



Consent Agenda Items
Meeting
of the
Board of Regents

November 8-9, 2023



DRAFT
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
November 8-9, 2023
College Station, Texas

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

1. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

(No agenda items)

2. COMMITTEE ON AUDIT

(No agenda items)

3. COMMITTEE ON BUILDINGS AND PHYSICAL PLANT

- 3.1 Approval of the Project Scope and Budget, Appropriation for Construction Services, and Approval for Construction for the STEM Education Center Project, Texas A&M-RELLIS, Bryan, Texas (Project No. 01-3372), A&M System
- 3.2 Approval of the Project Scope and Budget, Appropriation for Construction Services, and Approval for Construction for the Health Sciences & Human Services Building Project, Tarleton State University, Stephenville, Texas (Project No. 04-3360), A&M System
- 3.3 Approval of the Project Scope and Budget, Appropriation for Construction Services, and Approval for Construction for the Amarillo Research & Extension Center at Canyon Project, Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Canyon, Texas (Project No. 06-3377), A&M System
- 3.4 Approval of the Project Scope and Budget, Appropriation for Pre-Construction and Construction Services, and Approval for Construction for the AgriLife Vernon Campus Storm Repairs Project, Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Vernon, Texas (Project No. 06-3407), A&M System
- 3.5 Approval of the Project Scope and Budget, Appropriation for Construction Services, and Approval for Construction for the Renovation of an Education Building & Health/Safety Upgrades Project, West Texas A&M University, Canyon, Texas (Project No. 18-3364), A&M System
- 3.6 Approval of the Project Scope and Budget, Appropriation for Construction Services, and Approval for Construction for the Nursing Education & Research Center Project, Texas A&M University Health Science Center, McAllen, Texas (Project No. 23-3374), 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.*

- 3.7 Approval of the Project Scope and Revised Budget, Appropriation for Construction Services, and Approval for Construction for the Agricultural Multipurpose Education & Training Center Project, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, Texas (Project No. 21-3384), A&M System
- 3.8 Approval of the Project Scope (Remaining Scope) and Budget, Appropriation for Construction Services, and Approval for Construction (Remaining Scope) for the New Headquarters and State Emergency Operations Center Project, Texas Division of Emergency Management, Austin, Texas (Project No. 30-3317), A&M System
- 3.9 Approval of the Project Scope and Budget, Appropriation for Construction Services, and Approval for Construction for the Interior Finishes Renovations Dunn Hall Phase II Project, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas (SSC Project No. 2022-07999), Texas A&M
- 3.10 Approval to Amend the FY 2024 – FY 2028 Texas A&M University System Capital Plan to Change the Fiscal Year Designation for Project Initiation, Increase the Project Planning Amount and Appropriate Funding for Pre-Construction Services for the West Campus Player Development Center & Ellis Field Renovations Project for Texas A&M University (Project No. 02-3404), Texas A&M
- 3.11 Approval to Amend the FY 2024 – FY 2028 Texas A&M University System Capital Plan to Change the Fiscal Year Designation for Project Initiation and Appropriate Funding for Pre-Construction Services for the Alkek Building Roof & Exhaust Fan Replacement Project for the Texas A&M University Health Science Center (SSC Project No. 22-0209), Texas A&M
- 3.12 Approval to Amend the FY 2024-FY 2028 Texas A&M University System Capital Plan to Change the Fiscal Year Designation for Project Initiation and Appropriate Funding for Pre-Construction Services for the Public Safety Facility Project for West Texas A&M University (Project No. 18-3369), WTAMU
- 3.13 Approval to Amend the FY 2024-FY 2028 Texas A&M University System Capital Plan to Change the Fiscal Year Designation for Project Initiation and Approval of Appropriation for Pre-Construction Services for the Student Dining Facility Project at Texas A&M University-Commerce (Project No. 21-FC-0011), A&M-Commerce
- 3.14 Approval to Amend the FY 2024-FY 2028 Texas A&M University System Capital Plan to Revise the Budget and the Funding Sources and Approval of Appropriation for Pre-Construction Services for the Multipurpose Field, Competition Track & Softball Field Upgrades Project for Texas A&M University-San Antonio (Project No. 25-3421), A&M-San Antonio
- 3.15 Approval to Amend the FY 2024-FY 2028 Texas A&M University System Capital Plan to Revise the Funding Source Amounts, Increase the Project Planning Amount and Appropriate Funding for Pre-Construction Services for the Educare Building Project for Texas A&M University-San Antonio (Project No. 25-3402), A&M-San Antonio

**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.*

- 3.16 Approval of the Project Scope and Budget, Appropriation for Construction Services, and Approval for Construction for the Chaparral Renovations – PH I Project, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi Texas (Project No. 157191FY21), A&M-Corpus Christi
- 3.17 Approval to Amend the FY 2024-FY 2028 Texas A&M University System Capital Plan to Add the MSC Annex Renovation Project, Approval of Project Scope and Budget, Appropriation for Pre-Construction and Construction Services, and Approval for Construction for The Texas A&M University System with an FY 2024 Start Date (Project No. 01-0257), A&M System

Informational Report

Report of System Construction Projects Authorized by the Board

4. COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

- 4.1 Approval of Substantive Revisions to System Policy 12.01, Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure and System Policy 12.06, Post-Tenure Review of Faculty and Teaching Effectiveness, A&M System

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

Executive Session Items

- 5.1 *Authorization to Negotiate and Execute a Lease of Space in Two Research Park Located at 1700 Research Parkway, College Station, Brazos County, Texas, Texas A&M
- 5.2 *Authorization to Sell Approximately 21.401 Acres of Land Located at 8800 Health Science Center Parkway, Bryan, Brazos County, Texas, Texas A&M
- 5.3 *Authorization to Sell Property Located at 6500 Amarillo Blvd. West, in Amarillo, Potter County, Texas, AgriLife Research, AgriLife Research
- 5.4 *Authorization for the Interim President to Negotiate and Execute Employment Contracts for Two Assistant Baseball Coaches, Texas A&M

Regular Item

- 5.5 Authorizing and Directing the Interim President of Texas A&M University to Form a Special Exploratory Committee Regarding Commemorating the University's Renewed Rivalry with The University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M

**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. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMSThe Texas A&M University System/Board of Regents

- 6.1 Approval of Minutes
- 6.2 Granting of the Title of Emeritus, November 2023
- 6.3 Confirmation of Appointment and Commissioning of Peace Officers
- 6.4 Approval of FY 2025 Operating Budget Guidelines
- 6.5 Appointment to the Board for Lease of University Lands
- 6.6 Approval of Substantive Revisions of System Policy 24.01, Risk Management
- 6.7 Approval of Non-substantive Revisions to Various Academic-related System Policies
- 6.8 Approval of Non-substantive Revisions to System Policy 01.01, System Policies and Regulations, and Member Rules and Procedures
- 6.9 Approval of Non-substantive Revisions to Policies 13.04, Student Travel, 28.03, Vending Machines and 32.01, Employee Complaint and Appeal Procedures
- 6.10 Approval of Non-substantive Revisions to System Policy 23.02, Debt Management
- 6.11 Designation of the Regents Professor Awards and the Regents Fellow Service Awards for Exemplary Performance and Professional Service During Fiscal Year 2022-23
- 6.12 Review and Potential Amendment of Revised Concealed Carry Rules for Five System Members
- 6.13 Approval for Dr. Zachary Grasley, a System Employee, to Serve as an Employee, Officer and Member of the Board of Directors of Circle Concrete Tech, Inc., a Business Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System
- 6.14 Approval for Dr. Mark Benden, a System Employee, to Serve as an Employee, Officer and Member of the Board of Directors of Humanate Digital, LLC, a Business Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System
- 6.15 Withdrawn
- 6.16 Withdrawn
- 6.17 Approval for Mr. John Hanks and Dr. Amir Zavareh, System Employees, to Serve as Officers, Members of the Board of Directors and Employees of SageSpectra, Inc., a Business Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System
- 6.18 Establishment of the Research and Innovation Security and Competitiveness Institute

