineates the roles and responsibilities of the chancellor and system staff regarding the management of assets under the control of the board.

Policy

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 As provided in the Texas Education Code, each board member has the legal responsibilities of a fiduciary in the management of funds under the control of the system. All investments will be made in accordance with applicable state and federal regulations. All assets of the system will at all times be vested in the board, and such assets will be deemed to be held by the board as a fiduciary regardless of the name in which the securities may be registered.
- 1.2 The board has granted to the chancellor the authority for the purchase, sale, assignment, transfer and management of all investments of any kind or character of the system or any member thereof and has authorized the chancellor to execute on behalf of the board or any member thereof any and all documents required in the purchase, sale, assignment, transfer and management of these investments.
- 1.3 The chancellor may delegate to treasury personnel the authority to execute any and all documents required to accomplish the actions outlined above and the deposit, withdrawal, or transfer of assets on behalf of the members.
- 1.4 Investments are defined to include, but are not limited to, any monetary or negotiable asset or property right held by a member including all operating, non-operating and other funds. This includes any asset or property right acquired or held by any member as trustee of a trust or as executor of an estate. Assets will include land and other real property, market investments, business enterprises and any other investments of any kind or character held or acquired by such funds.
- 1.5 Prudent Investor Rule – Each person responsible for making or retaining each and all investments and in acquiring, investing, reinvesting, exchanging, retaining, selling, supervising and managing funds will do so in good faith and with the care an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances.

- 1.6 In the management of system investments, consideration will be given to general economic/capital market conditions, the possible effect of inflation or deflation, the expected tax consequences, the role that each investment or course of action plays within the overall investment portfolio and the requirements for liquidity, diversification, safety of principal, yield, maturity, quality and capability of investment management, with the primary emphasis on safety. Consideration will also be given to incur only costs that are appropriate and reasonable in relation to the assets.
- 1.7 The overall objective of the investment policy is to invest the system's available funds in such a manner as to earn as high a level of return as can reasonably be achieved within the framework of the policy and consistent with the system's primary objective of the safety and preservation of capital.
- 1.8 Each custodian bank will furnish monthly statements to the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer that will include cost and market value for all positions, industry segmentation and percentage composition of the portfolio represented by each issue. The custodian bank statements will be used as the basis for quarterly investment performance reports to the board.
- 1.9 Coordination of investment policy, cash management and system depositories' activities will be maintained by the chancellor through the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer.
- 1.10 The chancellor will provide the board's Committee on Finance an annual report on the need to revise the system investment policy in regard to authorized securities, asset allocation, payout or any other pertinent matters.

2. INVESTMENT OF FUNDS

2.1 Quality Restrictions

For the purpose of this policy all traditional fixed income securities which use long-term credit ratings must be rated the equivalent of "B" or better by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. The fixed income portfolios must have an overall credit rating of "A" or better by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. Securities using short-term credit ratings must be rated at least A-2, P-2, F-2 or the equivalent by a nationally recognized statistical rating service.

2.2 Authorized Investments

2.2.1 Direct obligations of the principal and interest which are guaranteed by the United States Government or its agencies to include:

- (a) obligations of the U.S. Treasury.
- (b) direct obligations guaranteed by the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank (FICB), Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA), Federal Farm Credit Bank (FFCB), Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA), Student Loan Marketing Association (SLMA), Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC), Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB),

Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and other government-sponsored entities (GSE).

- 2.2.2 Obligations of states, agencies, counties, cities and other political subdivisions of any state.
- 2.2.3 United States dollar denominated debentures or obligations and preferred and common stocks issued by corporations, associations or other institutions, and convertible securities of all kinds issued by corporations. Not more than 4.9% of the voting stock of any one corporation will be owned by the system at any given time. This includes participation in publicly traded domestic Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs).
- 2.2.4 Debentures or obligations, and preferred or common stock of international governments and corporations. International preferred and common stock issues must be listed on an organized stock exchange. Utilization of derivatives for the hedging of currency risk is permissible.
- 2.2.5 Certificates of Deposit issued by state and national banks not to exceed 10% of banks' total deposits. Certificates of Deposit must be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or its successor, or secured (collateralized) by surety bond, or obligations described in this policy, with such collateral to be held by a third party, and that at all times will have a market value of not less than the principal amount of the certificates or in any manner and amount provided by law for deposits of the investing entities, and with the additional provision that all collateral based on direct agency or instrumentality issued mortgage backed securities must have been rated the equivalent of "AAA" by a nationally recognized credit rating organization (NRSRO).
- 2.2.6 Negotiable Certificates of Deposit issued by a bank that has a certificate of deposit rating of at least 1 or the equivalent by a nationally recognized rating agency or that is associated with a holding company having a commercial paper rating of at least A-1, P-1 or the equivalent by a nationally recognized credit rating agency.
- 2.2.7 Deposits in federally insured savings and loan associations, building and loan associations, and state and national banks not to exceed the amount insured by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or their successors.
- 2.2.8 Bankers Acceptances, accepted by a bank organized and existing under laws of the U.S. or any state, in accordance with Section 2.1.
- 2.2.9 Money Market Mutual Funds. Funds must be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, have a maximum maturity of 13 months and be no-load funds. Fund must have assets consisting of securities authorized under this policy.
- 2.2.10 Mutual Funds. Funds must be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and invest in assets authorized under this policy.

- 2.2.11 Direct Security Repurchase Agreements. Direct Repos must be fully secured (collateralized) by obligations authorized under this policy. Such collateral must be held by a third party. All agreements will be in compliance with Federal Reserve Bank guidelines.
- 2.2.12 Securities Lending. The securities lending agent is required to provide indemnification against borrower default. Further, loan exposure to borrowers must be diversified and managed within prudent limits to avoid concentrated borrower risk. The securities lending agent must provide credit approval for all borrowers and is required to perform on-going review and monitoring of borrower default risk and exposures. The amount of the portfolio out on loan must be limited to one-third of each portfolio. Cash collateral will be held in excess of the market value of lent securities in an amount no less than 102% of the market value. The securities lending agent is required to market the value of collateral daily and must review collateral positions and prices to ensure adequate collateral is received and prices used are current and valid. The investment collateral must be invested within the restrictions delineated under SEC Rule 2a-7 under the Investment Company Act of 1940. Basis risk in the portfolio is limited to 30 days when accounting for variable rate securities and loans by their respective reset dates. If loans are not in accordance with these guidelines, they are subject to termination.
- 2.2.13 Investments in bank loans and other non-traditional credit investments may be used to diversify and enhance the return of the portfolio.
- 2.2.14 Derivative instruments may be used in place of underlying securities to modify risk/return characteristics or to cost-effectively implement change in asset allocation. Additional uses of derivatives require written approval of the chancellor or designee. Derivative investments will not be utilized for the purpose of introducing leverage to the portfolio other than in accordance with Section 2.2.16.
- 2.2.15 Investments in venture capital and/or private equity partnerships may be used to enhance the expected return of the portfolio. These investments are long-term, illiquid, private partnerships with high variability of returns. No investment will be made that would comprise more than 10% of total commitments to a single fundraise, which includes commingled and separately managed funds.
- 2.2.16 Investments in absolute return strategies may be used to diversify and enhance the return of the portfolio. Absolute return strategies may invest in derivative instruments, employ leverage and sell securities short. Hedge fund investments may be made in offshore limited partnership shares or by using blocker corporations in order to avoid unrelated business income tax (UBIT). No investment will be made that will comprise more than 10% of any partnership's assets other than a separate fund mandate for portfolio assets.
- 2.2.17 Real assets investments including timber, energy and real estate may be used to diversify and enhance the return of the portfolio. These investments are long-term, illiquid and have high variability of returns. No investment will be made that would comprise more than 10% of total commitments to a single fundraise, which includes commingled and separately managed funds.

2.3 Stock Rights, Fractional Shares, and Proxies

In each instance, exercise or sale of the rights is to be made at the discretion of the chancellor. The chancellor is authorized to execute proxies within the approved investment policy.

2.4 Quasi-Endowments

The board may, on recommendation of the chancellor, establish a quasi-endowment using any source of funding at its disposal except educational (program) and general funds and restricted gifts or grants. Income from funds held in quasi-endowments is available for the purpose established by the board. The corpus of such funds will be held until such time as the board, on recommendation of the chancellor, abolishes the quasi-endowment, at which time the corpus is available for such purpose(s) as may be designated by the board. All quasi-endowments established by the board will be invested in the System Endowment Fund.

2.5 Matching of Private Gifts from Available University Fund (AUF)

Subject to the availability of matching funds appropriated for that purpose by the board, and with the approval of the chancellor, the presidents of Texas A&M University and Prairie View A&M University are authorized to accept private gifts and to match such gifts with AUF monies, provided such actions are reported to the board at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Authorization for the expenditure of AUF to match endowments is in the general appropriations act, subject to biennial renewal by the legislature. Matching may be completed as long as the pledge is received during a time when the rider authorization is in effect.

2.6 Investment Transactions

Sales, purchases and exchanges will be effected through financial institutions or through well-capitalized, nationally known investment firms which are recognized as being major participants in the equity and fixed income markets, in accordance with normal investment practices, if, in the judgment of the chancellor, these services will produce the maximum benefit to the system.

2.7 Use of Outside Investment Managers

2.7.1 The chancellor, within statutory and other regulatory authority, may place selected funds of the system with investment managers outside the system for investment purposes. The investment of such funds will be subject to the same authorizations and criteria as prescribed for investments consistent with this investment policy.

2.7.2 External investment manager(s) will be governed by either a Letter of Instruction outlining investment instructions and asset allocation parameters expressed in writing by the chancellor or subscription/limited partnership/similar agreement(s). The Letter of Instruction will detail the specific investment benchmark to be used to evaluate the external investment manager.

- 2.7.3 Consistent with this investment policy statement and the Letter of Instruction or subscription/limited partnership/similar agreement(s), the external investment manager(s) will be responsible for making decisions on a fully discretionary basis. This includes buy, hold, sell and timing decisions.
- 2.7.4 An external manager(s) will invest only into the security class(es) for which the external manager(s) is retained to manage. A fixed income manager(s) has full discretion to place funds into cash; however, the fixed income manager(s)'s performance will be measured against the investment benchmark detailed in the Letter of Instruction.
- 2.7.5 When prudent, system investment personnel may accept appointments on advisory boards or committees for external managers, serving in an advisory capacity with no additional compensation other than reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses.

3. CASH MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 A centralized cash management program will be maintained with the objective that all available cash or cash equivalents are invested and reported in accordance with applicable rules and regulations.
- 3.2 The cash management system will provide competitive and enhanced returns for each member. There will be no subsidy from one member to another. The benefits of the cash management system will exceed the full incremental costs associated with implementing and managing the system.
- 3.3 The Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer is assigned staff responsibility for the management oversight of the system-wide cash management system, in coordination with appropriate member officials.

4. INVESTMENTS AND OTHER RELATIONSHIPS WITH DEPOSITORIES

- 4.1 The Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the overall coordination and direction of banking relationships, to include investments, deposits, custody and other services with banking and similar financial institutions for the system and its members. Once each year, the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer will provide to the chancellor certification that the investments and banking relationships are in compliance with the policy.

4.2 System Depositories

- 4.2.1 The system is authorized to maintain time and demand bank deposits with only those depositories recommended by the chancellor and approved by the board which have executed a depository agreement. Depository agreements will be executed in accordance with System Policy 25.07, *Contract Administration*. Depositories will be selected on the basis of competitive bids, and the bids will be reviewed by the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer and made a part of the permanent records of the system. The only exceptions to the above are those working funds which may be authorized within the system with the approval of the member chief executive officer (CEO). Working funds

established in a bank other than the approved depository bank must be approved by the chancellor, and all signers on the account must be approved by the member CEO. Such working funds are excluded from the provisions of the system investment policy inasmuch as such funds are not authorized to be invested. Whenever the amount of a working fund is in excess of needs, the excess will be transferred to the appropriate fiscal officer for management in accordance with system investment policy.

4.2.2 The amount of funds which may be deposited with any system bank will be limited to \$100,000,000 or 10% of total deposits, whichever is less. Collateral of 102% will be pledged against all deposits.

4.2.3 Only the chancellor and those officers and/or employees of the members specifically designated in writing by the chief executive officer of each member are authorized to deposit, withdraw, invest, transfer or otherwise manage local funds of the respective members in time and demand deposits with system depositories.

4.3 Responsibilities of System Offices

The Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the overall administration of system banking relationships. This responsibility includes:

- (a) identification of proposed depositories;
- (b) securing approval of depositories by the board;
- (c) negotiating System Depository and Pledge Agreement(s);
- (d) preparation of depository, safe keeping and trust accounts agreements with depositories and trustee institutions for execution by the chancellor;
- (e) acceptance and release of securities pledged to secure deposits of the system;
- (f) maintenance of relationships with depositories and trustee institutions;
- (g) monitoring the amount of funds on deposit for each member in each depository and maintaining collateral at sufficient levels; and
- (h) maintenance of records of the specific deposits and related collateral levels for each member for both time and demand deposits;

4.4 Responsibilities of the Chancellor or the Chancellor's Designee at each Member

Within the overall investment and cash management program of the system, the chancellor or the chancellor's designee at each member and his or her successor in office, is responsible for:

- (a) reporting and making available for investment by the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer all local funds for the member in deposits or other arrangements with system depositories;
- (b) designating in writing those persons who are authorized to withdraw, transfer or otherwise place local funds for the member in system depositories; and

- (c) furnishing one copy of each designation required by (b) above to the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer.

5. SYSTEM ENDOWMENT FUND

5.1 Fund Name, Purpose and Eligibility for Participation

- 5.1.1 The System Endowment Fund as herein established will be known as "The Texas A&M University System Endowment Fund" (SEF) and will be under the control of the board, as Trustee.
- 5.1.2 The purpose of the SEF is to provide for the collective investment of all endowment and trust funds held by the system or by the board in a fiduciary capacity. The SEF is to provide funding for scholarships, fellowships, professorships and academic chairs and other uses as specified by donors.
- 5.1.3 No endowment or trust fund will be admitted unless it is under the sole control, with full discretion as to investments, of the board and/or an official or officials of the system in their official capacity. However, no such official, other than the board or chancellor will have any control over the management of the SEF other than to request admittance or withdrawal of any endowment or trust fund under his or her control as designated trustee thereof. No endowment or trust will be admitted which contains a specific provision against commingling or whose investment restrictions prohibit purchase of securities authorized in this system investment policy.

5.2 Investments

Investments of system funds must be accomplished in accordance with the following principles, objectives and purposes:

- 5.2.1 There are two primary investment objectives. One is to provide a continuing and dependable cash payout, stable and preferably growing in real terms, after giving effect to inflation. The second is to cause the total value of the fund to appreciate, over time, exclusive of growth derived from donations.
- 5.2.2 The cash payout requirement on the SEF is substantial and continuous. Income and capital appreciation must be sufficient to provide an adequate and consistent cash stream for the development of excellence and distinction in the academic programs of the system. In addition, the SEF needs to appreciate to ensure preservation of the purchasing power of the SEF and also to satisfy the need for payout growth in the future.
- 5.2.3 Management of the SEF attempts to meet these objectives by maximizing the return on the SEF's investments, consistent with an appropriate level of risk. Additionally, the SEF must be diversified at all times to provide reasonable assurance that investment in a single security, a class of securities or industry will not have an excessive impact on the SEF.
- 5.2.4 A goal of the SEF is to maintain a balance between investment objectives and liquidity needs. Liquidity is necessary to meet the cash payout requirements and

any extraordinary events. In many instances, the most appropriate investment option is one that comes with liquidity constraints. The tradeoff between appropriateness and liquidity will be considered throughout the portfolio construction process.

5.3 Asset Allocation

5.3.1 The SEF's asset allocation policy will be consistent with the investment objectives and risk tolerances. These policies, developed after examining the historical relationships of risk and return among asset classes and integrating an analysis of both assets and liabilities, are designed to provide the highest probability of meeting or exceeding the SEF's return objectives at the lowest possible risk. The overall objective of the SEF is to invest the funds in such a manner as to achieve a reasonable balance of growth of corpus and consistent payout while maintaining the purchasing power of these endowments, as can reasonably be achieved within the framework of the policy consistent with the system's objective of the safety and preservation of capital. Although dynamic capital markets may cause fluctuating risk/return opportunities over a market cycle, the following standards will be used as a flexible framework for asset allocation as measured at market value. The targets outlined below represent the current allocation objective of the board and must be adhered to within the range for each asset class as outlined below. The board recognizes markets will fluctuate and accordingly charges the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer with aligning the actual allocation towards these targets on a quarterly basis.

| <u>Asset Class</u> | <u>Target</u> | <u>Range</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Fixed Income | 15% | 10% - 20% |
| Domestic Equity | 15% | 10% - 25% |
| International Equity | 15% | 10% - 25% |
| Real Assets | 15% | 10% - 25% |
| Absolute Return | 15% | 10% - 20% |
| Private Equity | 25% | 15% - 35% |

The SEF will compare total fund performance to a Policy Index that approximates the long-term asset allocation. The investment benchmarks that comprise the Policy Index will be those detailed in the Letters of Instruction and/or designated by the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer.

5.3.2 Traditional fixed income will be managed with a duration of +/- 30% of the effective duration of the investment benchmark detailed in the Letter of Instruction while seeking to outperform the investment benchmark and to attain performance in the top quartile when compared to an appropriate manager universe over a five-year moving time period. Long-term preservation of capital is the primary objective when making any fixed income investment.

5.3.3 The equity allocation will be diversified among the various management styles in order to attain the desired expected return within appropriate risk tolerances. These assets will be managed at a risk level (beta) of no greater than 1.20 times the investment benchmark detailed in the Letter of Instruction while seeking to

outperform the investment benchmark and to attain performance in the top quartile when compared to an appropriate manager universe over a five-year moving time period. Diversification of each equity manager's portfolio will require no more than 25% of equities in one industry. Each equity manager is expected to stay fully invested in equities. In general, cash or cash equivalents should not exceed 5% of the market value of each equity portfolio. In the event of severe economic/capital market conditions or strong liquidity needs, the investment managers may raise a significant amount of cash. Any such decision arising from economic/capital market conditions must be explained in writing to the system staff within 10 working days thereafter. Any other deviations must first be communicated to, and approved in writing by, the designated member of the system staff. Long-term appreciation of the fund is the primary objective when making any equity investment.

5.3.4 Real Assets, Absolute Return and Private Equity investments will be selected and evaluated based on, but not limited to, the following criteria: tenure and track record of management team, expertise in targeted areas of investment, diversification strategy, use of leverage, liquidity of investments and performance relative to similar investments.

5.4 Distribution of Income

Distribution will be made quarterly as soon as practicable after the last calendar day of November, February, May and August of each fiscal year to the endowment and trust funds participating in the SEF during the respective quarter. The income distribution per unit for each fiscal year will be to distribute, excluding fees, 5% of the 20-quarter average market value per unit as of the end of the previous February.

5.5 Amendment or Termination of Plan

The board reserves the right to amend or terminate the SEF as it deems necessary or advisable.

6. SYSTEM CASH CONCENTRATION POOL

6.1 Fund Name, Purpose and Eligibility for Participation

6.1.1 The Cash Concentration Pool herein established will be known as "The Texas A&M University System Cash Concentration Pool" (Pool) and will be under the control of the board. The direction of the Pool will be under the chancellor in accordance with Section 1.3.

6.1.2 The purpose of the Pool is to provide for the collective investment of all operating, non-operating and other funds resting with system or its members. The Pool was established to provide incremental return to assist in meeting the operating needs of the system.

6.1.3 All funds deposited into the Pool must be under sole control of the board and/or an official or officials of the system in their official capacity. However, no such official, other than the chancellor, will have any control over the management of the Pool other than to request deposits or withdrawals on the fund.

6.2 Investments

The Pool will be limited to such investments as are eligible under system investment policy as adopted by the board as amended from time to time.

6.3 Asset Allocation

6.3.1 The Pool's asset allocation policy will reflect, and be consistent with, the investment objectives and risk tolerances. These policies, developed after examining the historical relationships of risk and return among asset classes and integrating an analysis of both assets and liabilities, are designed to provide the highest probability of meeting or exceeding the Pool's return objectives at the lowest possible risk. The overall objective of the Pool is to invest the funds in such a manner as to achieve a reasonable balance of growth of corpus and consistent payout to meet the operating needs of the system, as can reasonably be achieved within the framework of the policy consistent with the system's objective of the safety and preservation of capital. Although dynamic capital markets may cause fluctuating risk/return opportunities over a market cycle, the following standards will be used as a flexible framework for asset allocation and portfolio structure (as measured at market value). The targets outlined below represent the current allocation objective of the board and must be adhered to within the range for each asset class as outlined in this section. The board recognizes markets will fluctuate and accordingly charges the Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer with aligning the actual allocation towards these targets on a quarterly basis. All allocation percentages are to be exclusive of debt proceeds which are to be invested in the Short-Term Portfolio.

| <u>Asset Class</u> | <u>Target</u> | <u>Range</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Short-Term Portfolio | 8% | 6% - 12% |
| Fixed Income | 32% | 27% - 37% |
| Domestic Equity | 20% | 15% - 25% |
| International Equity | 20% | 15% - 25% |
| Absolute Return | 20% | 15% - 25% |

6.3.2 The Short-Term Portfolio will be managed to meet short-term cash requirements with a duration not to exceed one year.

6.3.3 Traditional fixed Income will be managed with a duration +/- 30% of the effective duration of the investment benchmark detailed in the Letter of Instruction, while seeking to outperform the investment benchmark and to attain performance in the top quartile when compared to an appropriate manager universe over a five-year moving time period.

6.3.4 The equity allocations will be diversified among the various management styles and equity asset classes in order to attain the desired expected return within appropriate risk tolerances. These assets will be managed at a risk level (beta) not to exceed 1.20 times the investment benchmark detailed in the Letter of Instruction while seeking to outperform the investment benchmark and to rank in the top

quartile when compared to an appropriate manager universe over a five-year moving time period. Diversification of each manager's portfolio will require no more than 25% of equities in one industry. Each equity manager is expected to stay fully invested in equities. In general, cash and cash equivalents should not exceed 5% of the market value of each equity portfolio.

- 6.3.5 Absolute return strategies will be selected and evaluated based on, but not limited to, the following criteria: tenure and track record of management team, expertise in targeted areas of investment, diversification strategy, use of leverage, liquidity of investments, level of general partner investment, fees and potential conflicts of interest.

6.4 Amendment or Termination of Plan

The board reserves the right to amend or terminate the Pool as it deems necessary or advisable.

7. PLACEMENT AGENTS

The purpose of this provision of the system investment policy is to ensure all system investment transactions and decisions are free from improper influence or the appearance of such consistent with the board's fiduciary responsibilities. The system requires transparency and accountability of the role of the placement agent. Prior to investing with an investment manager, the system must obtain a statement from the manager that it did not use a placement agent in connection with the system's investment or, if the manager has used a placement agent, it will disclose certain information regarding the payment of or the incurrence of an obligation to pay any placement fee and the services to be performed by the placement agent including as set forth in the placement agent questionnaire submitted to treasury personnel. Furthermore, the fund or manager must certify, represent and warrant that the disclosures required by the questionnaire are complete, true and correct in all material respects. The system cannot be responsible or liable for the payment of any placement fee unless such amounts are completely offset by reductions to the management fees or other fees payable by the system to the fund.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[System Policy 07.01, Ethics](#)

[System Policy 07.03, Conflicts of Interest, Dual Office Holding and Political Activities](#)

[System Policy 25.07, Contract Administration](#)

Tex. Educ. Code §§ [51.003](#), [51.0031](#)

[Tex. Prop. Code Ch. 163](#)

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

System Office of Treasury Services
(979) 458-6330

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Maria L. Robinson, Chief Investment Officer and Treasurer
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Extension to Bank Depository Agreements with Guaranty Bank & Trust and First Texas Bank & Trust

Proposed Board Action:

Approve Guaranty Bank & Trust and First Texas Bank & Trust as depositories for The Texas A&M University System.

Background Information:

In accordance with System Policy 22.02 *System Investment*, all depositories require Board of Regents approval. The primary function of the local depository is to accept the daily deposits from System Members' fiscal offices and assist the System with the consolidation of these deposits for expenditure or investment. This request for the Board to approve local depositories is in compliance with the requirements of the General Appropriations Act, Article III, Section 6.4, 86th Legislature, Regular Session.

Following an RFP process in July 2015, Guaranty Bank & Trust was selected to provide depository services to Texas A&M University-Commerce and First Texas Bank & Trust was selected to provide depository services to Texas A&M University-Central Texas. The Board of Regents approved both banks as depositories for the A&M System at its regular meeting on November 12, 2015. The initial terms of the banking agreements expire at the end of November 2020 with an option to extend an additional five years. Guaranty Bank and First Texas Bank have provided services at no cost and have agreed to extend the terms for another five years.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Not applicable.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

This item advances Strategic Plan Imperative 6, which provides that "The A&M System, in adhering to the high standard of excellence and growth required in this strategic plan, will display prudent financial stewardship and sustainability."

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Chief Investment Officer and Treasurer
July 9, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Extension to Bank Depository Agreements with Guaranty Bank & Trust and
First Texas Bank & Trust

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“In accordance with System Policy 22.02, *System Investment*, Guaranty Bank & Trust and First Texas Bank & Trust are hereby approved as depositories for The Texas A&M University System.”

Respectfully submitted,

Maria L. Robinson
Chief Investment Officer and Treasurer

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Office of the Chancellor

August 12, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Resolution Recognizing the Importance of the Bryan-College Station Community to Texas A&M University

Approval of the following resolution honoring the historical connections and importance of the Bryan-College Station community to Texas A&M University is recommended:

“WHEREAS, Aggieland has grown beyond the boundaries of any one municipality; and

WHEREAS, College Station is known as the “Home of Texas A&M University”; and

WHEREAS, the City of College Station and the City of Bryan have had an entwined history since the City of College Station was incorporated in 1938; and

WHEREAS, Bryan and Texas A&M University’s historical ties go back to 1871, when Bryan was incorporated and the Texas Legislature established the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas; and

WHEREAS, College Station and Texas A&M University are synonymous, with the city owing its name and existence to the Agricultural and Mechanical College’s location along the Houston and Texas Central Railroad, receiving the designation “College Station, Texas” by the U.S. Postal Service in 1877; and

WHEREAS, the City of College Station was incorporated after a petition was submitted to the A&M College of Texas board of directors, and the first city council was comprised of A&M faculty members and met in the administration building; and

WHEREAS, Kyle Field, home to Aggie Football since 1905, is located in College Station, and in 2013 College Station guaranteed up to \$36 million in hotel tax revenues toward the renovation of Kyle Field; and

WHEREAS, Bryan Army Air Field was used as the Texas A&M University Annex for incoming Corps of Cadets freshmen and returning veterans in 1946; and

WHEREAS, in 1962, Bryan Air Force Base was deeded to Texas A&M University, adding 1,991 acres; and

WHEREAS, the former Bryan Air Force Base was operated as the Texas A&M University Research and Extension Center for a quarter of a century before being designated as the Texas A&M University Riverside Campus in 1988; and

Agenda Item No.
August 12, 2020

WHEREAS, the Texas A&M University Riverside Campus grew into the Texas A&M University Research Annex before transforming into the RELLIS Campus in 2016, home to Texas A&M University System entities including ten regional universities, the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX), the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) and the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI); and

WHEREAS, in 2007, the City of Bryan gifted more than 200 acres to the Texas A&M University Health Science Center; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the long history and partnership between the City of Bryan, the City of College Station and both Texas A&M University and The Texas A&M University System; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that over the past decade, Texas A&M University and The Texas A&M University System have expanded into the City of Bryan with seven Texas A&M University System colleges, ten Texas A&M University System universities and multiple Texas A&M University System state agencies on more than 2,200 acres with more than \$1 billion in investment; and

WHEREAS, Texas A&M University will always be the institution's official name; and

WHEREAS, there is no intent to change the university's official name; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System and the President of Texas A&M University will use "Bryan-College Station" only in any general location references where College Station would have been used in the past, including references at all sporting events, academic events, press releases, marketing collateral, letterhead, and other representations of Texas A&M University and The Texas A&M University System where a specific postal address is not required.

ADOPTED, this 20th day of August 2020."

Respectfully submitted,

John Sharp
Chancellor

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Agenda Item No.

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

May 26, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020, Prairie View A&M University

I recommend adoption of the following minute order.

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01, *Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure*, hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty members at Prairie View A&M University as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-04.”

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth J. Simmons
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

**PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 20-04**

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Present Rank</u>
<u>Department</u> | <u>Yrs. Towards Tenure*</u> | | <u>Effective</u>
<u>Date/Tenure</u> | <u>Education</u> | <u>Employment</u>
<u>Towards Tenure</u> |
|--|---|-----------------------------|--------------------|--|--|---|
| | | <u>Univ.</u> | <u>Other Inst.</u> | | | |
| ROY G. PERRY COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING | | | | | | |
| Dr. Chang Duan | Assistant Professor
Mechanical Engineering | 6 | 0 | 09/01/2020 | Ph.D. (2013)
North Carolina
State University | Fa 2014 – Present
Assistant Professor
Prairie View A&M University |
| Dr. Sheena M. Reeves | Assistant Professor
Chemical Engineering | 6 | 0 | 09/01/2020 | Ph.D. (2011)
Mississippi
State University | Fa 2014 – Present
Assistant Professor
Prairie View A&M University |

* Each university determines, through a review process, the number of years each faculty member will be awarded tenure based on his/her dossier.

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Ruth J. Simmons, President
Prairie View A&M University

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Social Work Degree Program, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) leading to a Master of Social Work (M.S.W.), authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information:

The proposed M.S.W. will offer a clinical concentration with a specialization in Medical and Behavioral Health focused on reducing racial and ethnic health and mental health disparities. The program will produce graduates qualified to pursue the highly marketable Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) certification. The PVAMU M.S.W. program will be among 18 other M.S.W. programs in Texas but the only M.S.W. offered at a historically black college/university and the only program in Texas with a medical social work and behavioral health concentration. Texas ranks among the top five states nationally for employing medical and behavioral health social workers, and the 2018 Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts clinical social work as the highest paying social work career for the next decade.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The total cost of the program over the first five years is estimated to be \$1,632,000. Costs include funding for two faculty to serve as M.S.W. director and field director, two assistant professor faculty lines, four adjunct lines, a new Bachelor of Social Work (B.S.W.) director in Year 3, and a salary increase for promotion of the current B.S.W. director.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed PVAMU M.S.W. program was designed in alignment with the six Texas A&M University System strategic plan imperatives and measures of success. These include: (1) an array of educational pathways for all qualified students by expanding the number and scope of master's degrees; (2) affordability and accessibility by providing an affordable and accessible online program; (3) responsible graduates prepared for careers in an increasingly global economy through providing evidence-based intervention training. The university will gain visibility with (4) increased prominence through robust and targeted funded research to reduce health and mental health disparities; (5) responding to labor market needs to serve more Texans through the utilization of technology to reach citizens in new ways; and (6) increased financial sustainability through research contributions which leads to increased donor funding and research dollars.

Agenda Item No.

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

May 29, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Social Work Degree Program, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Prairie View A&M University leading to a Master of Social Work.

The Board also authorizes submission of Prairie View A&M University’s new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.”

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth J. Simmons
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Prairie View A&M University

Master of Social Work
(CIP 44.0701.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Division of Social Work, Behavioral and Political Science, Marvin D. and June Samuel Brailsford College of Arts and Sciences

The proposed Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) will be offered online and offer a clinical concentration with a specialization in Medical and Behavioral Health focused on reducing racial and ethnic health and mental health disparities. The program will produce graduates qualified to pursue the highly marketable Licensed Clinical Social Worker certification. Prairie View A& M University's (PVAMU) M.S.W. Program will be among 18 other M.S.W. programs in Texas but the only program in Texas offered at a historically black college/university (HBCU) and the only program in Texas with a medical social work and behavioral health concentration.