**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.*

Prairie View A&M University
(No consent agenda items)

Tarleton State University

- 6.19 Approval of Academic Tenure, November 2023
- 6.20 Approval of a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences and Bachelor of Science with a Major in Leadership and Strategic Studies, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- 6.21 Approval of a Bachelor of Science with a Major in Zoo Animal Care and Management, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- 6.22 Approval of a Master of Science with a Major in Marketing, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- 6.23 Approval of a New Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program with a Major in Experimental Psychology with an Embedded Master of Science in Experimental Psychology, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Texas A&M International University

- 6.24 Approval of Academic Tenure, November 2023

Texas A&M University

- 6.25 Approval of Academic Tenure, November 2023
- 6.26 Approval of a New Master of Fine Arts Degree Program with a Major in Dance and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- 6.27 Approval of a New Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree Program with a Major in Theatre and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- 6.28 *Authorization for the Interim President to Negotiate and Execute Certain Specified Contracts \$500,000 or More
- 6.29 *Authorization to Establish Two Quasi-Endowments in the System Endowment Fund
- 6.30 Establishment of the Texas A&M University Institute for Healthcare Access
- 6.31 Establishment of the Insurance Institute for Construction Safety and Research
- 6.32 Establishment of the Texas A&M Drug Discovery Center
- 6.33 *Naming of the Performance Lawn in Aggie Park

**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.*

- 6.34 *Naming of the Business Education Complex
- 6.35 *Naming of a Room within the Southside Recreation Center
- 6.36 *Naming of a Room in the J. Wayne Stark Galleries

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

- 6.37 Authorization for the President to Execute Agreements for Sponsored Instruction and Training and Other Sponsored Activities that are not Research for Fiscal Years 2024, 2025 and 2026

Texas A&M University-Commerce

- 6.38 Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- 6.39 Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Artificial Intelligence and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

- 6.40 *Naming of the Various Areas in the Special Collections & Archives Space in the Downtown Building, and a Practice Room in the New Arts Building on the Campus of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

Texas A&M University-Kingsville

- 6.41 Approval of Academic Tenure, November 2023

Texas A&M University-San Antonio

- 6.42 Approval of Academic Tenure, November 2023

Texas A&M University-Texarkana

- 6.43 Approval of Academic Tenure, November 2023

West Texas A&M University
(No consent agenda items)

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
(No consent agenda items)

Texas A&M AgriLife Research
(No consent agenda items)

Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station*(No consent agenda items)*Texas A&M Forest Service

- 6.44 Confirmation of Appointment and Commissioning of a Peace Officer
- 6.45 Authorization to Execute Federal Non-research Grant Agreements, and any Amendments, Modifications or Extensions
- 6.46 Authorization for Time Sensitive Awards Signature Authority for FY2024 and FY2025

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service*(No consent agenda items)*Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory*(No consent agenda items)*Texas A&M Transportation Institute*(No consent agenda items)*Texas Division of Emergency Management*(No consent 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.

**THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Board of Regents
November 1, 2023**

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:

**July 6, 2023, Special Telephonic Meeting
July 30, 2023, Special Meeting
August 1, 2023, Special Meeting
August 16, 2023, Regular Meeting
August 17, 2023, Special Workshop Meeting
September 12, 2023, Special Telephonic Meeting, and
October 6, 2023, Special Meeting.”**

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Burt Spillers
Executive Director

Attachments (7)

MINUTES

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

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

HELD IN

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

July 6, 2023

(Approved November 9, 2023)

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

July 6, 2023

CONVENE	1
RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION	1
RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION	1
MINUTE ORDER 141-2023 (ITEM 1) APPOINTMENT OF DR. ROSS ALEXANDER AS THE PRESIDENT OF TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-TEXARKANA, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM	4
ADJOURN	2

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

July 6, 2023

CONVENE

Chairman Bill Mahomes convened a special meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, July 6, 2023, in the Board of Regents Meeting Room, on the campus of Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas.

The following member of the Board was present in the meeting room:

Mr. Bill Mahomes, Chairman

The following members of the Board were present via teleconference call:

Mr. Robert L. Albritton
Mr. David Baggett
Mr. John W. Bellinger
Mr. Randy Brooks
Mr. Jay Graham
Mr. Michael A. Hernandez
Mr. Michael J. Plank
Mr. Sam Torn
Ms. Annie Valicek (Student Regent)

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Mahomes said the Board would recess to executive session to consider matters as permitted by Chapter 551, Sections 71 and 74 of the Texas Government Code, and 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 10:00 a.m. until 11:29 a.m.)

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman Mahomes reconvened the meeting in open session at 11:30 a.m. He said the Board conferred with Chancellor Sharp, administration, and attorneys on legal and personnel matters, including Item 1.

Chairman Mahomes presented Item 1 and asked if there was any further discussion. There being none he called for a motion for this item.

Regent Graham moved adoption of the minute order contained in Item 1. Regent Brooks seconded the motion. Ms. Spillers called each regent's name for the vote. The record of the vote is as follows: Albritton – yes, Baggett – yes, Bellinger – yes, Brooks – yes, Graham – yes, Hernandez – yes, Plank – yes, Torn – yes, and Chairman Mahomes voted “yes.”

The following minute order was approved (141).

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**MINUTE ORDER 141-2023 (ITEM 1)**

**APPOINTMENT OF  
DR. ROSS ALEXANDER AS PRESIDENT OF  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-TEXARKANA,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

Effective August 1, 2023, Dr. Ross Alexander is hereby appointed President of Texas A&M University-Texarkana, at an initial salary of \$400,000.

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ADJOURN

There being no further business, on motion of Regent Albritton, seconded by Regent Hernandez, the meeting was adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

Vickie Burt Spillers
Executive Director, Board of Regents

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

MINUTES

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS**

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

HELD IN

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

July 30, 2023

(Approved November 9, 2023)

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

July 30, 2023

CONVENE	1
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RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION.....	1
MINUTE ORDER 142-2023 (ITEM 1) APPROVAL OF GEN. (RET.) MARK A. WELSH AS INTERIM PRESIDENT OF TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM ...	2
MINUTE ORDER 143-2023 (ITEM 2) AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE A POTENTIAL SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS OF KATHLEEN MCELROY, PH.D., THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM	2
ADJOURN	3

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

July 30, 2023

CONVENE

Chairman Mahomes convened a special meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System at 6:01 p.m., Sunday, July 30, 2023, in the Board of Regents Meeting Room, Board of Regents Annex, College Station Texas. The following members of the Board were present:

Mr. Bill Mahomes, Chairman
Mr. Robert L. Albritton, Vice Chairman
Mr. David Baggett
Mr. John Bellinger
Mr. Randy Brooks
Mr. Jay Graham
Mr. Michael J. Plank
Mr. Sam Torn
Ms. Annie Valicek

The following member of the Board was not present:

Mr. Michael A. Hernandez

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Mahomes said the Board would recess to executive session to consider matters as permitted by Chapter 551, Sections 71, and 74 of the Texas Government Code. He 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 6:02 p.m. until 9:25 p.m.)

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman Mahomes reconvened the meeting in open session at 9:34 p.m. and announced that the Board had met in executive session from 6:02 p.m. until 9:25 p.m. and conferred with Chancellor Sharp, administration and attorneys on legal and personnel matters, including Items 1 and 2.

Chairman Mahomes presented Item 1, Appointment of Gen. (Ret.) Mark A. Welsh as Interim President of Texas A&M University.

On motion of Regent Graham, seconded by Regent Plank, and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was approved (142).

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**MINUTE ORDER 142-2023 (ITEM 1)**

**APPROVAL OF GEN. (RET.) MARK A. WELSH  
AS INTERIM PRESIDENT OF TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

Effective immediately, Gen. (Ret.) Mark A. Welsh is hereby appointed Interim President of Texas A&M University at an initial salary of \$950,000.

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Chairman Mahomes presented Item 2, Authorization to Negotiate a Potential Settlement of Claims of Dr. Kathleen McElroy.

Regent Albritton asked that the motion include that the Office of General Counsel be directed to complete a thorough investigation as soon as possible and he emphasized that the Board supports the release of its findings to the public.

On motion of Regent Albritton (as shown above), seconded by Regent Torn, and by a unanimous vote the following minute order was approved (143).

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**MINUTE ORDER 143-2023 (ITEM 2)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE A POTENTIAL  
SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS OF KATHLEEN MCELROY, PH.D.,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System, or designee, is authorized to negotiate a potential settlement of an anticipated lawsuit from Kathleen McElroy, or to proceed with defending against the litigation, in coordination with the Attorney General's Office, if an acceptable settlement cannot be reached.

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ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairman Mahomes adjourned the meeting at 11:02 p.m.

Vickie Spillers
Executive Director, Board of Regents

(Minutes transcribed by Dee Rodriguez, Office of the Board of Regents.)

MINUTES

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS**

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

HELD IN

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

August 1, 2023

(Approved November 9, 2023)

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

August 1, 2023

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MINUTE ORDER 143.1 (ITEM 1-REVISED) AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE ONE OR MORE LEASES FOR STUDENT HOUSING AT 625 AT PRAIRIE VIEW APARTMENTS IN PRAIRIE VIEW, WALLER COUNTY, TEXAS, PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY	
RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AND ADJOURN.....	2

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

August 1, 2023

CONVENE

Chairman Mahomes convened a special meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 1, 2023, in Board of Regents Meeting Room, Board of Regents Annex, College Station Texas. The following members of the Board were present:

Mr. Bill Mahomes, Chairman
Mr. Robert L. Albritton, Vice Chairman
Mr. David Baggett
Mr. John Bellinger
Mr. Randy Brooks
Mr. Jay Graham
Mr. Michael J. Plank
Mr. Sam Torn
Ms. Annie Valicek

The following member of the Board was not present:

Mr. Michael A. Hernandez

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Mahomes said the Board would recess to executive session to consider matters as permitted by Chapter 551, Sections 71, 72 and 74 of the Texas Government Code. He 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 2:03 p.m. until 2:27 p.m., and from 3:05 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.)

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman Mahomes reconvened the meeting in open session at 2:27 p.m. and announced that the Board had met in executive session from 2:03 p.m. until 2:27 p.m., and conferred with Chancellor Sharp, administration and attorneys on personnel and legal matters, including Item 1 (as revised).

Mr. Mahomes presented Item 1 (as revised) and asked if there was any further discussion. There being none he called for a motion for this item.

Regent Bellinger moved adoption of the minute order contained in Item 1 (as revised). Regent Albritton seconded the motion. Ms. Spillers called each regent's name for the vote. The record of the vote is as follows: Albritton – yes, Baggett – yes, Bellinger – yes, Brooks – yes, Graham – yes, Plank – yes, Torn – yes, and Chairman Mahomes voted “yes.”

The following minute order was approved (143.1).

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**MINUTE ORDER 143.1-2023 (ITEM 1-REVISED)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE AND  
EXECUTE ONE OR MORE LEASES FOR STUDENT HOUSING  
AT 625 AT PRAIRIE VIEW APARTMENTS  
IN PRAIRIE VIEW, WALLER COUNTY, TEXAS,  
PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System, or designee, following a review for legal form and sufficiency by the Office of General Counsel, is authorized to negotiate, execute and deliver one or more leases located at 625 at Prairie View Apartments in Prairie View, Waller County, Texas, and to take any and all additional action, and execute any and all ancillary documents deemed necessary, to consummate the transaction.

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RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Mahomes announced that the Board would reconvene in executive session to complete its executive session agenda (*this session was held from 3:05 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.*).

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND ADJOURN

Chairman Mahomes reconvened the meeting at 3:46 p.m., and announced that there was no further business. On motion of Regent Albritton, seconded by Regent Brooks, Chairman Mahomes adjourned the meeting at 3:46 p.m.

Vickie Burt Spillers
Executive Director, Board of Regents

(Minutes transcribed by Dee Rodriguez, Office of the Board of Regents.)

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

BOARD OF REGENTS

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

HELD IN

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

August 16-17, 2023

(Approved November 9, 2023)

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MINUTE ORDER 145-2023 (ITEM 1.2) APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2024 OPERATING BUDGETS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM	3
MINUTE ORDER 146-2023 (ITEM 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, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM	4
MINUTE ORDER 147-2023 (ITEM 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, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM	4
MINUTE ORDER 148-2023 (ITEM 1.5) TUITION AND FEE COMMITMENT FOR 2023-24 AND 2024-25 ACADEMIC YEARS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM	4
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MINUTES

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

August 16-17, 2023

CONVENE

Chairman Bill Mahomes convened a regular meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System at 12:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 16, 2023, in the Board Meeting Room on the campus of Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas.

The following members of the Board were present:

Mr. Bill Mahomes, Chairman
Mr. Robert L. Albritton, Vice Chairman
Mr. David Baggett
Mr. John Bellinger
Mr. Randy Brooks
Mr. Jay Graham
Mr. Michael J. Plank
Mr. Sam Torn
Ms. Elizabeth “Annie” Valicek, Student Regent

The following member of the Board was not present:

Mr. Michael A. Hernandez III

(Note: Ms. Elizabeth “Annie” Valicek of Houston, Texas, was appointed Student Regent of The Texas A&M University System by Governor Greg Abbott effective June 1, 2023. She replaced Mr. Demetrius Harrell.)

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Mahomes announced that the Board would recess to executive session as permitted by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. He said in accordance with the law, no final action, decision or vote with regards to any matter considered in executive session would be made or taken.

(Note: The Board met in executive session from 12:01 p.m. until 2:06 p.m.)

(Note: The Committee on Academic and Student Affairs met from 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Committee on Buildings and Physical Plant met from 3:00 to 3:20 p.m. The Committee on Finance met from 3:20 p.m. to 3:54 p.m. and the Committee on Audit met from 3:54 p.m. to 4:52 p.m.)

RECONVENE

Chairman Mahomes reconvened the meeting in open session at 5:04 p.m., in Ballroom 301, Reed Arena, College Station, Texas, with a quorum present.

INVOCATION

Mr. Seth Wallick, from Keller, Texas, presented the invocation. Chairman Mahomes said Mr. Wallick '24, is studying Political Science, while pursuing a commission in the United States Army.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Mahomes welcomed everyone to the board meeting. He said that there were several leaders either attending their first board meeting or attending in new roles. Chairman Mahomes recognized Dr. Tomikia LeGrande, President of Prairie View A&M University, Dr. Hector Ochoa, President of Texas A&M University-San Antonio, Dr. Ross Alexander, President of Texas A&M University-Texarkana, Gen. Mark Welsh, Interim President of Texas A&M University, Dr. Richard Rhodes, soon to be Interim President of Texas A&M University-Central Texas and Dr. Joe Elabd, Interim Vice Chancellor and Dean of Engineering and Interim Director of the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station.