The M.S.W. program will prepare students to:

- Demonstrate generalist social work knowledge, values, skills, and cognitive affective processing to work with various populations and client systems
- Apply advanced social work competencies within medical social work and behavioral healthcare practice settings to intervene across multiple health and mental health care settings
- Integrate Africentric theories and practices as a framework to understand and intervene with client populations across multiple health and mental health care settings in medical social work and behavioral healthcare practice.

The mission statement of the M.S.W. program is to prepare a cadre of diverse, competent leaders in social work who integrate ethics, human behavior, social work practice, policy, and advanced practice knowledge and skills and serve as change agents in the areas of medical social work and behavioral health care practice with an emphasis on Africentric theory and interventions.

The M.S.W. will offer two options, Traditional (for those who have not completed a bachelor's degree in Social Work) and Advanced Standing (for those who have completed a degree in Social Work). The Traditional option requires 56 semester credit hours (SCH) and is designed to be completed within four semesters with full-time enrollment, and within eight semesters for part-time enrollment. The Traditional program consists of 32 SCH of required courses, six prescribed electives, and 18 SCH of practicum and seminar courses. The Advanced Standing option requires 33 SCH with 15 SCH of required courses, six prescribed electives, and 12 SCH of practicum and seminar courses.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2021.

PVAMU certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 5.45 in regards to need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards and costs. New costs during the first five years will not exceed \$2 million.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

The U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics affirms that social work is one of the nation’s fastest-growing careers. The social work profession as a whole is growing at an above-average rate of 16 percent; yet, specific positions are growing even faster, with some expecting a 23 percent job-growth rate.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics also ranks Texas as fifth in the nation with the highest employment level in social work. Yet, despite the high need, there are fewer social workers per capita in the southern United States compared to other regions. For example, the employment for social workers in Texas is 0.81 per thousand jobs, while in 2019, Texas was ranked as one of two states (along with Florida) as both the fastest-growing and largest states in the nation. Thus, more social work graduates are needed to meet the demand for Texas’ population, which is 29 million and growing.

Graduates of PVAMU’s proposed M.S.W. program will be eligible to work in various fields related to health and mental health, and overall well-being of individuals, families, groups, and communities, as practitioners or administrators. The proposed degree will open doors to numerous career opportunities across a wide range of industries and client populations.

B. Projected Enrollment

Projected student enrollment for Years 1-5 is reported in Table 1. These conservative projections are based on two assumptions: (1) 20% growth rate based on student demand and (2) 80% annual student retention.

Table 1. M.S.W. Enrollment Projections by Program Option over Five Years

| Year | Traditional Full-Time
(56 SCH over 4 semesters) | Traditional Part-Time
(56 SCH over 8 semesters) | Advanced Standing Fall start
(33 SCH over 3 semesters) | Advanced Standing Spring Start
(33 SCH over 3 semesters) | Cumulative New Enrollments per Year |
|--------|--|--|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| Year 1 | 12 | 8 | | | 20 |
| Year 2 | 15 | 10 | 12 | 12 | 49 |
| Year 3 | 18 | 12 | 15 | 15 | 60 |
| Year 4 | 22 | 15 | 18 | 18 | 73 |
| Year 5 | 26 | 18 | 22 | 22 | 88 |

Yearly enrollment growth is based on the high demand already established by the Hanover Report for M.S.W. programs coupled with increased rates of online enrollment. The

Education Department's National Center for Education Statistics January 2019 Report shows the number of graduate students enrolled in online classes more than doubled over the past decade, from 22% in 2007-2008 to nearly 50% (45.6) in 2017. Further, online programs are growing faster than traditional face-to-face programs at the graduate level; while overall postsecondary enrollment dropped by almost 90,000 students, nearly half a percentage point, from fall 2016 to fall 2017, the number of all students who took at least some of their courses online grew by more than 350,000, a healthy 5.7 percent. The proportion of all students who were enrolled exclusively online grew from 18.2 % in 2011-2012 to 27.3 % in 2017, underscoring the high marketability of 100% online programs.

C. Existing State Programs

There are 18 M.S.W. programs in Texas. Two of the 18 programs focus generally on cultural competence. The University of Texas at San Antonio focuses on transformative and culturally competent social work. Tarleton State University focuses on multicultural practice with children and families. Three M.S.W. programs specifically focus on culturally grounded practice with the Latino population. Our Lady of the Lake's entire program is concentrated on Social Work Practice with Latinos. The University of Houston and the University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley offer specializations in Latino Social Work Practice. The University of Texas at Austin has a strong research focus on Latino populations. The proposed PVAMU program aims to complement such population-specific M.S.W. programs with a focus on culturally relevant Africentric practice for African American and African-American/Black populations. The Africentric focus is a unique attractor for PVAMU's program and offers a competitive alternative (100% online) and advantage to other Africentric programs nationally.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

Six core faculty will support the M.S.W. Program. Two existing B.S.W. faculty members will cross-teach in B.S.W. and M.S.W. programs at 50%. Starting in Year 1, the M.S.W. Director and M.S.W. Field Director, both faculty positions, will be hired at \$78,000 and \$68,000 respectively (\$146,000 per year). In Year 2, two new assistant professors will be hired at \$58,000/year (\$116,000 total per year). Three support faculty include one existing faculty member at 25% and in Year 2, two adjunct faculty will be hired to teach two summer courses (\$75,000 per year).

B. Program Administration

Program administration costs are included in faculty costs with the hiring of the M.S.W. director and field director (\$146,000 per year). Additional reallocated funds for program administration are proposed to support an additional faculty member to serve the dual role of B.S.W. director and department head (\$15,000 per year). In Year 3, a new B.S.W. director will be hired (\$58,000 per year).

C. Other Personnel

No additional personnel will be hired. Graduate assistantships will be funded through the Office of Graduate Studies.

D. Supplies, Materials

Supplies and materials (e.g., software licensing, evaluation costs, technology upgrades) are estimated to cost \$25,000 over the first five years.

E. Library

There are adequate library resources and no additional funding is requested.

F. Equipment & Facilities

No new equipment or facilities are required to conduct the program.

G. Accreditation

The program will submit a letter of intent to apply for Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accreditation candidacy with an expected accreditation approval by spring 2024. Accreditation costs over five years is estimated at \$48,000 and includes the required three visits by CSWE commissioners in Years 1-3 and annual membership fees thereafter.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

| NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS | | SOURCES OF FUNDING | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Faculty | \$554,000 | Formula Income | \$581,143 |
| Program Administration | 979,000 | Statutory Tuition | 500,100 |
| Graduate Assistants | | Reallocation | |
| Supplies & Materials | 25,000 | Designated Tuition | 1,860,372 |
| Library & IT Resources | | | |
| Equipment, Facilities | | | |
| Other: Accreditation | 48,000 | | |
| Other: Student Support | 26,000 | | |
| Estimated 5-Year Costs | \$1,632,000 | Estimated 5-Year Revenues | \$2,941,615 |

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Dr. James Hurley, President
Tarleton State University

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Communication Sciences and Disorders, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at Tarleton State University (Tarleton) leading to a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree with a major in Communication Sciences and Disorders, authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information:

The Department of Social Work within the College of Health Sciences and Human Services developed a B.S. in Communication Sciences and Disorders to support student interest and demand. Graduates may find employment in rehabilitation settings, with hearing aid companies, with non-profits, or in hospice, home health, or in educational settings.

The program curriculum prepares students to acquire an entry-level job as a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (in Texas) or will give them the skills to enter other related professions. Additionally, the curriculum will prepare students to attend graduate school and become licensed as a Speech and Language Pathologist across the United States. The program is designed to provide students with a background in communication sciences and disorders, including the history of the profession, having an understanding of a wide range of related disorders, clinical processes, and learning about healthcare and advocacy.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The proposed B.S. in Communication Sciences and Disorders will require hiring one new tenured or tenure-track faculty. The total new costs for the first five years is estimated to be \$523,540. New funding for the first five years is estimated to be \$1,037,132.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The addition of the proposed degree will advance Strategic Plan Imperative #3 to promote the idea that our students will be “responsible and engaged citizens prepared for successful careers in an increasingly global economy.” The B.S. in Communication Studies and Disorders will ensure that students receive valuable marketable skills and knowledge that will assist them in a future successful career.

Agenda Item No.

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

May 22, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Communication Sciences and Disorders, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Tarleton State University leading to a Bachelor of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders.

The Board also authorizes submission of Tarleton State University’s new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.”

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. James Hurley
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Tarleton State University
Bachelor of Science
with a major in Communication Sciences and Disorders
(CIP 51.0201.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Social Work within the College of Health Sciences and Human Services

Tarleton State University (Tarleton) seeks to deliver a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree with a major in Communication Sciences and Disorders which will provide graduates with employment opportunities in a wide variety of fields.

The proposed curriculum is designed to achieve the following student learning outcomes; students:

1. Have a foundation in the principles of science (biology, chemistry, and/or physics), statistics, and the social and behavioral sciences.
2. Have well-developed written and oral communication skills.
3. Demonstrate basic knowledge of communication, including cultural and linguistic bases.
4. Understand the impact of developmental stages and acquired pathology on communication.
5. Apply critical thinking skills to synthesize, analyze, and evaluate information.
6. Identify professional and evidence-based clinical practice issues in the field of communication disorders.
7. Become engaged citizens with the ability to identify social structures impacting client systems, and advocate for change.

The degree will require 120 semester credit hours comprised of courses in communication sciences and disorders, social work, and psychology. Coursework includes topics such as: anatomy and physiology for speech language, phonetics, audiology, aural habilitation, and voice disorders.

The proposed implementation date is spring 2021.

Tarleton State certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 5.45 in regards to need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards and costs. New costs during the first five years will not exceed \$2 million.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects a growth of 18% in the employment of speech-language pathologists between 2016 and 2026, which is a much higher rate of growth than the average of 7% for all occupations. While these statistics represent those with a graduate degree who are eligible for licensure, students must have the undergraduate

degree in order to move forward with a graduate degree. The average salary in 2018 for speech-language pathologists is listed as \$77,510.00 or \$37.26 per hour by the BLS. The number of jobs that will be created nationwide between 2016 and 2026 is estimated at 25,900.

B. Projected Enrollment

It is projected that the program will begin year one with 10 students and progress to 23 students by year two and 30 by the third year. The program anticipates growth to 38 students by year four and 46 by the fifth year.

C. Existing State Programs

Ten other universities in Texas offer a bachelor's degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders. Lamar University, Stephen F. Austin, Texas A&M International University, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Texas State University, Texas Woman's University (TWU), The University of Texas at Austin, the University of Houston, and West Texas A&M University. The closest program geographically to Tarleton is TWU in Denton, Texas, which is 107 miles northeast of the main campus in Stephenville. There are no existing programs within a 100-mile radius of Tarleton. We anticipate that the proposed program will draw a large proportion of its students from the north-central region of the state.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

The program has one core faculty and three support faculty. One new faculty position will be required in year four at \$92,400. No additional faculty will be requested within the first five years of the program.

B. Program Administration

The program will be administered by the Department of Social Work in the College of Health Sciences and Human Services. No new administrative costs are anticipated.

C. Other Personnel

No additional personnel will be required within the first five years of the program.

D. Supplies, Materials

No additional costs for supplies and materials are anticipated for the first five years of the program.

E. Library

Annual costs for the library to support additional communication sciences and disorders resources is approximately \$4,170. The library’s current budget would require additional funding to add these resources.

F. Equipment, Facilities

Equipment-type materials are requested in the amount of \$26,600 annually for the first five years.

G. Accreditation

No discipline specific accreditations are anticipated.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

| NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS | | SOURCES OF FUNDING | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Faculty | \$ 369,600 | Formula Income | \$94,747 |
| Program Administration | | Statutory Tuition | \$190,650 |
| Graduate Assistants | | Reallocation | |
| Supplies & Materials | | Designated Tuition | \$751,735 |
| Library & IT Resources | \$20,850 | Other Funding: | |
| Equipment, Facilities | \$133,000 | | |
| | | | |
| Other | | | |
| Estimated 5-Year Costs | \$523,450 | Estimated 5-Year Revenues | \$1,037,132 |

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

May 19, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020, Texas A&M International University

I recommend adoption of the following minute order.

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01, *Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure*, hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty members at Texas A&M International University as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-04.”

Respectfully submitted,

Pablo Arenaz
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 20-04

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Present Rank</u>
<u>Department</u> | <u>Yrs. Towards Tenure*</u> | | <u>Effective</u>
<u>Date/Tenure</u> | <u>Education</u> | <u>Employment</u>
<u>Towards Tenure</u> |
|--|---|-----------------------------|--------------------|--|---|---|
| | | <u>Univ.</u> | <u>Other Inst.</u> | | | |
| COLLEGE OF A.R. SANCHEZ, JR. SCHOOL OF BUSINESS | | | | | | |
| Dr. Amit Ghosh | Professor
International Banking
and Finance Studies | 0 | 12 | Upon Approval
by the Board and
Faculty Arrival | Ph.D. (2006)
Claremont
Graduate
University | 2008 - 2014
Assistant Professor
Illinois Wesleyan University

2014 –2019
Associate Professor
Illinois Wesleyan University

2019 – present
Professor
Illinois Wesleyan University

Su 2020
Professor
Texas A&M International
University |
| UNIVERSITY COLLEGE | | | | | | |
| Dr. Barbara Siew Swan
Hong (Foster) | Professor
Educational Programs | 3 | 14 | Upon Approval
by the Board and
Faculty Arrival | Ph.D. (2002)
Columbia
University | Fa 2002 – Su 2005
Assistant Professor
Dowling College, New York |

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE (Continued)

Dr. Barbara Hong (continued)

Fa 2005 – Su 2008
Associate Professor
Texas A&M International
University

Fa 2008 – Su 2014
Associate Professor (tenured)
Pennsylvania State University

Fa 2015 – Sp 2020
Professor (tenure)
Brigham Young University

Su 2020
Professor
Texas A&M International
University

* Each university determines, through a review process, the number of years each faculty member will be awarded tenure based on his/her dossier.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
June 12, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020, Texas A&M University

I recommend adoption of the following minute order.

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01, *Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure*, hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty members at Texas A&M University as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-04.”