Chairman Mahomes welcomed the Board's new student regent, Ms. Annie Valicek.

Chairman Mahomes recognized Regent Plank for being named as a Distinguished Alumnus of Texas A&M University.

CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS

Chancellor John Sharp provided highlights of the accomplishments of the A&M System (*accomplishments filed in the Office of the Board of Regents*).

REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

Regent Plank, Chairman of the Committee on Academic and Student Affairs (CASA), said the committee had met earlier the same day. He said the Board received presentations from Mr. Joseph Duron, Chief Administrative Officer, about the Hazelwood funding appropriated in this session and Dr. James Hallmark, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, shared data regarding enrollment projections at our universities and on employment rates for our students after graduation.

REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Regent Graham, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, said the committee met earlier in the day at which time five items were presented for consideration. He briefly described Items 1.1

through 1.5, which had received committee approval and recommended those items to the full Board for approval.

On motion of Regent Bellinger, seconded by Regent Brooks, and by a unanimous vote, the following minute orders were approved (144-148).

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**MINUTE ORDER 144-2023 (ITEM 1.1)**

**APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2024 SERVICE DEPARTMENT ACCOUNTS,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The service department accounts for the members of The Texas A&M University System for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2024, included in the exhibit, are hereby approved subject to the provisions contained in System Regulation 21.01.05, Service Departments or Centers.

**MINUTE ORDER 145-2023 (ITEM 1.2)**

**APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2024 OPERATING BUDGETS,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The operating budgets, included in the exhibit, as submitted by the members of The Texas A&M University System for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2024, are hereby approved and adopted subject to the provisions contained in System Policy 27.04, Budget Authorizations, Limitations and Delegations of Authority.

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 146-2023 (ITEM 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,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The resolution authorizing the issuance of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System Permanent University Fund Bonds, substantially in the form of the attached exhibit, is adopted. The Chief Investment Officer and Treasurer, or other designated financial officer, is hereby authorized to take such actions as are necessary to accomplish the purposes of the resolution, including those relating to the issuance, sale, security and delivery of the bonds, all in accordance with the provisions of the resolution.

**MINUTE ORDER 147-2023 (ITEM 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,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The resolution authorizing the issuance of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System Revenue Financing System Bonds, substantially in the form of the attached exhibit, is adopted. The Chief Investment Officer and Treasurer, or other designated financial officer, is hereby authorized to take such actions as are necessary to accomplish the purposes of the resolution, including those relating to the issuance, sale, security and delivery of the bonds, all in accordance with the provisions of the resolution.

**MINUTE ORDER 148-2023 (ITEM 1.5)**

**TUITION AND FEE COMMITMENT FOR  
2023-24 AND 2024-25 ACADEMIC YEARS,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

As a result of actions taken by the Texas Legislature to address affordability in higher education, all resident undergraduate academic costs, including tuition, mandatory academic fees, all academic-related general fees, and college course fees, have been frozen for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 academic years.

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REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON AUDIT

Regent Bellinger, who had presided over the meeting of the Committee on Audit, said the committee had met earlier the same day and received a briefing from Mr. Charlie Hrcir, Chief Auditor, about internal audit activities, including a presentation from Ms. Amanda Dotson, Director of Internal Audit, on the proposed 2024 audit plan. He briefly described Item 2.1, which had received committee approval and recommended the item to the full Board for approval.

On motion of Regent Brooks, seconded by Regent Graham, and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was approved (149).

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**MINUTE ORDER 149-2023 (ITEM 2.1)**

**APPROVAL OF  
SYSTEM INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby approves the System Internal Audit Plan for Fiscal Year 2024, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes.

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REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON BUILDINGS AND PHYSICAL PLANT

Regent Brooks, Chairman of the Committee on Buildings and Physical Plant, said the committee had met earlier the same day. He said the department of Facilities Planning and Construction is currently managing 80 projects for about \$4.9 billion dollars. Regent Brooks briefly described Items 3.1 through 3.5, which had received committee approval and recommended the items to the full Board for approval.

On motion of Regent Plank, seconded by Regent Torn, and by a unanimous vote, the following minute orders were approved (150 through 154).

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**MINUTE ORDER 150-2023 (ITEM 3.1)**

**APPROVAL OF SYSTEM CAPITAL PLAN FOR FY 2024 – FY 2028,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The System capital plan for FY 2024 – FY 2028, as shown in the attached exhibit is approved and authorization to appropriate up to 10 percent of the planning amount indicated for all FY 2024 proposed projects is granted.

In addition, the appropriation of PUF and RFS funding is approved for FY 2024 minor construction, rehabilitation/renovation, and equipment/software procurement projects administered by the institutions or System Facilities Planning and Construction.

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System (board) reasonably expects to incur debt in one or more obligations for these projects, 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).

To the extent that the system capital plan identifies projects for financing through the issuance of parity obligations secured by and payable from revenues of the Revenue Financing System, and 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 parity obligations are issued, possess the financial capacity to satisfy their direct obligations after taking into account such proposed additional Revenue Financing System parity obligations as are identified in the system capital plan.

**MINUTE ORDER 151-2023 (ITEM 3.2)**

**APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT SCOPE AND BUDGET,  
APPROPRIATION FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, AND  
APPROVAL FOR CONSTRUCTION FOR THE CENTRAL OPERATIONAL  
RELIABILITY AND EFFICIENCY FACILITY (CORE) PROJECT,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS,  
KILLEEN, TEXAS (PROJECT NO. 24-3376),  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The project scope along with a project budget of \$49,900,000 for the Central Operational Reliability and Efficiency Facility (CORE) Project is approved.

The amount of \$40,172,833 is appropriated from Account No. 01-083540 Revenue Financing System Debt Proceeds (Capital Construction Assistance Project), and the amount of \$4,977,167 is appropriated from Account No. 01-084243 Permanent University Fund Debt Proceeds (AUF), for construction services and related project costs.

The Central Operational Reliability and Efficiency Facility (CORE) Project, Texas A&M University-Central Texas, Killeen, 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 152-2023 (ITEM 3.3)**

**APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT SCOPE AND BUDGET,  
APPROPRIATION FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, AND APPROVAL  
FOR CONSTRUCTION FOR THE DEFERRED MAINTENANCE PROJECT,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE,  
KINGSVILLE, TEXAS (PROJECT NO. 17-3383),  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The project scope along with a project budget of \$47,922,833 for the Deferred Maintenance Project is approved.

The amount of \$40,130,633 is appropriated from Account No. 01-083540 Revenue Financing System Debt Proceeds (Capital Construction Assistance Project) and the amount of \$3,000,000 is appropriated from Account No. 17-870090 HEF DM Funding, for construction services and related project costs.

The Deferred Maintenance Project, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, 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 153-2023 (ITEM 3.4)**

**APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT SCOPE AND BUDGET, APPROPRIATION FOR  
CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, AND APPROVAL FOR CONSTRUCTION FOR  
THE ANIMAL REPRODUCTIVE BIOTECHNOLOGY CENTER PROJECT,  
TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE RESEARCH, BRYAN, TEXAS (PROJECT NO. 06-3397),  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The project scope along with a project budget of \$13,000,000 for the Animal Reproductive Biotechnology Center Project is approved.

The amount of \$1,340,000 is appropriated from Account No. 01-084243 Permanent University Fund Debt Proceeds (AUF), the amount of \$5,000,000 is appropriated from Account No. 01-083538 Revenue Financing System Debt Proceeds (Indirect Cost Recoveries), the amount of \$5,000,000 is appropriated from Account No. 01-083538 Revenue Financing System Debt Proceeds (Gifts), and the amount of \$660,817 is appropriated from Account No. 06-203564 Animal Repro Construction, for construction services and related project costs.

The Animal Reproductive Biotechnology Center Project, Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Bryan, 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 154-2023 (ITEM 3.5)**

**APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT SCOPE AND BUDGET, APPROPRIATION FOR  
CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, AND APPROVAL FOR CONSTRUCTION  
FOR THE CUP STRUCTURAL REPAIRS PROJECT,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS (PROJECT NO. 02-3349),  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The project scope along with a project budget of \$6,700,000 for the CUP Structural Repairs Project is approved.



The amount of \$6,030,000 is appropriated from Account No. 01-083540 Revenue Financing System Debt Proceeds (Utility Revenue), for construction services and related project costs.

The CUP Structural Repairs 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.

Chairman Mahomes presented Items 5.2, 5.4 through 5.8

*(Note: Index item number 5.9 was not used.)*

On motion of Regent Plank, seconded by Regent Torn, and by a unanimous vote, the following minute orders were approved (155 through 160):

**MINUTE ORDER 155-2023 (ITEM 5.2)**

**APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO  
SYSTEM POLICY 08.01, CIVIL RIGHTS PROTECTIONS AND COMPLIANCE,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The revisions to System Policy 08.01, Civil Rights Protections and Compliance, as shown in the attached exhibit, are approved, effective immediately.

**MINUTE ORDER 156-2023 (ITEM 5.4)**

**APPOINTMENT OF DR. RICHARD M. RHODES  
AS INTERIM PRESIDENT, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

Effective October 1, 2023, Dr. Richard M. Rhodes is hereby appointed interim president of Texas A&M University-Central Texas at an initial salary of \$400,000.

**MINUTE ORDER 157-2023 (ITEM 5.5)**

**APPOINTMENT OF DR. Y.A. (JOE) ELABD AS  
INTERIM VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ENGINEERING,  
INTERIM DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, AND INTERIM DIRECTOR,  
TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

Effective immediately, Dr. Y.A. (Joe) Elabd is hereby appointed as the interim vice chancellor for engineering, interim dean of the College of Engineering at Texas A&M University, and interim director of the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station, at an initial annual salary of \$577,500.

**MINUTE ORDER 158-2023 (ITEM 5.6)**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PRESIDENT TO NEGOTIATE  
AND EXECUTE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS FOR THE  
ASSISTANT COACH – TIGHT ENDS; ASSISTANT COACH – WIDE RECEIVERS;  
DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR; ASSISTANT COACH – DEFENSIVE LINE;  
AND ASSOCIATE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR – FOOTBALL OPERATIONS,  
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 Coach – Tight Ends: James Coley  
Assistant Coach – Wide Receivers: Dameyune Craig  
Defensive Coordinator: Daniel Durkin  
Assistant Coach – Defensive Line: Elijah Robinson  
Associate Athletic Director – Football Operations: Mark Robinson

**MINUTE ORDER 159-2023 (ITEM 5.7)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE  
A GROUND LEASE OF .80 ACRES OF LAND LOCATED AT  
750 AGRONOMY ROAD, COLLEGE STATION, BRAZOS COUNTY, TEXAS,  
TEXAS A&M 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 the documents necessary for a ground lease of approximately .80 acres, located at 750 Agronomy Road, College Station, Brazos County, Texas, for development by BUILD Command Team, a Texas Nonprofit Corporation and a recognized student organization at Texas A&M University, and to take any and all additional actions, and execute any and all ancillary documents deemed necessary, to consummate the transaction.

**MINUTE ORDER 160-2023 (ITEM 5.8)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE  
A SOLAR LEASE IN PECOS, REEVES COUNTY, TEXAS,  
TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE RESEARCH**

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 a solar lease located at Texas A&M AgriLife Research Station at Pecos, Reeves, County, Texas, to reNRG Partners or its assigns, and to take any and all additional action, and execute any and all ancillary documents deemed necessary, to consummate the transaction.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD**

Chancellor Sharp presented Item 5.1.

Chairman Mahomes presented Item 5.3.

Dr. Elabd presented Item 5.10 and introduced the two faculty who will be leading the institute, Dr. Nancy Currie- Gregg and Dr. Rob Ambrose.

On motion of Regent Plank, seconded by Regent Bellinger, and by a unanimous vote, the following minute orders were approved (161 through 163):

**MINUTE ORDER 161-2023 (ITEM 5.1)**

**ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION HONORING  
DR. MARC A. NIGLIAZZO OF TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS  
AND BESTOWING THE TITLE OF PRESIDENT EMERITUS,  
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.

**MINUTE ORDER 162-2023 (ITEM 5.3)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXTEND TERM OF THE  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS  
ON THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY CORPS OF CADETS,  
BOARD OF REGENTS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The term of the Board of Regents' Special Committee on the Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets is hereby extended for an additional year. Regents Bob Albritton, Randy Brooks, Jay Graham, and Michael Plank serve on this Special Committee, with Regent Brooks serving as its chairman. This special committee shall be advisory to the Board, shall provide oversight of initiatives relating to the Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M University, and shall report to the Board on significant matters relating to such initiatives as appropriate.

**MINUTE ORDER 163-2023 (ITEM 5.10)**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TEXAS A&M SPACE INSTITUTE,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The Texas A&M Space Institute is hereby established as an organizational unit of The Texas A&M University System.

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CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Chairman Mahomes presented Items 6.1 through 6.37 (excluding Item 6.9 and Item 6.36).

(Note: Index number 6.9 was not used, and Item 6.36 was withdrawn).

On motion of Regent Bellinger, seconded by Regent Baggett, and by a unanimous vote, the following minute orders were approved (164 through 198)

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**MINUTE ORDER 164-2023 (ITEM 6.1)**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES,  
BOARD OF REGENTS,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The following minutes are approved: May 3, 2023, Special Telephonic Meeting, May 18, 2023, Regular Meeting, May 18, 2023, Special Workshop Meeting, and June 14, 2023, Special Telephonic Meeting.

**MINUTE ORDER 165-2023 (ITEM 6.2)**

**GRANTING OF THE TITLE OF EMERITUS, AUGUST 2023,  
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. 23-04, and grants all rights and privileges of this title.

**MINUTE ORDER 166-2023 (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 167-2023 (ITEM 6.4)**

**APPROVAL OF LIST OF AUTHORIZED SIGNERS  
FOR REVOLVING FUND BANK ACCOUNTS FOR SYSTEM MEMBERS,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

Under the authority of the General Appropriations Act, and effective September 1, 2023, 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 (TAMUS)

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$175,000,000 (Operating and Debt Service) Employees authorized to sign checks:

Maria L. Robinson, Chief Investment Officer and Treasurer  
David Verghese, Deputy Chief Investment Officer  
Vacant, Director, Investments  
Julie Perry, Assistant Director, Investments/Banking Operations  
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 Crawford, Vice President for Finance and CFO  
John McCall, Associate Vice President for Finance and Controller  
Clint Merritt, Executive Director, Financial Management Operations  
Solomon Loche, Executive Director, Departmental Accounting Services  
Bryan Townsend, Director, Accounting Services  
Verna Fritsche, Associate Controller  
Linda Kettler, Director, Financial Management Operations

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER (HSC)

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

Employees authorized to sign checks:

All TAMU Signers listed above

TEXAS A&M SYSTEM – SHARED SERVICES CENTER (SSC)

No Revolving Funds

Employees authorized to sign checks:

All TAMU Signers listed above

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AT GALVESTON (TAMUG)

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

Employees authorized to sign checks:

All TAMU Signers listed above  
Susan Hernandez Lee, Associate VP for Finance and Compliance Officer  
Vanessa Garza, Assistant Director, Budgets