Respectfully submitted,

Michael K. Young
President

Approval Recommended:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 20-04

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Present Rank
Department</u> | <u>Yrs. Towards Tenure*</u> | | <u>Effective
Date/Tenure</u> | <u>Education</u> | <u>Employment
Towards Tenure</u> |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--------------------|--|---|---|
| | | <u>Univ.</u> | <u>Other Inst.</u> | | | |
| COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING | | | | | | |
| Dr. Edwin L. (Ned)
Thomas | Professor
Materials Science
and Engineering | 0 | >15 | Upon Approval
by the Board and
Faculty Arrival | Ph.D. (1974)
Cornell
University | Fa 1989 – Su 2011
Professor (Tenured 1989)
Massachusetts Institute of
Technology

Fa 2011 – Sp 2020
Professor (Tenured 2011)
Rice University

Su 2020
Professor
Texas A&M University |
| COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS | | | | | | |
| Dr. Omar Rivera | Associate Professor
Philosophy and
Humanities | 0 | 13 | Upon Approval
by the Board and
Faculty Arrival | Ph.D. (2007)
The
Pennsylvania
State University | Fa 2007 – Su 2010
Assistant Professor
University of Wisconsin

Fa 2010 – Su 2015
Assistant Professor
Southwestern University

Fa 2015 – Su 2020
Associate Professor
(Tenured 2015)
Southwestern University |

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS (Continued)

Dr. Omar Rivera (continued)

Fa 2020
Associate Professor
Texas A&M University

Dr. Darrel Wanzer-
Serrano Associate Professor 0 13

Upon Approval
by the Board and
Faculty Arrival Ph.D. (2007)
Indiana
University

Fa 2007 – Su 2008
Assistant Professor
University of Georgia

Fa 2008 – Su 2009
Postdoctoral Research
Associate
University of Illinois,
Urbana-Champaign

Fa 2009 – Su 2012
Assistant Professor
University of North Texas

Fa 2012 – Su 2016
Assistant Professor
University of Iowa

Fa 2016 – Su 2020
Associate Professor
(Tenured 2016)
University of Iowa

Fa 2020
Associate Professor
Texas A&M University

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Dr. Ryang Hwa Lee Assistant Professor 9 0

09/01/2020 Ph.D. (2003)
Pusan National
University

Su 2011 – Present
Assistant Professor
Texas A&M University

COLLEGE OF NURSING

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|------------|--|--|
| Dr. Cynthia G. Weston | Assistant Professor
College of Nursing | 6 | 0 | 09/01/2020 | D.N.P. (2014)
University of
Texas Health
Science Center | Fa 2014 – Present
Assistant Professor
Texas A&M University |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|------------|--|--|

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---|-----|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| Dr. Brani Vidakovic | Professor
Statistics | 0 | >15 | Upon Approval
by the Board and
Faculty Arrival | Ph.D. (1992)
Purdue
University | Su 1992 – Sp 2000
Assistant Professor
Duke University

Sp 2000 – Su 2000
Associate Professor
(Tenured 2000)
Duke University

Fa 2000 – Sp 2004
Associate Professor
(Tenured 2001)
Georgia Institute of
Technology

Sp 2004 – Su 2020
Professor
Georgia Institute of
Technology

Fa 2020
Professor
Texas A&M University |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---|-----|--|--------------------------------------|--|

SCHOOL OF LAW

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|---|----|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| Mr. Brendan Maher | Professor of Law | 0 | 11 | Upon Approval
by the Board and
Faculty Arrival | J.D. (2000)
Harvard Law
School | Fa 2009 – Su 2013
Associate Professor
Oklahoma City University
School of Law |
| | | | | | | Fa 2013 – Su 2015
Associate Professor
(Tenured 2013)
University of Connecticut
School of Law |
| | | | | | | Fa 2015 – Su 2020
Professor
University of Connecticut
School of Law |
| | | | | | | Fa 2020
Professor
Texas A&M University |

* Each university determines, through a review process, the number of years each faculty member will be awarded tenure based on his/her dossier.

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Michael K. Young, President
Texas A&M University

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Data Science, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) leading to a Master of Science (M.S.) in Data Science, authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information:

Building on the existing strengths in the Departments of Computer Science and Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Mathematics, and Statistics, across the Colleges of Engineering and Science, the proposed M.S. in Data Science will provide a multidisciplinary data science degree at Texas A&M. There is a large and growing demand from employers for graduates with skills and knowledge in data science. The demand is growing across multiple sectors, including the information technology sector that has generated great advances in the systems and methods of data science, but also including application domains within science and engineering and beyond. The proposed M.S. in Data Science will provide students a state-of-the-art multidisciplinary education covering both the required range of data science foundations and the practical skills and experience in data science, making them valuable to employers.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Estimated new costs over the first five years are \$1,470,000, with an estimated five-year revenue of \$2,713,859. New costs include additional faculty (three new FTE), graduate assistants (two per year), and administrative support personnel (Graduate Advisor).

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Approval of this agenda item will advance The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) strategic imperatives 3. (Students will leave the A&M System as responsible and engaged citizens prepared for successful careers in an increasingly global economy) and 5. (The A&M System will provide services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and contribute to the strength of the state's economy). In particular, students will become responsible and engaged citizens with successful careers in data science as a direct result of the training that they receive from multidisciplinary graduate faculty. The proposed program will address the employment needs of Texas in the emerging area of data science. Upon completion of the M.S. in Data Science, students will be able to identify relevant questions, collect data from a multitude of different data sources, organize the information, translate results into solutions, and communicate their findings in a way that positively affects business decisions. Because these skills are required in almost all industries, students will enjoy greater career prospects upon completion and employers will be able to find the talent they need.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
May 29, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Data Science and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University leading to a Master of Science in Data Science.

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University’s new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.”

Respectfully submitted,

Michael K. Young
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Texas A&M University

Master of Science
with a major in Data Science
(CIP 30.7001.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Interdisciplinary

The proposed Master of Science (M.S.) in Data Science will be an interdisciplinary degree, with tracks offered by each of the four participating departments: Computer Science and Engineering (CSCE), Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECEN), Mathematics (MATH), and Statistics (STAT). STAT will manage the program, including academic program review, distribution of the program fees, maintaining student records, etc. The Texas A&M Institute of Data Science (TAMIDS) will coordinate the joint governance of the degree.

Educational objectives: After completing this program, students are expected to:

- have a solid mathematical and statistical foundation for data science,
- have developed data management and computational skills for data science,
- have the ability to build and assess statistical and machine learning models,
- use appropriate data analytic tools to solve real world problems, and
- interpret data findings and be able to communicate these findings effectively to any audience.

Curriculum: The proposed degree will be a three-semester on-campus program with a 30-semester credit-hour curriculum. The curriculum includes four core courses: Mathematical Foundations for Data Science, Statistical Foundations for Data Science, Data Mining and Analysis, and Databases and Computational Tools Used in Big Data. These core courses, offered by the four participating departments, will provide students with a solid foundation in mathematics, statistics, computer science, and machine learning. After taking these four core courses, students will choose six electives from 30 courses, offered by five departments in two colleges at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M). This balanced and technical curriculum differentiates the proposed program from existing state and national programs. TAMIDS will convene a curriculum committee with members from each of the four participating departments to regularly evaluate the program and make decisions regarding curriculum changes, new course offerings, etc.

The proposed implementation date is spring 2021.

Texas A&M certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under [19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 5.45](#) in regards to need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards and costs. New costs during the first five years will not exceed \$2 million.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

There is a large and growing demand from employers for graduates with skills and knowledge in data science possessing degrees that attest to the graduate qualification for such positions. The demand is growing across multiple sectors, not limited to the information technology sector that has generated great advances in the systems and methods of data science, but also across application domains within science and engineering and beyond. Within Texas, companies in sectors of regional strength, including agriculture, energy and transportation, seek to hire data scientists who can help them to grow and improve their businesses and services, and maintain their competitiveness within the United States. Graduates of this program will have vast options for employment, including consulting agencies, financial services firms, government agencies, healthcare and pharmaceutical companies, marketing services, private commercial corporations, and technology companies.

B. Projected Enrollment

Each academic year, 20 new students will be enrolled into the program. After the first year, this will result in an annual headcount of 40 students. The attrition rate is expected to average less than one student per year.

C. Existing State Programs

Although there are currently many schools in the United States that offer a master's in data science or similar degree, there are a very limited number of such degrees in the state of Texas. The degrees at Texas Tech University and the University of North Texas focus on business analytics. The M.S. in Statistics and Data Science degrees at the University of Texas at San Antonio and the University of Houston focus on statistics aspects of data science. The M.S. in Data Science at Southern Methodist University has tracks in machine learning and in business analytics and is offered with an online option only. The content offered by all these existing programs only covers part of the rich area of the multi-disciplinary data science.

The proposed Texas A&M M.S. in Data Science will offer a more technical program with a multidisciplinary core curriculum and electives being offered from MATH, STAT, CSCE, ECEN, and Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISEN). The proposed Texas A&M program is an on-campus program and will have a much broader scope and a much larger collection of elective courses than existing programs in Texas. With a more technical program, students will be skilled in an intersection of mathematics, statistics, computer science, communication, programming and deep learning.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

Current faculty from five departments (CSCE, ECEN, MATH, STAT and ISEN) will provide core and support roles in the proposed degree. Two Academic Professional Track (APT) faculty members will be hired in the first year, and one APT faculty member will

be hired in the second year to cover the courses previously taught by faculty who will teach in the new program.

B. Program Administration

STAT will be the internal curricular home of the degree and represent the four participating departments in managing the program, including academic program review, distribution of the program fees, maintaining student records, etc. TAMIDS will coordinate the joint governance of the degree program with the participating departments as follows: manage advertisement, admissions, advising, and coordination with colleges and departments; convene the curriculum committee with members from each of the four departments to make decisions regarding curriculum changes, new course offerings, etc.; and oversee the assessment and review of the degree. The annual assessment report will be submitted by STAT.

C. Other Personnel

One current faculty member will serve as the graduate advisor to manage the program. Two graduate students will be hired each year as teaching assistants for the core courses. STAT and TAMIDS will jointly hire a staff member to provide necessary staff support to the program.

D. Supplies, Materials

Minimal supplies will be required for advertisement, recruiting, advising, teaching assistants, new course development, and program evaluation.

E. Library

No additional resources are necessary for the proposed degree program. Current library resources at Texas A&M are sufficient.

F. Equipment, Facilities

The program will operate using existing facilities and equipment from the four departments involved with the new degree program (CSCE, ECEN, MATH and STAT).

G. Accreditation

Texas A&M is current with the institutional accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. There are no specialized accreditation agencies currently available for data science.

III. FIVE-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES*

| FIVE-YEAR COSTS | | SOURCES OF FUNDING | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Faculty | \$1,690,000 | Formula Income | \$463,319 |
| Program Administration | \$150,000 | Statutory Tuition | \$141,000 |
| Graduate Assistants | \$300,000 | Reallocation | \$810,000 |
| Supplies & Materials | \$5,000 | Designated Tuition | \$487,860 |
| Library & IT Resources | \$0 | Other Funding: | |
| Equipment, Facilities | \$0 | Program Fee | \$1,480,680 |
| Clerical/Staff | \$135,000 | Board Authorized Tuition | \$141,000 |
| Other | \$0 | | |
| Estimated 5-Year Costs | \$2,280,000 | Estimated 5-Year Funding | \$3,523,859 |

* Faculty costs include new costs of \$880,000 and reallocated costs of \$810,000. Total new five-year costs for the proposed program are \$1,470,000 and total new five-year funding is \$2,713,859.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Michael K. Young, President
Texas A&M University

Subject: Approval for Dr. David Staack, a System Employee, to Serve as an Officer, Member of the Board of Directors and Employee of Geo-SPARC LLC, an Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System

Proposed Board Action:

Approve for Dr. David Staack, associate professor of Mechanical Engineering at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M), to serve in his individual capacity as an officer, member of the board of directors and employee of Geo-SPARC LLC, a business entity that desires to enter into a license agreement with The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) for technology owned by the A&M System and developed by Dr. David Staack, Dr. Bruce Li-Jung Tai, and Dr. Dion Antao, all from Mechanical Engineering at Texas A&M.

Background Information:

Dr. Staack earned his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering in 2008 from Drexel University in Philadelphia. Dr. Staack joined Texas A&M in January 2009 as an assistant professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering. In September 2015, Dr. Staack was promoted to associate professor in the department. Among other topics, Dr. Staack's research focus is on plasma engineering, energy focusing, plasma processing, micro- and nano-scale plasmas in liquids, oil and gas industrial applications of plasmas, environmental remediation applications of plasma, plasma enhanced drilling, fluid dynamics, and thermodynamics.

Dr. Staack is co-inventor on an A&M System Invention Disclosure No. TAMUS 5012 titled "Drill Head and Drilling Method Using Targeted Energy Focusing to Induce Micro-cracking." An application for international patent protection for this invention was filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty on October 30, 2019. This pending patent application is to be licensed by Geo-SPARC LLC, a College Station-based start-up company, of which Dr. Staack is a founder and officer. One aspect of the subject invention concerns drilling deep boreholes in hard rock using shock and plasma accelerated rock cracking (SPARC). The technology will significantly increase the rate of penetration, and reduce the cost, for drilling in hard-rock subterranean boreholes. The improved access and reduced cost of hard-rock drilling enables the exploitation of renewable geothermal power and electricity generation in Brazos County and other portions of Texas, as well as previously inaccessible geothermal locations in the U.S. and world. Geo-SPARC LLC is a limited liability company established under the laws of the state of Texas to develop and commercialize the subject invention in addition to leveraging that invention in the geothermal power generation sector.

Pursuant to [Texas Education Code §51.912](#) and Section 1.2 of System Regulation [31.05.04, Outside Activities – Business Entities Having an Agreement with the System](#), Board of Regents approval is required for Dr. Staack to serve in his individual capacity as an officer, member of the board of directors and employee of Geo-SPARC LLC. Any potential conflicts of interest will be

Agenda Item No.
Agenda Item Briefing

evaluated under System Regulation [15.01.03, Financial Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Research](#). The Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) Risk and Compliance Office and Texas A&M's Division of Research are preparing conflict of interest management plans to mitigate potential conflicts of interest that might arise in connection with Geo-SPARC LLC and continued research conducted at TEES relating to the intellectual property to be licensed to Geo-SPARC LLC. An approved conflict of interest management plan will be in place no later than the date of the signing of the license agreement.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

None.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Approval of this agenda item will advance strategic imperative 5 of enabling the A&M System to provide services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and to contribute to the strength of the state's economy. In particular, approval will enable the A&M System to license intellectual property developed by Dr. Staack and co-inventors to Geo-SPARC LLC, which will enable Geo-SPARC LLC to offer services and products that incorporate the intellectual property. As a result, new drilling methods and integrated power plants that reduce the cost to produce and increase the accessibility of geothermal energy will be introduced into the marketplace. These will contribute to the strength of the state's renewable energy sector.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

June 10, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval for Dr. David Staack, a System Employee, to Serve as an Officer, Member of the Board of Directors and Employee of Geo-SPARC LLC, an Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves for Dr. David Staack, an employee of Texas A&M University, to serve, in his individual capacity, as an officer, member of the board of directors and employee of Geo-SPARC LLC, an entity that proposes to license technology from The Texas A&M University System relating to the research, development, licensing, or exploitation of intellectual property conceived, created, authored, discovered, invented, or developed by Dr. Staack.”

Respectfully submitted,

Michael K. Young
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

M. Katherine Banks, Ph.D., P.E.
Director, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Michael K. Young, President
Texas A&M University

Subject: Approval for Dr. Nasir Gharaibeh, a System Employee, to Serve as an Officer, Member of the Board of Directors and Employee of InfraFrame, LLC, an Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System

Proposed Board Action:

Approve for Dr. Nasir Gharaibeh, associate professor in the Zachry Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M), to serve in his individual capacity as an officer, member of the board of directors and employee of InfraFrame, LLC, a business entity that desires to enter into a license agreement with The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) for technology developed by Dr. Nasir Gharaibeh.

Background Information:

Dr. Gharaibeh is an associate professor of Civil Engineering at Texas A&M University. He joined Texas A&M University in 2008, after serving for four years as an assistant professor at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) and six years as a senior engineer at Applied Research Associates, Inc. in Champaign, Illinois. He obtained his Ph.D. degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and he is a registered Professional Engineer in the state of Ohio. Among other topics, Dr. Gharaibeh's research focus is on understanding how to assess the physical condition of built infrastructure systems, how to predict the deterioration of infrastructure due to loading and environmental effects, and how to arrest this deterioration through optimum maintenance and rehabilitation strategies. It involves devising methodologies and computational tools for managing infrastructure in an optimized manner.

Dr. Gharaibeh is the inventor of a novel software algorithm for managing roadway pavement networks referred to in System Disclosure of Software Number 4733, which is to be licensed to InfraFrame, LLC, a Texas-based start-up company, of which Dr. Gharaibeh is the founder and an officer. The primary application of this algorithm is for evaluating the performance of pavement networks, predicting pavement deterioration over time, and planning optimal pavement maintenance and renewal projects. InfraFrame, LLC is a Domestic Limited Liability Company, established in the state of Texas.