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 Crawford, Vice President for Finance and CFO, TAMU  
John McCall, Associate Vice President for Finance and Controller, TAMU  
Verna Fritsche, Associate Controller, TAMU  
Joseph P. Pettibon II, VP for Enrollment & Academic Services, TAMU  
Ceasar O. Malave, Dean and COO  
Rosalie Nickles, Assistant Dean for Finance, Compliance and Administrative Procedure  
Hassan S. Bazzi, Associate Dean for Advancement and Industry Engagement  
Ioannis G. Economou, Executive Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

3. TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY (TSU)  
Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$5,500,000  
Employees authorized to sign checks:  
Lori Beaty, Executive Vice President for Finance & Administration and CFO  
Shante Joseph, Assistant VP for Finance & Administration and Assistant CFO  
Melissa Elliott, Director, Student Account Services  
Jo Anna Ince, Financial Analyst III  
Karen Fincher, Financial Analyst III  
Christina Dunagan, Business Manager – ACH/Wire Transfer only  
Vacant, Financial Account II/III – ACH/Wire Transfer only
4. PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY (PVAMU)  
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  
Dianne Evans, Assistant Vice President for Financial Management Services  
Cozette Turner, Director, Accounting Services  
Equilla Jackson, Director, Treasury Services – ACH/Wire Transfer only  
Sean Mills, Assistant Director, Treasury Services – ACH/Wire Transfer only  
Stephanie Redd, Financial Accountant II – ACH/Wire Transfer only  
JosaLynn Pritchard, Financial Accountant I – ACH/Wire Transfer only  
Zina Lang, Cashier Supervisor-Desktop only
5. TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE RESEARCH (ALRSCH)  
Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$4,000,000  
Employees authorized to sign checks:  
G. Cliff Lamb, Director  
Vic S. Seidel, Executive Associate Vice Chancellor and COO  
Debra Cummings, Assistant Agency Director and CFO  
Donna Alexander, Assistant Agency Director and CFO, ALEXT  
Loree Lewis, Executive Director, Contracts and Administration  
Shiao-Yen Ko, Director, Accounts Payable  
Kim Payne, Assistant Manager, Financial
6. TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE (ALEXT)  
Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$4,000,000  
Employees authorized to sign checks:  
Rick Avery, Director  
Vic S. Seidel, Executive Associate Vice Chancellor and COO  
Donna Alexander, Assistant Agency Director and CFO  
Debra Cummings, Assistant Agency Director and CFO, ALRSCH  
Loree Lewis, Executive Director, Contracts and Administration  
Shiao-Yen Ko, Director, Accounts Payable  
Kim Payne, Assistant Manager, Financial
7. TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION (TEES)  
Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$3,000,000  
Employees authorized to sign checks:  
John Hurtado, Interim Vice Chancellor  
Joseph N. Dunn, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Business Management and CFO  
Jane Zhou, Assistant CFO and Controller  
Karen Gregory, Assistant Controller  
Griselda Vazquez, Assistant Director  
Courtney Cammack, Financial Manager  
Vacant, Financial Accountant II

TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION AT QATAR  
(TEES at Qatar)

Source of Funds – Qatar Foundation

Depository Bank – Commercial Bank - Qatar

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Joseph N. Dunn, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Business Management and CFO, TEES

Jane Zhou, Assistant CFO and Controller, TEES

Cesar O. Malave, Dean and COO, TAMU at Qatar

Hassan S. Bazzi, Associate Dean for Advancement and Industry Engagement, TAMU at Qatar

8. TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXTENSION SERVICE (TEEX)

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

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Tracy Foster, Associate Director and CFO

Brian Stipe, Assistant CFO and Controller

Deepak Tyagi, Assistant Controller

Patti Buckhaults, Financial Manager

Ana Guerrero, Financial Manager

Adrienne Person, Financial Manager – ACH/Wire Transfer only

9. TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE (TFS)

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

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Robby DeWitt, Associate Director, Finance & Administration

Travis Zamzow, Budgets and Accounting Department Head

Natasha Wolf, Financial Management Supervisor

Chris Powell, Policy and Review Coordinator III

10. TEXAS A&M TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE (TTI)

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

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Rodney Horrell, Assistant Agency Director and CFO

Tyler K. Theobald, Assistant CFO

Stephanie Barnett, Assistant Director, Accounting

Weining Yang, Controller

Randi Marshall, Accounting Supervisor

Michelle L. Young, Financial Accountant IV

TEXAS A&M TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE AT QATAR (TTI at Qatar)

Source of Funds – Qatar Foundation

Depository Bank – Commercial Bank - Qatar

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Rodney Horrell, Assistant Agency Director and CFO, TTI

Tyler K. Theobald, Assistant CFO, TTI

Weining Yang, Controller, TTI



11. TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI (TAMUCC)

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

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Kelly Miller, President  
Jaclyn Mahlmann, Vice President for Finance & Administration  
Yolanda Castorena, Associate Vice President for Finance & Controller  
Rosanne Gorny, Assistant Vice President and Chief Budget Officer  
Will Hobart, Director, Procurement & Disbursements and HUB Coordinator  
Cassie Eyring, Assistant Controller  
Eliza Garcia, Accounting Manager  
Christy Robertson, Financial Accountant III  
Kristen Contreras, Accounting Assistant III  
Vacant, Financial Accountant III

12. TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY (TAMIU)

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  
Federico Juarez III, Associate Vice President for Finance & Administration  
Elena Martinez, Comptroller  
Maria Elena Hernandez, Assistant Comptroller/Receivables Melisa Rangel, Assistant Comptroller  
Patricia Ornelas, Assistant Comptroller  
Vacant, Assistant Comptroller

13. TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE (TAMUK)

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

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Robert H. Vela Jr., President  
Jacob Flourney, Vice President for Finance and CFO  
Joanne Castro, Associate Vice President for Financial Services  
Samantha Padilla, Director, Accounting & Reporting  
Vilma Castillo, Associate Director, Accounting and Fixed Assets  
Sylvia Garza, Director, Accounts Payable and Travel  
Yvonne Vela, Assistant Director, Travel  
Robyn Wallace, Financial Analyst III

14. TEXAS A&M VETERINARY MEDICAL DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY (TVMDL)

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

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Amy Swinford, Agency Director  
Matthew Durham, Assistant Agency Director and CFO  
Vic S. Seidel, Executive Associate Vice Chancellor and COO  
Debra Cummings, Assistant Agency Director and CFO, ALRSCH  
Donna Alexander, Assistant Agency Director and CFO, ALEXT  
Loree Lewis, Executive Director, Contracts and Administration  
Shiao-Yen Ko, Director, Accounts Payable  
Kim Payne, Assistant Manager, Financial

15. WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY (WTAMU)

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

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Randy Rikel, Vice President for Business and Finance  
Todd McNeill, Associate Vice President and Controller  
Lauren Cazarez, Director, Finance  
Mark Hiner, Associate Director  
Julie Harvell, Bursar

16. TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE (TAMUC)

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  
Sarah Baker, Associate Vice President for Finance & Administration and Controller  
Toni Burton, Assistant Controller  
Arlana Martin, Budget Director  
Belinda Benson, Budget Manager  
Rocio (Rose) Moreno, State Accounting Manager  
Denise Calixto, Reconciliation Manager  
Kim Jefferies, Gift Processing Manager  
Sierra Harris, Accounting Assistant II  
Christine Newell, Accounting Assistant II  
Kelly Ramey, Financial Analyst II – ACH only  
Vacant, Staff Accountant

17. TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-TEXARKANA (TAMUT)

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

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Ross Alexander, President  
Jeff Hinton, Executive Vice President for Finance & Administration and CFO  
Rhonda Jones, Assistant Vice President and Controller  
Russell Ryan, Assistant Controller  
Geoffrey Kreighoff, Financial Accountant III  
K'Leeh Holt, Financial Accountant II – ACH only  
Stephenie Durham, Financial Accountant I – ACH only

18. TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS (TAMUCT)

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

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Marc Nigliazzo, President  
Todd Lutz, Vice President for Finance & Administration and CFO  
Susan Bowden, Assistant Vice President for Business Affairs and Controller  
Danielle Clouden, Assistant Controller

19. TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO (TAMUSA)

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

Employees authorized to sign checks:

Salvador Hector Ochoa, President  
Leonard A. Cullo Jr., Vice President for Business Affairs and CFO  
Craig Elmore, Associate Vice President for Finance & Controller  
Denis Cano, Associate Controller and Director of Accounting Services  
Patricia Hayes, Director, Business Services  
Jesus Martinez, Financial Analyst III

20. TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (TDEM)

Revolving Fund portion not to exceed \$30,000,000

Employees authorized to sign checks:

John Crawford, Vice President for Finance and CFO, TAMU

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

Clint Merritt, Executive Director, Financial Management Operations, TAMU

Solomon Loche, Executive Director, Departmental Accounting Services, TAMU

Bryan Townsend, Director, Accounting Services, TAMU

Verna Fritsche, Associate Controller, TAMU

Linda Kettler, Director, Financial Management Operations, TAMU

**MINUTE ORDER 168-2023 (ITEM 6.5)**

**APPROVAL OF NON-SUBSTANTIVE REVISIONS  
TO SYSTEM POLICY 02.08, SYSTEM EXPANSION,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The non-substantive revisions to System Policy 02.08, System Expansion, as shown in the attached exhibit, are approved, effective immediately.

**MINUTE ORDER 169-2023 (ITEM 6.6)**

**APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO  
SYSTEM POLICY 24.01, RISK MANAGEMENT,  
SYSTEM POLICY 34.07, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, AND APPROVAL  
OF NEW POLICY 34.01, ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY AND SECURITY,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The revisions to System Policy 24.01, Risk Management and System Policy 34.07, Emergency Management, and a new System Policy 34.01, Environment, Safety, and Security, as shown in the attached exhibits, are approved, effective immediately.

**MINUTE ORDER 170-2023 (ITEM 6.7)**

**APPROVAL FOR SUBSTANTIVE REVISIONS  
TO SYSTEM POLICY 41.01, REAL PROPERTY,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The substantive revisions to System Policy 41.01, Real Property, as shown in the attached exhibit, are approved, effective immediately.

**MINUTE ORDER 171-2023 (ITEM 6.8)**

**APPROVAL FOR REVISIONS TO SYSTEM POLICIES 51.01,  
CAPITAL PLANNING, AND 51.04, GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND  
DELEGATIONS OF AUTHORITY ON CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The revisions to System Policies 51.01, Capital Planning, and 51.04, General Requirements and Delegations of Authority on Construction Projects, as shown in the attached exhibits, are approved, effective immediately.

**MINUTE ORDER 172-2023 (ITEM 6.10)**

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, AUGUST 2023,  
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 member at Prairie View A&M University as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 23-04.

**MINUTE ORDER 173-2023 (ITEM 6.11)**

**GRANTING OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE FOR FY 2024,  
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 2024, Prairie View A&M University.

**MINUTE ORDER 174-2023 (ITEM 6.12)**

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, AUGUST 2023,  
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. 23-04.

**MINUTE ORDER 175-2023 (ITEM 6.13)**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BIOTECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE,  
TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY**

The Biotechnology Institute is hereby established as an organizational unit of Tarleton State University within the Division of Research, Innovation and Economic Development.

**MINUTE ORDER 176-2023 (ITEM 6.14)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH A  
QUASI-ENDOWMENT IN THE SYSTEM ENDOWMENT FUND ENTITLED  
THE “FRANK & JULIETA STAGGS ACADEMY QUASI-ENDOWMENT,”  
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 entitled “Frank & Julieta Staggs Academy Quasi-Endowment” with a gift of funds from the estate of Frank M. Staggs as outlined in his last will and testament. The earnings from this quasi-endowment will be used to support the Frank & Julieta Staggs Academy and related expenses.

**MINUTE ORDER 177-2023 (ITEM 6.15)**

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, AUGUST 2023,  
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. 23-04.

**MINUTE ORDER 178-2023 (ITEM 6.16)**

**APPROVAL OF A NEW  
MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM  
WITH A MAJOR IN SUPPLY CHAIN AND ANALYTICS, 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 a new degree program at Texas A&M University leading to a Master of Science in Supply Chain and Analytics.

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 179-2023 (ITEM 6.17)**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE INTERIM PRESIDENT  
TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE A CERTAIN  
SPECIFIED CONTRACT \$500,000 OR MORE,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System authorizes the Interim President of Texas A&M University to negotiate and execute the contract, and other related documents, listed in the exhibit, Contract List No. 23-04, subject to review for legal form and sufficiency by the Office of General Counsel.

**MINUTE ORDER 180-2023 (ITEM 6.18)**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PRESIDENT TO  
NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE REVENUE AGREEMENT(S) FOR THE  
MAYS BUSINESS SCHOOL CENTER FOR EXECUTIVE  
DEVELOPMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024,  
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 revenue agreements for the Mays Business School Center for Executive Development during fiscal year 2024, including any amendments, modifications or extensions to revenue agreements created prior to fiscal year 2024, subject to review for legal form and sufficiency by the Office of General Counsel. Each such agreement must be structured so that the revenue generated by the agreement will cover, at a minimum, all costs incurred by Texas A&M University in performing under the agreement. Total consideration under any agreement will not exceed \$3,000,000 and the term for any agreement will not exceed five years.

**MINUTE ORDER 181-2023 (ITEM 6.19)**

**NAMINGS OF “JENNIFER W. ’88 AND “AARON M. ’87 POOL” AND  
“CREED FAMILY GROVE” IN AND AROUND AGGIE PARK,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby names the areas and spaces in and around Aggie Park on the campus of Texas A&M University:

- Last Row of the Swaim Amphitheater Seating – “Jennifer W. ’88 and Aaron M. ’87 Pool”
- East Performance Lawn Seating Area – “Creel Family Grove”

**MINUTE ORDER 182-2023 (ITEM 6.20)**

**NAMING OF THE “DALLAS A&M CLUB TESTING ROOM,”  
WITHIN THE STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby names Room 111.25, an individual testing room in the Disability Resources office suite, within the Student Services Building on the campus of Texas A&M University, the “Dallas A&M Club Testing Room.”

**MINUTE ORDER 183-2023 (ITEM 6.21)**

**NAMING OF THE ENTRY VESTIBULE OF  
THE COOLIDGE FOOTBALL PERFORMANCE CENTER,  
THE “ROBERT ’85 & RALPH MAYER ’48 LOBBY,”  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby names the entry vestibule of the Coolidge Football Performance Center on the campus of Texas A&M University the “Robert ’85 & Ralph Mayer ’48 Lobby.”

**MINUTE ORDER 184-2023 (ITEM 6.22)**

**NAMING OF THE  
“AMERICAN BUREAU OF SHIPPING (ABS) LABORATORY  
FOR OCEAN INNOVATION,” WITHIN THE  
H.J. (BILL) AND RETA HAYNES ENGINEERING BUILDING,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby names a laboratory (Level 2, Rooms 210 and 211) within the H.J. (Bill) and Reta Haynes Engineering Building on the campus of Texas A&M University the “American Bureau of Shipping (ABS) Laboratory for Ocean Innovation” for a fixed term of ten (10) years from the opening of the laboratory, with ABS having the first right of renewal for the naming rights at the end of the fixed term.