Pursuant to [Texas Education Code §51.912](#) and Section 1.2 of System Regulation [31.05.04, Outside Activities – Business Entities Having an Agreement with the System](#), Board of Regents approval is required for Dr. Gharaibeh to serve in his individual capacity as an officer, member of the board of directors and employee of InfraFrame, LLC. Any potential conflicts of interest will be evaluated under System Regulation [15.01.03, Financial Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Research](#). The Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) Risk and Compliance Office and Texas A&M's Division of Research are preparing a conflict of interest management plan to mitigate potential conflicts of interest that might arise in connection with InfraFrame, LLC and continued research conducted at TEES relating to the intellectual property to be licensed to

Agenda Item No.
Agenda Item Briefing

InfraFrame, LLC. An approved conflict of interest management plan will be in place no later than the date of the signing of the license agreement.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

None.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Approval of this agenda item will advance the strategic imperative of enabling the A&M System to provide services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and to contribute to the strength of the state's economy. In particular, approval will enable the A&M System to license intellectual property developed by Dr. Gharaibeh to InfraFrame, LLC, which will enable InfraFrame, LLC to offer software solutions that incorporate the intellectual property. As a result, a novel software system can help many communities (e.g., cities, counties) in the United States and around the world with managing their roadway infrastructure systems in a more cost-effective and efficient manner.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

June 10, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval for Dr. Nasir Gharaibeh, a System Employee, to Serve as an Officer, Member of the Board of Directors and Employee of InfraFrame, LLC, an Entity that Proposes to License Software Technology from The Texas A&M University System

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves for Dr. Nasir Gharaibeh, an employee of Texas A&M University, to serve, in his individual capacity, as an officer, member of the board of directors and employee of InfraFrame, LLC, an entity that proposes to license technology from The Texas A&M University System relating to the research, development, licensing, or exploitation of intellectual property conceived, created, authored, discovered, invented, or developed by Dr. Gharaibeh.”

Respectfully submitted,

Michael K. Young
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

M. Katherine Banks, Ph.D., P.E.
Director, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS

Office of the President

May 21, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020, Texas A&M University-Central Texas

I recommend adoption of the following minute order.

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01, *Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure*, hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty member at Texas A&M University-Central Texas as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-04.”

Respectfully submitted,

Marc A. Nigliazzo, Ph.D.
President

Approval Recommended:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 20-04

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Present Rank</u>
<u>Department</u> | <u>Yrs. Towards Tenure*</u> | | <u>Effective</u>
<u>Date/Tenure</u> | <u>Education</u> | <u>Employment</u>
<u>Towards Tenure</u> |
|---|--|-----------------------------|--------------------|--|--|--|
| | | <u>Univ.</u> | <u>Other Inst.</u> | | | |
| COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION | | | | | | |
| Dr. Faiza M. Khoja | Professor
Strategic Management | 0 | >15 | Upon Approval
by the Board and
Faculty Arrival | Ph.D. (2004)
University of
Houston | 2004-2010
Assistant Professor
University of Houston
Downtown

2010-2018
Associate Professor (Tenured
2010)
University of Houston
Downtown

2018-2020
Professor
University of Houston
Downtown

2020-Present
Professor
Texas A&M University-
Central Texas |

* Each university determines, through a review process, the number of years each faculty member will be awarded tenure based on his/her dossier.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE

Office of the President

June 5, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020, Texas A&M University-Commerce

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01, *Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure*, hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty members at Texas A&M University-Commerce as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-04.”

Respectfully submitted,

Mark J. Rudin
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 20-04**

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Present Rank
Department</u> | <u>Yrs. Towards Tenure*</u> | | <u>Effective
Date/Tenure</u> | <u>Education</u> | <u>Employment
Towards Tenure</u> |
|--|--|-----------------------------|--------------------|--|--|---|
| | | <u>Univ.</u> | <u>Other Inst.</u> | | | |
| COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES | | | | | | |
| Dr. Danna M. Beaty | Associate Professor
Educational
Leadership | 3 | 8 | Upon Approval
by the Board and
Faculty Arrival | Ed.D. (2001)
Texas A&M
University-
Commerce | Fa 2002 – Sp 2005
Assistant Professor
Texas A&M University-Commerce

Fa 2005 – Sp 2009
Assistant Professor
Tarleton State University

Fa 2009 – Present
Associate Professor (Tenured 2009)
Tarleton State University

Fa 2020
Associate Professor
Texas A&M University-Commerce |
| Dr. Kimberly McLeod | Professor
Counseling | 0 | 12 | Upon Approval
by the Board and
Faculty Arrival | Ed.D. (2002)
Texas Southern
University | Fa 2003 – Sp 2007
Assistant Professor
Texas Southern University

Sp 2007 – 2012
Associate Professor (Tenured 2012)
Texas Southern University |

Fa 2012 – 2015
Professor
Texas Southern University

Fa 2020
Professor
Texas A&M University-Commerce

*Each university determines, through a review process, the number of years each faculty member will be awarded tenure based on his/her dossier.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Mark J. Rudin, President
Texas A&M University-Commerce

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts Degree Program with a Major in Human Services, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Commerce (A&M-Commerce) leading to a Bachelor of Science or a Bachelor of Arts (B.S./B.A.) in Human Services, authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information:

A&M-Commerce is seeking approval to add a B.S. and B.A. in Human Services to be housed in the Department of Counseling within the College of Education and Human Services. The degree is designed to prepare undergraduates with broad-based human services knowledge, along with occupational-specific knowledge, for any of a myriad of human services occupations. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, mental health occupational opportunities are expected to grow at a “much faster than average” rate over the next 10 years.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Institutional funds will be used to support the proposed degree program. One new full-time faculty member will be added in the third year of the program. The new costs for the first five years will not exceed \$750,000.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed B.S./B.A. in Human Services degree aligns with System Strategic Imperatives #1, 3 and 5.

1. All qualified students will find a place in the A&M System and will have an array of pathways to pursue their ambitions and interests. The proposed degree will provide another degree option for students desiring an A&M-Commerce education.

3. Students will leave the A&M System as responsible engaged citizens prepared for successful careers in an increasingly global economy. Through the Cultural Enrichment class, students may choose among a variety of travel options both internationally and within the U.S.

5. The A&M System will provide services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and contribute to the strength of the state’s economy. Graduates will be prepared for bachelor-level mental health and human services occupations to fill the need in the Northeast Texas region.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE

Office of the President

February 21, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts Degree Program with a Major in Human Services, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Commerce leading to a Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts in Human Services.

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University-Commerce’s new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.”

Respectfully submitted,

Mark J. Rudin
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Bachelor of Science / Bachelor of Arts
with a major in Human Services
(CIP 44.000.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Counseling; College of Education and Human Services

The proposed Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts (B.S./B.A.) in Human Services affords altruistic students the opportunity to pursue an educational preparation for occupations/vocations that have as their philosophical foundations human services. The proposed degree will be supported by faculty in the department which currently offers a master's and doctorate in Counseling. The School of Social Work at Texas A&M University-Commerce (A&M-Commerce) offers a bachelor's and master's in Social Work, and courses in the bachelor's degree will be included in the curriculum for the proposed degree.

Students will gain broad-based skills and knowledge, preparing them for employment in settings that not only rely heavily on interpersonal communication skills, but also a unique capacity for empathy and promotion of the unique person. Beyond that, students can elect to develop specialized skills and knowledge in areas such as College Student Affairs and General Mental Health Interventions. Occupational opportunities may include, but are not limited to, bachelor's-level positions in college student affairs/development, mental health technician (Qualified Mental Health Provider credential), probation/parole officer, and child protective services caseworker.

Educational Objectives

Educational objectives include the following:

1. Students will develop a broad understanding of human development and interaction from a counseling perspective.
2. Students will gain skills to develop and maintain HELPING RELATIONSHIPS with clients.
3. Students will understand how psychological and sociological foundations undergird the understanding of the "human condition."
4. Students will understand the need for and utility of assessment in developing interpersonal and programmatic developmental interventions.
5. Students will understand the need for and develop skills for culturally appropriate interventions and services for their chosen client populations.
6. Students will understand the primary human development cycles - career, partnering, procreating – and how they intersect in overall human development.

Curriculum Requirements

Total Semester Credit Hours Required: 120 semester credit hours (SCH)

Core Curriculum Requirements: 42 SCH

Required Courses: 21 SCH

Students desiring the B.A. must meet university foreign language requirements (3-12 SCH of a foreign language)

Prescribed Electives: 27 SCH

Additional Requirements: Minor and/or Electives 30 SCH

The proposed implementation date is fall 2020.

A&M-Commerce certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 5.45 in regards to need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards and costs. New costs during the first five years will not exceed \$2 million.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

The B.S./B.A. in Human Services affords incoming A&M-Commerce students an additional major option with a positive occupational outlook. Listed below are career options, their percent growth through the year 2024, and the number of jobs the area expects to open up. A student graduating with a B.S./B.A. in Human Services from A&M-Commerce will either be prepared to enter these fields upon graduation or pursue graduate work in a related field for these positions.

Occupational Outlook for Human Services Occupations (through 2024, per *Occupational Outlook Handbook*)

| Career Title or Type | Percent Growth through Year 2024 | Job Growth through Year 2024 |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors | 22% | + 21,200 jobs |
| Health Educators and Community Health Workers | 13% | +15,600 jobs |
| Probation Officers and Correctional Treatment Specialists | 4% | +3,300 jobs |
| Mental Health Counselors and Marriage & Family Therapists | 19% | +31,400 jobs |
| Rehabilitation Counselors | 9% | +10,800 jobs |
| Occupational Therapists | 27% | +30,400 jobs |

B. Projected Enrollment

Based upon historical data (the Department previously offered a Bachelor of Arts in Counseling) and the diverse employment opportunities this degree will offer, department faculty project an enrollment of approximately 100 students within four years of implementation of the program. The following table outlines the five-year student distribution:

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 |
|---------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Students Returning from Previous Year | | 33 | 47 | 50 | 55 |
| New Students | 35 | 45 | 45 | 50 | 50 |
| Total Number of Students | 35 | 78 | 92 | 100 | 105 |
| Attrition Following Current Year | 0 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Graduates During Current Year | | 28 | 38 | 40 | 44 |

C. Existing State Programs

A review of program offerings by public universities within the A&M-Commerce geographic service area found two somewhat related programs. The University of North Texas-Dallas and the University of North Texas both offer a Bachelor of Science in Human Services Management and Leadership. A review of these programs indicates an emphasis on the business of non-profit management, not a practitioner focus.

On a broader scale, other public universities in Texas offering similar programs are Stephen F. Austin State University and Texas Tech University. Private Texas universities offering similar programs include the following: Hardin Simmons University, LeTourneau University, Southwestern Assemblies of God University, St. Edwards University, and Wayland Baptist University.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

In the early stages of implementation, currently employed faculty will oversee implementation of the program and teach in the program as needed. With the anticipated addition of new students over the five-year period, it is also anticipated that an additional two and a half full-time equivalent faculty will need to be added to accommodate instructional needs in classes outside of the department. It is estimated that these instructional needs will be met through the employment of adjunct faculty at an estimated five-year cost of \$84,000.

B. Program Administration

No administrative personnel or administrative costs are anticipated beyond those the department currently incurs.

C. Other Personnel

It is anticipated that three to four graduate assistants (GAT) will be hired at an annual cost of \$15,000 per GAT.

D. Supplies, Materials

The acquisition of additional/new supplies and materials is not anticipated.

E. Library and IT Resources

Current library holdings and subscriptions and IT resources that support the degrees in Counseling and Social Work are sufficient so no additional resources will be required.

F. Equipment, Facilities

No facility renovation or new equipment acquisition will be required. There will be no clinical placements associated with this program.

G. Accreditation

To date, there are no specific accreditations available for this program. The department is already approved to offer coursework leading to the Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor credential.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

| NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS | | SOURCES OF FUNDING | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| Faculty | \$440,000 | Formula Income (Less Statutory Tuition) | \$156,557 |
| Program Administration | 195,000 | Statutory Tuition (Less Set-Asides) | 522,750 |
| Graduate Assistants | 225,000 | Designated Tuition (Less Set-Asides) | 1,146,704 |
| Supplies & Materials | | Other Funding: | |
| Library & IT Resources | | List other funding | |
| Equipment, Facilities | | | |
| Adjuncts | 84,000 | | |
| Other (Benefits) | 258,000 | | |
| Estimated 5-Year Costs | \$1,202,000 | Estimated 5-Year Revenues | \$1,826,011 |

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Mark J. Rudin, President
Texas A&M University Commerce

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Veterinary Technology, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Commerce (A&M-Commerce) leading to a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Veterinary Technology, authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information:

A B.S. in Veterinary Technology prepares individuals to apply basic medical science, communication, critical thinking, decision making, and clinical application skills to perform in a wide variety of professional roles within the veterinary medicine field. This degree includes instruction in anesthesia, animal husbandry, biosecurity, ethics, professionalism, microbiology, immunology, nutrition, pharmacology, and medical imaging. Upon completion of the degree, students will be eligible to take the examination to become a Licensed Veterinary Technician. The students will be prepared to enter the workforce upon graduation with both didactic and practical hands-on experience. Collaboration with the A&M-Commerce farm, with its herds of cattle, horses, goats, sheep, swine and dogs, as well as the Animal Care Facility that houses research animals, will provide a wide-ranging and well-integrated student experience.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Institutional funds will be used to support the B.S. in Veterinary Technology. Two new full-time faculty members will be added by the first year and another within the third to fourth year of the program.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The addition of a professional program of veterinary technology advances The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents Strategic Plan imperatives in several ways. Imperative 3. The program will create graduates that are responsible and engaged citizens as veterinary medicine is part of the general public health and education of all community members.

Imperative 5. The program will also prepare graduates for successful careers anywhere in North Texas or worldwide as veterinary technicians. Graduates will be eligible to become Licensed Veterinary Technicians and will be prepared to respond to the growing and changing needs in the field of animal science and veterinary medicine for the people of Texas. The increase in career-ready veterinary technicians will also support and contribute to the strength of the state economy by supporting output from the offices in which the students are employed, but by also aiding local communities through their increased job skills and employability.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE

Office of the President

June 16, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Veterinary Technology, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Commerce leading to a Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Technology.

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University-Commerce’s new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.”

Respectfully submitted,

Mark J. Rudin
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Bachelor of Science
with a major in Veterinary Technology
(CIP 51 .0808 .00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: **College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR)**

The CASNR at Texas A&M University-Commerce (A&M-Commerce) offers six undergraduate degrees and one master's degree as well as several options and concentrations within these degrees. The Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Animal Science and B.S. in Equine Studies offered by the CASNR provide a strong foundation for the proposed B.S. in Veterinary Technology. The B.S. in Veterinary Technology prepares individuals to apply basic medical science, communication, critical thinking, decision making, and clinical application skills to perform in a wide variety of professional roles within the veterinary medicine field. This degree includes instruction in anesthesia, animal husbandry, biosecurity, ethics, professionalism, microbiology, immunology, nutrition, pharmacology, and medical imaging. Upon completion of the degree, students will be eligible to take the examination to be certified as a Licensed Veterinary Technician (LVT). The students will be prepared to enter the workforce upon graduation with both didactic and practical hands-on experience. The new Veterinary Learning Center for small animals, the A&M-Commerce farm, with its herds of cattle, horses, goats, sheep, swine and dogs, as well as the Animal Care Facility that houses research animals, will provide a wide-ranging and well-integrated student experience.

In accordance with accreditation standards set forth by the American Veterinary Medical Association's (AVMA) Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA), graduates from the Veterinary Technology program will have:

- a) an ability to participate in veterinary facility management
- b) an ability to communicate in a professional manner
- c) an ability to follow and uphold applicable law and veterinary technologist ethical code to provide quality care
- d) an ability to safely and effectively administer prescribed drugs and therapeutics, and to dispense and explain prescribed drugs to clients
- e) an ability to demonstrate and perform patient assessment in a variety of species
- f) an ability to obtain a thorough patient history
- g) an ability to properly collect diagnostic specimens including venipuncture of multiple species and prepare them for shipment
- h) an ability to demonstrate husbandry, nutrition, therapeutic and dentistry techniques appropriate to various species
- i) an ability to safely and effectively manage and maintain patients in all phases of anesthesia
- j) an understanding of various aspects of patient management including wound care and splinting
- k) an ability to provide surgical assistance and post-operative care
- l) an ability to handle specimens and perform laboratory analysis
- m) an ability to safely and effectively produce diagnostic radiographic and non-radiographic images.

The proposed degree plan will be comprised of 120 semester credit hours (SCH) with 42 SCH being university core courses required of all undergraduate students and the remaining 78 SCH being major specific courses. This program will focus on the small/companion animal, equine and practice management areas of emphasis. They also must meet CVTEA- dictated Essential Functions for Veterinary Technology and Special Program Requirements.

The proposed implementation date is spring 2021.

A&M-Commerce certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 5.45 in regards to need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards and costs. New costs during the first five years will exceed \$2 million.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the job outlook for veterinary technicians is projected to grow 19% from 2018-2028, which is three times faster than the average for all other occupations. This represents an estimated 20,400 new jobs potentially available. The BLS attributes this significant increase in employment opportunities to the fact that currently only about 500 individuals graduate from four-year Veterinary Technology programs in the U.S. on an annual basis, which is an insufficient number to meet projected demands for veterinary technologists.

Recent veterinary technology/technician graduate placement data from Purdue University showed that about four job opportunities were available for each graduate of their Veterinary Technician and Veterinary Technology degree programs (Purdue University 2010), which further supports the BLS data. Texas industry profiles estimator is predicting 27% growth in veterinary technology positions statewide, with 26.3% growth in the East Texas region through 2022.

A brief search for veterinary technician jobs in the North Texas/Dallas area yielded over 1,000 current job listings on the job search engine Zip Recruiter.

The Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, Texas metropolitan area has the 2nd highest (NYC #1) employment level for national metropolitan areas with a mean hourly wage of \$16.43 / \$34,130 mean annual wage. Another North Texas area, Sherman-Denison has a mean annual wage of \$32,110.

B. Projected Enrollment

There will be special admission requirements when students apply for official enrollment into the program the summer after the freshman year, which will be clearly detailed in admissions paperwork and student information sheets. Students will be admitted based on the GPA from the prerequisite courses, an essay, and observation hours with an evaluation from a supervisor. Each cohort will consist of 30 students.

C. Existing State Programs

There is only one accredited Veterinary Technology program at a four-year university in Texas. That program is located at Texas A&M University-Kingsville (Texas A&M-Kingsville). There are currently 10 accredited associate degree programs located throughout the state. The proposed program will have a different focus from Texas A&M-Kingsville which focuses on large animal and wildlife. A&M-Commerce will focus on small animal and practice management.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

Currently, the university has one full-time faculty member who will develop and teach courses in the new program – Dr. Amanda DeLisle (DVM). By spring 2021, the university will hire a LVT to act as a lab coordinator. By fall 2021 an additional LVT will need to be hired. By fall 2022 a total of three full-time instructors and the lab coordinator are planned for the program, and the program will be able to function for the foreseeable future with these five full-time employees, including the program director and an administrative assistant. The estimated cost for new faculty, not including part-time adjunct faculty, over the first five years will total an estimated \$323,190. An additional \$161,000 is estimated over the first five years for part-time faculty.

B. Program Administration

Dr. DeLisle will be assigned as program administrator.

C. Other Personnel

The program will employ a lab coordinator who will oversee all lab instruction and lab equipment purchasing, maintenance and inventory (cost estimate included above). There will also be an administrative assistant (five-year cost estimate of \$91,812).

D. Supplies, Materials

Additional expenses for supplies and materials to support the operations of the new degree program, over the first five years, will total an estimated \$57,180. This factors in those items that will need to be acquired as well as maintenance on materials already held.

E. Library and IT Resources

The university's current resources combined with additional multidisciplinary databases are adequate to support a B.S. in this Veterinary Technology degree program. A new computer lab will be included in the Veterinary Learning Center mentioned in the Equipment and Facilities section below.

F. Equipment, Facilities

Equipment required for the program includes anesthesia equipment and supplies, animal restraint and handling equipment, animal health and routine management equipment, autoclave, gas, surgical equipment/supplies, orthopedic equipment, animal scales, centrifuges,

student microscopes, fixed and portable x-ray machines, film processor, large and small animal ultrasonography equipment, and related safety supplies/handling equipment.

Current facilities at the A&M-Commerce farm will be renovated to accommodate the needed space for this program. Current facilities in use for teaching, care, feeding and maintenance of livestock species will be used with minimal renovation. The new Veterinary Learning Center will be used for classroom instruction, labs, and fully equipped for anesthesia and surgery. The total cost of renovation, construction and equipment is estimated to be \$684,846 over the first five years.

G. Accreditation

The program will seek accreditation by the CVTEA. There is currently a \$3,000 fee due with the application for accreditation. Veterinary technology is a discipline that requires program accreditation in order for students to be credentialed and recognized as having had appropriate and required veterinary technology training. Accreditation is the voluntary process by which educational institutions are evaluated for quality based on conformity with established standards. CVTEA requires a site visit and review for initial accreditation. This occurs after students are two-thirds through the curriculum (spring 2021).

III. NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

| NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS | | SOURCES OF FUNDING | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Faculty | \$ 943,765 | Formula Income | \$ 122,581 |
| Program Administration | \$ - | Statutory Tuition | \$ 507,500 |
| Graduate Assistants | \$ - | Reallocation | \$ 362,618 |
| Supplies & Materials | \$ 57,180 | Designated Tuition | \$ 1,113,253 |
| Library & IT Resources | \$ 3,000 | Other Funding: | |
| Equipment, Facilities | \$ 684,846 | HEF | \$ 684,846 |
| Professional Staff | \$ 337,222 | | |
| Other (Accreditation) | \$ 20,000 | | |
| Estimated 5-Year Costs | \$ 2,046,013 | Estimated 5-Year Revenues | \$ 2,790,798 |

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI

Office of the President

May 26, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

I recommend adoption of the following minute order.

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01, *Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure*, hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty member at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-04.”

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly M. Miller
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 20-04

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Present Rank
Department</u> | <u>Yrs. Towards Tenure*</u> | | <u>Effective
Date/Tenure</u> | <u>Education</u> | <u>Employment
Towards Tenure</u> |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--------------------|---|---|--|
| | | <u>Univ.</u> | <u>Other Inst.</u> | | | |
| COLLEGE OF BUSINESS | | | | | | |
| Dr. Dana A. Forgione | Professor
Accounting, Finance,
and Business Law | 0 | 14 | Upon Board
Approval and
Faculty Arrival | PhD (1987)
University of
Massachusetts
Amherst | Fa 2006 – Su 2020
Professor
University of Texas at San
Antonio

Fa 2020
Professor
Texas A&M University-
Corpus Christi |

* Each university determines, through a review process, the number of years each faculty member will be awarded tenure based on his/her dossier.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Kelly M. Miller, President
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Sport Management, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (A&M-Corpus Christi) leading to a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) with a Major in Sport Management, authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval, and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information:

A&M-Corpus Christi is seeking approval to offer a B.S. degree in Sport Management (BSSM), an outgrowth of the popular sport management track within the existing BS in Kinesiology. The students in the BSSM will learn about the sport and leisure industries in the Coastal Bend region, such as ocean-based sport, collegiate athletics, and minor league sports. The robust curriculum, developed in accordance with the Commission on Sport Management Accreditation (COSMA), covers comprehensive industry knowledge with a focus on sport governance, marketing, finance, and administration, as well as prepares graduates for employment in a variety of private, nonprofit, and public sport settings. Classroom learning, combined with experiential learning gained through practicum and internships, will allow the BSSM students to position themselves for success in entry-level positions in a variety of occupations in the sport industry. Graduates from the proposed BSSM program will be well-equipped to seek advanced degrees in sport management, tourism management and leisure studies. A&M-Corpus Christi plans to become the first COSMA-accredited program among Hispanic-Serving Institutions in the nation.

No university offers a BSSM within the South Texas region. In addition to serving a regional need, this program would serve a larger and more diverse population by offering the degree in online, blended, and traditional formats. Additionally, the degree program will be the only sport management program at the undergraduate or graduate level within the state of Texas that will emphasize and include ocean-based sports and tourism as core topical areas. The College of Education and Human Development projects that the BSSM will enroll nearly 200 students majoring in the degree program by the fifth year.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The program will be self-supporting on the basis of projected enrollment, formula funding, and tuition and fees.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed program addresses many of The Texas A&M University System's strategic plan imperatives but is best poised to advance #1 by providing an additional pathway for students to pursue ambitions and interests.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI

Office of the President

May 26, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Sport Management,
and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating
Board

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi leading to a Bachelor of Science in Sport Management.

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi’s new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.”

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly M. Miller
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

Bachelor of Science
with a major in Sport Management
(CIP 31.0504.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: **Department of Kinesiology and Military Science within the College of Education and Human Development**

The proposed Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Sport Management (BSSM) at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (A&M-Corpus Christi) is designed to prepare graduates for employment in a variety of private, nonprofit, and public sport settings. No university within the South Texas region offers a stand-alone BSSM, as opposed to a track or specialty area. Additionally, if approved, the BSSM at A&M-Corpus Christi will be the only sport management program in Texas that will include ocean-based sports and tourism as core topical areas. Classroom learning, combined with experiential learning gained through practicum and internships, will allow students the opportunity to position themselves for success in a variety of positions within the sport industry. Graduates from the proposed BSSM program will also be well-equipped to seek advanced degrees in sport management, tourism management and leisure studies. The BSSM degree program is designed to be offered on the main campus in a face-to-face, hybrid, and online formats.

Students who are successful in the BSSM program at A&M-Corpus Christi will:

- Obtain a broad background in sport management to prepare them to work in a variety of sport settings;
- Be able to utilize critical thinking skills to solve problems and issues in the sport management settings;
- Have the ability to effectively communicate complex ideas to diverse audiences in sport;
- Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of governance, administration, marketing, finance, and law as they apply to sport settings; and
- Develop the skills necessary for meaningful participation in practicum and internships appropriate to their career goals.

The BSSM is an outgrowth of the popular sport management track within the existing B.S. in Kinesiology at A&M-Corpus Christi. The robust curriculum, developed in accordance with the Commission on Sport Management Accreditation (COSMA), covers comprehensive industry knowledge with a focus on sport governance, marketing, finance and administration, and will require 120 semester credit hours (SCH). The major field of study will consist of 6 SCH of lower-level courses; 30 SCH of upper-level required courses; 24 SCH of prescribed electives, including a practicum and professional experiences; and 18 SCH of directed electives, resulting in a minor for every student.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2021.

A&M-Corpus Christi certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 5, Subchapter C, Rule §5.45 in regard to need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards and costs. New costs during the first five years will not exceed \$2 million.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

Employment projections for sport and leisure are positive at all levels – globally, nationally, statewide, regionally and locally. The global sport industry generates revenues that exceed \$620 billion and North America accounts for \$266 billion. Within the United States, the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics reported 1.3 million sport management jobs with an annual mean wage of \$60,617 and projects a 4.1% increase in employment opportunities in the ‘Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media’ occupations by 2024.

In Texas, The Labor Market & Career Information from the Texas Workforce Commission projects that ‘Other Amusement and Recreational Industries,’ which includes sport management, will be one of the fastest growing industries in the workforce development area (26% growth 2014-2024). Regionally, for South Texas, the industry segment of ‘Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation’ is forecast to increase by 14% by 2026.

B. Projected Enrollment

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 |
|---------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Students Returning from Previous Year | 40 | 45 | 82 | 113 | 131 |
| New Students | 20 | 65 | 70 | 75 | 80 |
| Total Number of Students | 60 | 110 | 152 | 188 | 211 |
| | | | | | |
| Attrition Following Current Year | 15 | 13 | 14 | 12 | 12 |
| Graduates During Current Year | 0 | 15 | 25 | 45 | 52 |

C. Existing State Programs

There are currently eight public institutions in Texas offering programs that award bachelor’s degrees with the CIP Code of 31.0504.00 (Sport and Fitness Administration/Management). The proposed BSSM at A&M-Corpus Christi is a sport management major rather than a simple concentration, which distinguishes it from other local and regional universities, most notably Texas A&M University-Kingsville (B.S. in Kinesiology with a concentration in sport business), The University of Texas-San Antonio (B.B.A. with a focus on sport, event, and tourism management), and the University of Incarnate Word (B.B.A. with a concentration in sport management). Additionally, A&M-Corpus Christi has developed the curriculum in accordance with the COSMA guidelines with plans to become the first accredited sport management program in the state and the first Hispanic-Serving Institution to be accredited in the nation.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

The sport management program currently has two full-time faculty members with a total of 1.5 FTE. The new degree program will necessitate the hiring of one new faculty member to begin in Year 2 at a new cost of \$60,000 annually. Significant start-up funds are not anticipated.

B. Program Administration

The degree program will be administered with no new administrative costs anticipated.

C. Other Personnel

One-third of the salary of the department's administrative assistant will be reallocated to this new degree program, with no new costs anticipated.

D. Supplies, Materials

No new monies requested for supplies and materials for the conversion of this degree track to a stand-alone degree.

E. Library

To ensure that the collection continues to meet the needs of a new and growing program, the library will provide an additional allocation of \$3,500 per year for the first five years in which the bachelor's degree is offered.

F. Equipment and Facilities

No new monies are being requested for equipment and facilities for the conversion of this degree track to a stand-alone degree.

G. Accreditation

The proposed undergraduate program will seek accreditation in the fifth year. New costs associated with accreditation are estimated to be \$3,800.

III. NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

| NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS | | SOURCES OF FUNDING | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Faculty | \$240,000 | Formula Income | \$338,361 |
| Program Administration | \$0 | Statutory Tuition | \$1,189,800 |
| Graduate Assistants | \$0 | Reallocation | \$680,825 |
| Supplies & Materials | \$0 | Tuition & Fees | \$2,861,231 |
| Library & IT Resources | \$17,500 | | |
| Equipment, Facilities | \$0 | | |
| | | Other Funding: | |
| Other: Accreditation | \$3,800 | | \$0 |
| Estimated 5-Year Costs | \$261,300 | Estimated 5-Year Revenues | \$5,070,217 |

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE

Office of the President

June 2, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020, Texas A&M University-Kingsville

I recommend adoption of the following minute order.

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01, *Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure*, hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty members at Texas A&M University-Kingsville as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-04.”

Respectfully submitted,

Mark A. Hussey
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 20-04

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Present Rank</u>
<u>Department</u> | <u>Yrs. Towards Tenure*</u> | | <u>Effective</u>
<u>Date/Tenure</u> | <u>Education</u> | <u>Employment</u>
<u>Towards Tenure</u> |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--------------------|--|---|--|
| | | <u>Univ.</u> | <u>Other Inst.</u> | | | |
| COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES | | | | | | |
| Dr. Craig A. Meyer | Assistant Professor
Language & Literature | 6 | 0 | 09/01/2020 | Ph.D. (2013)
Ohio University | Fa 2013 – Sp 2014
Visiting Assistant Professor
Ohio University

Fa 2014 – Present
Assistant Professor
Texas A&M University-Kingsville |
| COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING | | | | | | |
| Dr. David Hicks | Assistant Professor
Electrical Engineering
and Computer Science | 6 | 0 | 09/01/2020 | Ph.D. (1993)
Texas A&M
University | Sp 1999 – Su 2001
Assistant Professor
Aalborg University

Fa 2001 – Su 2014
Associate Professor (Tenured 2001)
Aalborg University

Fa 2014 – Present
Assistant Professor
Texas A&M University-Kingsville |

* Each university determines, through a review process, the number of years each faculty member will be awarded tenure based on his/her dossier.

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Mark A. Hussey, President
Texas A&M University-Kingsville

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of General Studies Degree Program, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Kingsville (Texas A&M-Kingsville) leading to a Bachelor of General Studies (B.G.S.), authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information:

The B.G.S. at Texas A&M-Kingsville is a multi-disciplinary degree program that will allow students to tailor a program to their specific educational and professional goals. Students will select coursework with emphasis in two academic areas. The program will serve two major purposes. First, it provides an outlet for students who have accumulated a large number of credit hours but still find themselves far from achieving a more traditional degree plan. Their credits could be applied to a general studies degree and complete their degree in a timelier manner. Second, it serves students who might be pursuing specific educational goals that do not require a specific major, such as application to a higher education program, like law school. The degree can be designed to help reach a variety of goals.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

There will be no new costs associated with this degree. All coursework for the degree already exists and is being taught on campus. Students select courses from any of the current programs on campus. There will be no need to hire additional faculty or staff.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The B.G.S. would serve several strategic plan imperatives. Imperative #1 seeks “an array of pathways to pursue (student’s) ambitions and interests.” The degree provides an additional path to achieving a bachelor’s degree than is currently found on campus. It provides a flexible approach that assists students with an alternative pathway to graduation. Imperative #2 ensures that educational opportunities will be “affordable and accessible.” The degree will provide an additional outlet and allow many students to complete a degree in a timelier manner. Imperative #3 promotes the idea that our students will be “responsible and engaged citizens prepared for successful careers in an increasingly global economy.” The B.G.S. will ensure that students receive valuable marketable skills and knowledge that will assist them in a future successful career. Because the degree is multidisciplinary, it will assist students in achieving a broader collection of skills. Together, all these skills will make these future professionals valuable additions to the workforce both regionally and nationally.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE

Office of the President

June 1, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of General Studies Degree Program, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Kingsville leading to a Bachelor of General Studies.

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University-Kingsville’s new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.”

Respectfully submitted,

Mark A. Hussey
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Texas A&M University-Kingsville

Bachelor of General Studies
(CIP 24.0102.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: **College of Arts and Sciences**

The Bachelor of General Studies (B.G.S.) at Texas A&M University-Kingsville (Texas A&M-Kingsville) is designed to offer students the freedom and flexibility to tailor a program to their specific academic goals and career aspirations. This offers students the foundational and marketable skills associated with a liberal arts education (writing, critical thinking, creativity, leadership, problem solving, and the ability to work with others) and the option to seek specialty knowledge in disciplines from across the university.

The B.G.S. is particularly attractive to students who are interested in pursuing higher education goals that do not require a specific undergraduate major, such as law school or other professional programs. Students can pursue the prerequisite coursework for their desired advanced degree, as well as follow areas of personal interest that will allow them to specialize in areas they prefer. It is also an excellent option for students looking to move to better positions of employment or seeking greater job security.

The degree also provides a valuable tool to aid the university in raising the degree completion rates on campus – a goal of the Higher Education Coordinating Board’s 60x30TX initiative. It may provide an outlet for students who have amassed credit hours in different areas but remain far from finishing in a specific major. The B.G.S. may allow these students to complete a bachelor’s degree in a more timely manner and begin to pursue their professional dreams. For this same purpose, it may be an attractive option for transfer students who have completed many hours at a community college and are looking for a way to complete a bachelor’s degree.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate knowledge in two or more focus areas
2. Integrate knowledge and modes of thinking from two or more disciplines
3. Think creatively about complex problems in order to construct, evaluate, and implement innovative solutions
4. Communicate in written, oral, and digital form as appropriate to specific disciplines
5. Interpret, analyze, evaluate, synthesize, and design solutions to situations pertaining to two or more focus areas
6. Use discipline-specific methods for research or critical analysis, or for professional performance

The program will require 120 semester credit hours (SCH) and will require the completion of 18 SCH in two academic discipline areas and 40 SCH of electives.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2021.

Texas A&M-Kingsville certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 5, Subchapter C, Rule §5.45 in regard to need, quality,

financial and faculty resources, standards and costs. New costs during the first five years will not exceed \$2 million.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

Students who complete the B.G.S. will have a marketable and unique skill set. They will graduate with foundational marketable skills associated with a liberal arts education such as, writing, critical thinking, creativity, leadership, problem solving, and the ability to work with others. In addition, they will have the specific and diverse marketable skills associated with their two discipline areas. The combination of these various skill sets will allow students the opportunity to pursue careers in a variety of fields.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics identifies a few specific areas of employment that are common for individuals holding a degree in an area such as general studies. These include sales, management, customer service, and marketing and public relations. Other online job search sites identify insurance and human resources as common career fields for students completing a general studies degree. The Texas Workforce Commission predicts growth in all of those areas between 2016 and 2026 throughout the state of Texas and more specifically in South Texas.

Predicted Job Growth in Texas from 2016 to 2026 (Broad Areas)

| | Statewide Percentage | South Texas Regions |
|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Management | 14% | 14% |
| Sales | 14% | 11% |
| Customer Service | 14% | 15% |
| Marketing | 28% | 30% |
| Public Relations | 18% | 19% |
| Insurance | 15% | 18% |
| Human Resources | 14% | 12% |

Figures from Texas Workforce Commission – Labor Market Information (LMI)

South Texas Regions include Coastal Bend, Lower Rio Grande, South Texas, and Cameron County

In addition to these areas, because students can select coursework from a variety of concentrations across campus, they would also have the marketable skills for careers in those specific areas. This might include career areas such as healthcare, social services, finance, construction, education, and technological services. These areas are also expected to grow significantly in the next few years.

In most of these employment areas, the South Texas regions are on par with or exceed that of the state’s growth expectation. With the marketable skills attained through a degree in General Studies, our students will be competitive in the job market.

B. Projected Enrollment

Projected Enrollment

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Students Returning from Previous Year | | 8 | 19 | 23 | 32 |
| New Students | 30 | 30 | 30 | 40 | 50 |
| Total Number of Students | 30 | 38 | 49 | 63 | 82 |
| | | | | | |
| FTSE | 20 | 25 | 33 | 42 | 55 |
| Attrition Following Current Year | 2 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 8 |
| Graduates During Current Year | 20 | 15 | 20 | 25 | 30 |

C. Existing State Programs

Currently, there are fifteen public universities in Texas offering similar programs (CIP 24.0102.00). Statewide, there was a 29% increase in graduates from these programs from 2014-2019 (1,804 in 2014 to 2,322 in 2019).

A sample of three similar programs that are related to Texas A&M-Kingsville's proposed degree demonstrate the similarities to existing successful programs. All degrees require 42 SCH of core curriculum and a total of 120 SCH.

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Coursework selected from two different discipline areas (12 + 12 SCH)

Required courses (12 SCH)

Free Electives (42 SCH)

A&M-Commerce experienced a 50% increase in graduates of this degree over the last five years (76 to 114).

Texas Tech University

Coursework selected from three different discipline areas (18 + 18 + 18 SCH)

Free Electives (24 SCH)

Texas Tech experienced a 90% increase in graduates of this degree over the last five years (102 to 194).

Texas Woman's University

Coursework selected from two different discipline areas (18 + 18 SCH)

Free Electives (42 SCH)

Texas Woman's experienced a 23% decrease in graduates of this degree over the last five years (284 to 219).

There are currently no other General Studies degrees within a 50-mile radius of Kingsville and none in South Texas. The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley offers a similar program with its Bachelor of Multidisciplinary Studies (under the same CIP code)

Coursework from three different minors (18 + 18 + 18 SCH)

Free Electives (24 SCH)

According to Monster.com's job search advice, there are seven key skills that make students more marketable for employers. These include problem solving, data analytics, social media literacy, creativity, resiliency, business sense, and a willingness to learn (<https://www.monster.com/career-advice/article/work-skills-2018-1217>). A general studies degree is an ideal option for students looking to develop such marketable skills.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

Because students select coursework from any two academic areas within the university, faculty responsible for instruction could be drawn from any department on campus. Thus, there are no specific core faculty for the program.

B. Program Administration

The B.G.S. will be administered in the College of Arts and Sciences.

C. Other Personnel

One current academic advisor will be assigned to assist students in the B.G.S. program.

D. Supplies, Materials

Because the coursework is drawn from programs across campus, there is no need for new supplies or materials.

E. Library

Since the General Studies program relies on all currently existing programs at the university, all of the library resources necessary to support those programs will also support the General Studies degree. The Jernigan Library's extensive catalog is sufficient to support the General Studies degree program.

F. Equipment and Facilities

Courses will utilize current classrooms and laboratories.

G. Accreditation

No accreditation is necessary for the B.G.S.

III. NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

Because all the coursework required for this degree exists in current programs and departments, there are no additional costs. Also, any revenue produced by students in this program will be tied to the coursework of the current programs.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO

Office of the President

June 23, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020, Texas A&M University-San Antonio

I recommend adoption of the following minute order.

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01, *Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure*, hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty member at Texas A&M University-San Antonio as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-04.”

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Teniente-Matson
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 20-04

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Present Rank
Department</u> | <u>Yrs. Towards Tenure*</u> | | <u>Effective
Date/Tenure</u> | <u>Education</u> | <u>Employment
Towards Tenure</u> |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--------------------|--|--|--|
| | | <u>Univ.</u> | <u>Other Inst.</u> | | | |
| COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES | | | | | | |
| Dr. Debra A. Feakes | Professor
Science and
Mathematics | 0 | >15 | Upon Approval
by the Board and
Faculty Arrival | Ph.D. (1991)
Utah State
University | Fa 1994 – Sp 2000
Assistant Professor
Texas State University

Fa 2000 – Sp 2013
Associate Professor (Tenured 2000)
Texas State University

Fa 2013 – Sp 2018
Professor
Texas State University

Fa 2018 – Sp 2020
Professor
University of Indianapolis

Fa 2020
Professor
Texas A&M University-San
Antonio |

* Each university determines, through a review process, the number of years each faculty member will be awarded tenure based on his/her dossier.

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Cynthia Teniente-Matson, President
Texas A&M University-San Antonio

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Finance, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-San Antonio (A&M-San Antonio) leading to a Master of Science in Finance (M.S.F.), authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information:

The M.S.F. will provide the necessary knowledge and skills of advanced financial management required by businesses, government, and non-profit organizations. The program will reside in the Accounting and Finance Department at A&M-San Antonio. Specialization degrees within business schools have increased and programs such as the proposed M.S.F. are attractive to students because they offer a blend of coursework from different disciplines.

Data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that the finance industry in Texas is growing and graduates with degrees in finance have an advantage in employment opportunities. Graduates of the proposed M.S.F. program will be prepared with the necessary finance training to fill these opportunities.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Estimated new costs over the first five years are \$563,125 with estimated five-year funding of \$628,360. New costs include additional faculty (one new FTE) and funding for additional library resources to support graduate students.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed program supports The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents strategic plan goals through Imperative #3 by developing graduates who are responsible and engaged citizens prepared for successful careers in an increasingly global economy. A&M-San Antonio will continue to offer academic excellence by preparing graduates to meet the demand for community and job markets and prepare graduates for high salary positions requiring advanced education.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO

Office of the President

June 8, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Finance, and
Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating
Board

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-San Antonio leading to a Master of Science in Finance.

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University-San Antonio’s new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met.”

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Teniente-Matson
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Texas A&M University-San Antonio

Master of Science
with a major in Finance
(CIP 52.0801.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: **College of Business, Department of Accounting and Finance**

The objective of the Master of Science degree in Finance (M.S.F.) is to prepare graduate students with the necessary knowledge and skills of advanced financial management required by businesses, government, and non-profit organizations.

The M.S.F. program will provide students with financial knowledge and skills. Graduates will demonstrate critical thinking skills, the ability to apply quantitative and qualitative tools, theories and context to properly and effectively find solutions to problems and make decisions, as well as develop innovative business opportunities in the dynamic business environments.

Successful graduates of the M.S.F. program will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge and application ability of securities markets, examining the valuation of securities, and modern portfolio management.
- Apply appropriate techniques to finance data and present the essentials of pricing models to support investment decisions and financing decisions.
- Demonstrate knowledge and application ability of fixed income valuation methods.
- Demonstrate knowledge and application ability of the management of risk arising from the volatility of exchange rates, interest rates, and commodity and equity prices.
- Explore the comprehensive in-house corporate finance and out-of-house investment solutions.

The M.S.F. will require 30 semester credit hours (SCH) of course work, including 21 SCH of required core courses and 9 SCH of elective courses. One required course will be taken in the last semester before graduation. During this course, students will complete a major project and presentation to demonstrate the knowledge and skills required of a master's level education in finance.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2022.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio (A&M-San Antonio) certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 5.45 in regards to need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards and costs. New costs during the first five years will not exceed \$2 million.

NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Occupational Outlook Handbook estimates employment of business and financial operations occupations to grow seven percent from 2018 to 2028, faster than the average for all occupations, adding about 591,800 new jobs. Globalization, a growing economy, and a complex tax and regulatory environment are expected to continue to lead to strong demand for finance professionals. Data from the BLS shows that the finance industry in Texas is growing and graduates with degrees in finance may have an advantage in employment opportunities. Financial analyst positions are expected to grow by 19.1% over the 10-year period between 2014 and 2024 (880 annual job openings). Financial managers earn an annual mean wage of \$149,470 in Texas, higher than the average national salary of \$139,720. Personal financial advisor positions in Texas are projected to grow rapidly in the next ten years, by 30.3%, or 900 positions a year.

The BLS report on occupational employment and wages estimates shows that business and financial operations account for 53,740 jobs in the San Antonio-New Braunfels area. The lion's share of these roles goes to financial analysts, loan officers, financial specialists, and business operations specialists. The average wage of jobs in this category is \$72,530. Representatives of large employers in San Antonio such as USAA, Accenture Federal, Deloitte Consulting, HEB, and the local CPA firms who serve on the Accounting and Finance Advisory Board have indicated that there is a need for local finance professionals, and for many of the vacancies, they are forced to recruit from outside the region.

Based on information from national government data, national-level recruitment websites, local and national news reports, as well as contacts with industry professionals, it is clear there is a high demand for jobs in finance in the region. Jobs in finance are growing very fast, and the proposed degree will offer graduate students with the necessary finance training to fill these jobs.

B. Projected Enrollment

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Total New Students | 8 | 12 | 15 | 18 | 20 |
| Attrition | 1 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 5 |
| Cumulative Headcount | 8 | 19 | 30 | 39 | 47 |
| FTSE | 6 | 15 | 23 | 30 | 38 |
| Graduates | 0 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 10 |

C. Existing State Programs

Ten universities in Texas currently offer a master's in finance (CIP code 52.0801.00), including Texas A&M University, Texas A&M University-Commerce, the University of Houston-Clear Lake, The University of Texas at Arlington, The University of Texas at Austin, The University of Texas at Dallas, The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), the University of Houston, the University of North Texas, and West Texas A&M

University. UTSA is the closest institution that offers a master's program in finance. An average of 77 students have been enrolled in the programs each fall and they average 31 graduates each year. Their average enrollment at UTSA has been offering its program for over twenty years and has experienced a steady increase in enrollment and the number of graduates.

I. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

Faculty from the Accounting and Finance department will fill core and support roles in the proposed degree, including one full professor, two associate professors, and four assistant professors. The proposal also includes a request for one additional faculty line to be added and will be partially assigned to the M.S.F. program for a total cost of \$33,750 over the first five years.

B. Program Administration

Existing program administration will be sufficient. No additional program administration costs are anticipated.

C. Other Personnel

Existing personnel will be sufficient. No additional personnel costs are anticipated.

D. Supplies, Materials

Existing supplies and materials will be sufficient. No additional supplies or material costs are anticipated.

E. Library

An estimated \$95,125 in additional library resources, including access to relevant databases, will be needed to support the M.S.F. students over the first five years.

F. Equipment, Facilities

Existing equipment and facilities will be sufficient. No additional equipment or facilities will be needed.

G. Accreditation

The College of Business is currently seeking AACSB accreditation. This program will fall under the scope of these efforts at no additional costs. A&M-San Antonio is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

| NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS | | SOURCES OF FUNDING | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|--|------------------|
| Faculty | \$468,000 | Formula Income | \$143,240 |
| Program Administration | \$0 | Statutory Tuition | \$100,800 |
| Graduate Assistants | \$0 | Reallocation | 61,760 |
| Supplies & Materials | \$0 | Designated Tuition | \$221,760 |
| Library & IT Resources | \$95,125 | Other Funding: | |
| Equipment, Facilities | \$0 | Graduate Tuition Above
Statutory (\$50) Tuition | \$100,800 |
| | | | |
| Other | \$0 | | |
| Estimated 5-Year Costs | \$563,125 | Estimated 5-Year Revenues | \$628,360 |

Agenda Item No.

WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

June 24, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, August 2020, West Texas A&M University

I recommend adoption of the following minute order.

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01, *Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure*, hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty member at West Texas A&M University as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 20-04.”

Respectfully submitted,

Walter V. Wendler
President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

**WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 20-04**

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Present Rank/
Department</u> | <u>Yrs. Towards Tenure*</u> | | <u>Effective
Date/Tenure</u> | <u>Education</u> | <u>Employment
Towards Tenure</u> |
|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--|---|--|
| | | <u>Univ.</u> | <u>Other Inst.</u> | | | |
| COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES | | | | | | |
| Dr. Holly L. Jeffreys | Associate Professor
Nursing | 3 | 0 | Upon Approval
by the Board and
Faculty Arrival | D.N.P.
(2009)
The
University of
Texas Health
Science
Center at
Houston | Fa 2009 – Sp 2012
Assistant Professor of Nursing
West Texas A&M University

Fa 2020
Associate Professor of Nursing
West Texas A&M University |

* Each university determines, through a review process, the number of years each faculty member will be awarded tenure based on his/her dossier.

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Patrick J. Stover, Director
Texas A&M AgriLife Research

Subject: Establishment of the Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Evidence Center

Proposed Board Action:

Establish the Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Evidence Center (Evidence Center) within Texas A&M AgriLife Research (AgriLife Research).

Background Information:

Decision makers need to be informed by the best science on the impact of the agri-food system to human, economic, and environmental health. Although agriculture and food policies are influenced by nonscientific advocacy and personal beliefs or philosophies, these must be separated from rigorous analyses of the science to ensure informed decision-making. Moreover, although expert judgement is a critical component in translating science into practice and policy, such judgement introduces bias, as experts often disagree. Rigorous and agnostic synthesis of the scientific evidence base, when available, is fundamental in supporting science-informed practice and policies and for engendering public trust with clear communications regarding what is known, what is unknown, and what is uncertain. The Evidence Center will address these issues by providing unbiased, science-based reviews and evidence analyses and will become the leading voice in scientific evidence on agriculture, environment, and health for decision-makers.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The Evidence Center will seek state appropriations, with other funding sources including fee-for-service commissioned reviews, fundraising, and federal competitive contracts and collaborative relationships for research programs on next generation evidence assessment technologies.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The Evidence Center supports the strategic goal of preparing our students to be responsible and engaged citizens for successful careers in an increasingly global economy as well as the goal to increase the prominence of The Texas A&M University System by building a robust and targeted research program. A graduate-level training and research program on state-of-the-art evidence assessment methodologies will be developed to include Evidence Center research scientists and Texas A&M AgriLife faculty in agriculture, environment, economic, food, and nutrition and health sciences.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE RESEARCH

Office of the Director

June 1,2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Establishment of the Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Evidence Center

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Evidence Center is hereby established as an organizational unit of Texas A&M AgriLife Research.”

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick J. Stover
Director

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE RESEARCH
Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Evidence Center

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Rationale for Creation of the Center

Agriculture is the unrealized opportunity to substantially reduce diet-related chronic disease, while also supporting a healthy environment and economy. Historically, agriculture was expected to provide excess food, fiber, and fuel, be affordable, and promote economic growth, with nutrient deficiency and malnutrition the main health concerns. Nutrition is now known to underlie many non-communicable diseases. These diet-related chronic diseases cost the United States economy around \$1 trillion each year, with annual obesity costs in Texas alone estimated at \$11 billion and expected to reach \$30 billion by 2030. Moreover, by 2050, the world population will increase by two billion people with the demand for food estimated to rise by 50%. At the same time, producers are challenged by climate change and loss of land to non-agricultural (e.g., urbanization) uses. For example, Texas has lost nearly 1.2 million acres of working land to non-food production use in the last five years. These and other factors have changed our expectations of the agri-food-health system to now include: (1) nourishing people for long-life health; (2) protecting the environment so our children and future generations can continue to enjoy the Earth's bounty; and (3) ensuring our agriculture and food system is economically viable and globally competitive.

Decision-makers need to be informed by the best science on the impact of the agri-food system on human, economic, and environmental health. Agriculture and food policies are influenced by nonscientific advocacy and personal beliefs and philosophies; however, these must be separated from rigorous analyses of the science to ensure informed decision-making. Today, we have the knowledge to engineer the food supply with unprecedented capability, but consensus on metrics, measures and standards of evidence for decision-making in the health, environment and economic effects of the food system are in a nascent stage of development. Although expert judgement is a critical component of translating science into practice and policy, such judgement introduces bias, as experts often disagree. Rigorous and agnostic synthesis of the scientific evidence base, when available, is fundamental in supporting science-informed practice and policies and for engendering public trust with clear communications regarding what is known, what is unknown, and what is uncertain.

The Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Evidence Center (Evidence Center) will be established to address these issues. Specifically, the Evidence Center will conduct and publish state-of-the-art systematic reviews and other research synthesis studies that address pressing issues for developing and interpreting the impact of agriculture and food system policies and practices on human health and environmental and economic sustainability. The Evidence Center will also be a leading voice in gaining global consensus on evidence assessment standards and develop the next generation evidence analysis tools and methodologies for improving evidence standards.

The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) can play a unique role in guiding agricultural production that can nourish people for optimized health while protecting our environment. The

establishment of the Evidence Center will make the A&M System a model for the world on aligning evidence-based production agriculture with human and environmental health to ensure a healthy population and environment, while supporting a strong economy and sustainable agriculture.

General Description of the Center and Its Mission and Goals

Mission

The mission of the Evidence Center is to advance methods, knowledge, practice and global harmonization of methods, metrics and standards-of-evidence in evaluating the agri-food-health system's effects on human health, the environment, and the economy.

Vision

The Evidence Center will be recognized globally as an unbiased and authoritative source for synthesizing and evaluating strength-of-evidence for the health, environmental and economic effects of agriculture and food systems.

Description of the Center

The Evidence Center will become the leading voice in scientific evidence on agriculture, environment, and health for decision-makers – from consumers to policy makers. Methodological scientists with expertise in environment, economics, nutrition and health evidence analysis will be guided by leading Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) and international university faculty experts to develop state-of-the-art evidence-based reviews addressing the impact of agriculture and food policies and practices on the agri-food-health system, including human health, environmental health, and economic health. Evidence reviews will be commissioned by U.S. and international policy, regulatory, and public health agencies (e.g., World Health Organization, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Food and Drug Administration), follow research best practices, and be published in internationally recognized journals.

The center will drive the development of next generation evidence assessment methodologies that are rigorous and transparent, including validated modeling when evidence is lacking. New development of methods will include the next generation of research synthesis tools, such as employment of artificial intelligence (AI) and other technologies to decrease time and increase bandwidth of review generation, as well as modeling approaches that better reflect the ag-food-health value chain and can address questions when data are limited or not available. The Evidence Center will lead in gaining global consensus on methodologies and standards of evidence and conduct trainings and outreach on evidence-based methodologies.

Potential Staff and Faculty Associated with the Center

The Evidence Center will include permanent staff composed of research scientists who are experts in research synthesis methodologies and evidence analyses. The permanent staff will lead in the

development and maintenance of research synthesis studies, oversee the conduct and reporting of studies, facilitate consensus panels, and act overall to ensure rigor and reproducibility of reviews.

Texas A&M and other university faculty who have topic-specific expertise in the relevant areas of agriculture, environment, sustainability, and/or nutrition, diet, and health will be engaged on evidence synthesis projects as expert panel members. Expert panel members will provide scientific guidance to the research scientists at the Evidence Center and receive authorship credit on published protocols and reviews.

The center will be supported by core service personnel at Texas A&M and from within AgriLife agencies, including librarians, statisticians, and communication specialists.

The Evidence Center will also form collaborative research relationships with external partners to develop the next generation methodologies in evidence analysis, such as The Microsoft Research - University of Trento Centre for Computational and Systems Biology in Italy, with whom a current programmatic relationship exists.

Potential Activities

The Evidence Center will:

- Conduct state-of-the-art evidence syntheses research and systematic reviews relative to economic, human health and environmental outcomes of the food and agricultural system
- Drive the development of next generation evidence synthesis tools and methodologies
- Lead in gaining global consensus on methodologies and standards of evidence in evaluating economic, environmental, and human health outcomes

Research scientists at the center, along with expert panel members will publish protocols and evidence-based reports in leading internationally recognized journals. Research scientists and expert panel member faculty who have authored these reports will present the work at seminars and conferences. The center will also maintain an on-line library of methodologies, relevant analysis tools, and evidence-based reviews with summaries translated for policy, consumer, and other audiences for transparency, education, and outreach.

Impact on Education and Training of Students

The Evidence Center will also include research assistants and trainees who will be engaged in conducting individual reviews under the direction of an Evidence Center research scientist. A graduate training program (master's and doctoral) on agriculture and food system evidence analysis will be developed, which will include the requirement that one or more independent projects be conducted under the direction of an Evidence Center research scientist.

Resource Requirements, Sources and Future Expectations of Financial Support

Connecting agriculture, food and health is an area of significant funding opportunity and among the highest priorities for several federal funding agencies, the food industry, and the National Academy of Sciences. To maintain its independence, the main sources of funding for the Evidence

Center will be through state appropriations, fee-for-service commissioned reviews, and federal competitive grants and contracts for research on methods development (e.g., AI and other tools, quality and standards, and impact of evidence on policy outcomes). Funding will also be sought from fundraising and other sources, such as royalties on intellectual property and other services (e.g., trainings, symposia).

Governance and Advisory Structure and Mechanisms for Periodic Review

The Evidence Center will be located in Dallas, Texas, and administered by a director who is a world-renowned leader in evidence-assessment programs for public health, agriculture, and policy. The director will be appointed by and report to the director of AgriLife Research.

The Evidence Center director, with A&M System approval, will form an External Advisory Board comprised of international leaders in evidence assessment, agriculture, economics, nutrition, and health to inform the scientific direction of the center and elevate its stature nationally and internationally. Advisory board members will provide conflict of interest disclosures and ensure highest standards of independence and for scientific integrity and independence are met. The center director will also form an internal steering committee comprised of faculty from across AgriLife agencies who will inform on strategy, direction, and program development.

Mechanisms for Periodic Review

The center will be reviewed annually by the steering committee. Copies of the annual review will be forwarded to A&M System leadership.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Tom G. Boggus, Director
Texas A&M Forest Service

Subject: Confirmation of Appointment and Commissioning of Peace Officer

Proposed Board Action:

Confirm the appointment and commissioning of Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS) employee, Michael S. Cunningham, as a peace officer.

Background Information:

Section 88.103, Texas Education Code, provides that the director may appoint not to exceed 25 employees of TFS to serve as peace officers in executing the law enforcement duties of that agency.

The assignment of Mr. Cunningham will bring the total current number of commissioned peace officers to 20 (replacing an officer who left commission in February 2020). Remaining positions will be filled over the next several years as full-time equivalents become available.

Mr. Cunningham will be an essential addition to law enforcement staffing in the Southeast Texas region of the state. Mr. Cunningham's assignment will be as a full-time law enforcement investigator in Kirbyville, Texas.

His appointment will enhance TFS's ability to further address major arson fire issues and timber theft as well as an increasing demand for determining fire causes throughout the region and enforcing misdemeanor fire violations.

Mr. Cunningham has completed all the requirements for certification and licensing set forth by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Mr. Cunningham will be entitled to hazardous duty pay as a result of this appointment at the rate of \$10 per month for each year of service as an employee of the state in a position that requires the performance of hazardous duty, up to and including 30 years of service.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Approval of this agenda item will advance Strategic Plan Imperative 5: "The A&M System will provide services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and contribute to the strength of the state's economy." TFS's statutory responsibility is to "enforce all laws pertaining to the protection of forests and woodlands and prosecute violations of those laws." In fulfilling this responsibility, TFS law enforcement officers also help to protect the forest sector – a sector critically important to the Texas economy, accounting for an annual economic impact of \$32.5 billion and 144,500 jobs.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE

Office of the Director

June 10, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Confirmation of Appointment and Commissioning of Peace Officer

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“In accordance with System Policy 34.06, *Appointment, Commissioning and Authority of Peace Officers*, the Board of Regents confirms the director of Texas A&M Forest Service’s appointment and commissioning of Mr. Michael S. Cunningham as a peace officer for the system, subject to taking the oath required of peace officers.”

Respectfully submitted,

Tom G. Boggus
Director

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

Patrick J. Stover
Vice Chancellor and Dean
Agriculture and Life Sciences

The Texas A&M University System
Appointed and Commissioned Peace Officers
June 10, 2020

| University | Title | Hire Date |
|------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| <u>Officer's Name</u> | | |

TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------|
| Michael S. Cunningham | Peace Officer | 06/14/06 |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------|

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Tom G. Boggus, Director
Texas A&M Forest Service

Subject: Authorization to Execute FY 2020 Federal Non-research Grant Agreement, and any Amendments, Modifications or Extensions

Proposed Board Action:

Authorize the Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS) director or designee to execute a federal, non-research grant agreement, with a value in excess of \$500,000. The grant is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service (USDA Forest Service).

| Program Name | Estimated FY 2020 Award Amount |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Forest Legacy Acquisition Grant | 1,000,000 |

Background Information:

The Forest Legacy Program is a voluntary federal program that allows landowners of forested property to protect their forestlands from non-forest uses.

In 2003, Texas Governor Rick Perry requested the USDA Forest Service to include Texas in the Forest Legacy Program. At the same time, Governor Perry designated TFS as the lead agency to administer this program on behalf of the state of Texas. The USDA Forest Service accepted the participation of Texas into this program in 2004.

Forest Legacy Acquisition Grant

The grant funds will be used for the purchase of a Working Forest Conservation Easement. Execution of the easement will be submitted in a future agenda item for Board approval. This will be the seventh Forest Legacy Acquisition grant received by the TFS.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Approval of this agenda item will advance Strategic Plan Imperative 5: “The A&M System will provide services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and contribute to the strength of the state’s economy.” Grant funding supports TFS’ mission of protecting and sustaining forests in Texas.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE

Office of the Director

April 1, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Authorization to Execute FY 2020 Federal Non-research Grant Agreement, and any Amendments, Modifications or Extensions

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The director of the Texas A&M Forest Service, or designee, is authorized to execute, following review for legal sufficiency by the Office of General Counsel, grant agreements, amendments, modifications or extensions with the United States Department of Agriculture – Forest Service for the Fiscal Year 2020 Forest Legacy Acquisition Grant.”

Respectfully submitted,

Tom G. Boggus
Director, Texas A&M Forest Service

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

Phillip Ray
Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs

Patrick J. Stover
Vice Chancellor and Dean
Agriculture and Life Sciences

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Tom G. Boggus, Director
Texas A&M Forest Service

Subject: Authorization to Execute 2020-2025 Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement, and any Amendments, Modifications or Extensions

Proposed Board Action:

Authorize the Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS) director or designee to execute the 2020-2025 Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement. The agreement is with multiple federal agencies, including the USDA Forest Service, US Department of Interior (Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs), and US Fish & Wildlife Service, as well as with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. This agreement has an implied value in excess of \$500,000.

Background Information:

The Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement is the formal arrangement by which the participating federal and state agencies work together to efficiently prepare for and manage wildfires and all-hazard events. This agreement dates back to the mid 1990s when TFS assumed statewide responsibility for wildfire and all-hazard response.

The agreement documents the commitment and defines the roles, responsibilities and processes under which federal and state agencies work together on wildfire and all-hazard incidents and related activities. It is necessary for mobilizing national resources to assist the state of Texas when the capacity of the state's resources is exceeded. It is not a funding agreement, but it does document responsibility for reimbursements.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Approval of this agenda item will advance Strategic Plan Imperative 5: "The A&M System will provide services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and contribute to the strength of the state's economy." The cooperative agreement supports TFS' mission of protecting and sustaining forests in Texas.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE

Office of the Director

June 16, 2020

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Authorization to Execute FY 2020-2025 Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement, and any Amendments, Modifications or Extensions

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The director of the Texas A&M Forest Service, or designee, is authorized to execute, following review for legal sufficiency by the Office of General Counsel, the 2020-2025 Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement.”

Respectfully submitted,

Tom G. Boggus
Director, Texas A&M Forest Service

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

Phillip Ray
Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs

Patrick J. Stover
Vice Chancellor and Dean
Agriculture and Life Sciences

***Certified by the general counsel or other appropriate attorney as confidential or information that may be withheld from public disclosure in accordance with Section 551.1281 and Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code.**