**MINUTE ORDER 185-2023 (ITEM 6.23)**

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, AUGUST 2023,  
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 member at Texas A&M University-Commerce as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 23-04.

**MINUTE ORDER 186-2023 (ITEM 6.24)**

**NAMING OF THE FINANCE LABS ON THE  
CAMPUSES OF TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE AND  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE AT DALLAS,  
“THE NATHAN AND JUNE FINKE FINANCE LAB,”  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby names the Finance Lab on the campus of Texas A&M University-Commerce “The Nathan and June Finke Finance Lab.”

The Finance Lab on the campus of Texas A&M University-Commerce at Dallas is hereby named “The Nathan and June Finke Finance Lab.”

**MINUTE ORDER 187-2023 (ITEM 6.25)**

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, AUGUST 2023,  
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 member at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 23-04.

**MINUTE ORDER 188-2023 (ITEM 6.26)**

**APPROVAL OF A NEW BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
DEGREE PROGRAM WITH A MAJOR IN PUBLIC HEALTH,  
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 a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi leading to a Bachelor of Science with a major in Public Health.

The Board also authorizes submission of A&M-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 189-2023 (ITEM 6.27)**

**APPROVAL OF A NEW MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
DEGREE PROGRAM WITH A MAJOR IN PUBLIC HEALTH, 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 a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi leading to a Master of Public Health with a major in Public Health.

The Board also authorizes submission of A&M-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 190-2023 (ITEM 6.28)**

**NAMING OF THE HOSPITALITY SUITE WITHIN  
THE DR. JACK DUGAN FAMILY SOCCER AND TRACK STADIUM,  
AS THE "DIANE DUGAN HOTCHKISS SUITE,"  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby names the hospitality suite within the Dr. Jack Dugan Family Soccer and Track Stadium the "Diane Dugan Hotchkiss Suite."

**MINUTE ORDER 191-2023 (ITEM 6.29)**

**APPROVAL OF A NEW DOCTOR OF EDUCATION DEGREE  
PROGRAM WITH A MAJOR IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP,  
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 Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership.

The Board also authorizes the 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 192-2023 (ITEM 6.30)**

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC TENURE, AUGUST 2023,  
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. 23-04.

**MINUTE ORDER 193-2023 (ITEM 6.31)**

**APPROVAL OF A NEW DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY  
DEGREE PROGRAM WITH A MAJOR IN APPLIED  
SCIENCES AND ARTS, AND AUTHORIZATION TO  
REQUEST APPROVAL FROM  
THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD,  
WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

The Board of Regents approves the establishment of a new degree program at West Texas A&M University leading to a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree with a major in Applied Sciences and Arts.

The Board also authorizes submission of West 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 194-2023 (ITEM 6.32)**

**ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION HONORING THE  
WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SOFTBALL TEAM FOR  
WINNING THE 2021 NCAA DIVISION II NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP,  
WEST 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 195-2023 (ITEM 6.33)**

**ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION HONORING THE  
WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY VOLLEYBALL TEAM FOR  
WINNING THE 2022 NCAA DIVISION II NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP,  
WEST 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 196-2023 (ITEM 6.34)**

**ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION HONORING THE  
WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY WOMEN’S OUTDOOR TRACK  
AND FIELD TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2022 NCAA  
DIVISION II NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP,  
WEST 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 197-2023 (ITEM 6.35)**

**NAMING OF ROOMS AND SPACES WITHIN THE  
MIKE AND BEVERLY ROWLETT INDUSTRIAL DISTRIBUTION BUILDING,  
TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION**

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby names the following rooms and spaces within the Mike and Beverly Rowlett Industrial Distribution Building:

- Large Classroom (Level 1, Space 117) – “Keating Auto Group Technical Sales Laboratory”
- Lobby Column (Level 1) – “Dr. F. Barry Lawrence Column”
- Large Classrooms (Level 1, Space 118 and Space 120) – “SRS Distribution Leadership Laboratory”
- Learning Stair (Level 1, Stair 1) – “Lone Star Recreation Stair”
- Student Idea Development Space (Level 2, Space 202) – “Garver Black Hilyard Talent Incubator Collaboration Room”
- History Exhibit (Level 1, Space 102) – “Womack Machine Supply Industrial Distribution History Exhibit”
- Open Work Area (Level 2, Space 231) – “Dr. Daniel Jennings Memorial Reception”

**MINUTE ORDER 198-2023 (ITEM 6.37)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE FY 2023  
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 2023 IRA Urban and Community Forestry Grant and Community Project Grant.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Mahomes announced that Ms. Sandra Marshall, Board Office Manager, planned to retire after 28 years. He said she would be missed and wished her the best in her retirement.

Chairman Mahomes thanked everyone for attending the meeting and announced that the next regular Board meeting was scheduled for November 8-10, 2023.

RECESS AND RECONVENE

Chairman Mahomes announced that the Board would recess and reconvene in executive session at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, August 17.

(Note: The Board reconvened its executive session meeting at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, August 17, 2023, and adjourned its executive session at 2:51 p.m.)

ADJOURN

Chairman Mahomes reconvened the meeting in open session and said as there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:51 p.m., Thursday, August 17, 2023.

Vickie Burt Spillers
Executive Director, Board of Regents

(Minutes transcribed by Dee Rodriguez, Office of the Board of Regents.)

MINUTES

**SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS**

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

HELD IN

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

August 17, 2023

(Approved November 9, 2023)

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

August 17, 2023

CONVENE

Chairman Bill Mahomes convened a special workshop meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System at 3:00 p.m., Thursday, August 17, 2023, in Board of Regents Meeting Room, Board of Regents Annex, College Station Texas. The following members of the Board were present:

Mr. Bill Mahomes, Chairman
Mr. Robert L. Albritton, Vice Chairman
Mr. David Baggett
Mr. John Bellinger
Mr. Randy Brooks
Mr. Jay Graham
Mr. Michael J. Plank
Mr. Sam Torn
Mr. Demetrius Harrell, Student Regent

The following member of the Board was not present:

Mr. Michael A. Hernandez

Chairman Mahomes announced that a quorum was present and that they would receive briefings from System executives and invited guests.

Chairman Mahomes called on Dr. Joe Elabd, Interim Vice Chancellor for Engineering, Interim Director, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station; Dr. Nancy Currie-Gregg, Director of the Texas A&M Space Institute; and Dr. Rob Ambrose, Texas A&M Aerospace Engineering, who presented a briefing on the creation of the Texas A&M Space Institute.

Next Chairman Mahomes called on Dr. Elabd for a discussion of the potential development of an applied research laboratory program at the RELLIS campus.

Chairman Mahomes called on Dr. Allan Rutter from the Texas A&M Transportation Institute, who provided a briefing regarding rail safety issues at System campuses and agency locations.

(Note: The meeting was recessed from 3:51 p.m. to 4:10 p.m. Regent Baggett departed the meeting at this time.)

Next, Chairman Mahomes called on Mr. Ross Bjork, Texas A&M Athletic Director, who provided a briefing on contracting processes and issues at Texas A&M University, as they relate to Texas A&M Athletics.

Lastly, Dr. James Hallmark, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, provided a briefing on accreditations processes and requirements for System universities.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairman Mahomes adjourned the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

Vickie Burt Spillers
Executive Director, Board of Regents

MINUTES

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

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

HELD IN

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

September 12, 2023

(Approved November 9, 2023)

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

September 12, 2023

CONVENE

Chairman Bill Mahomes convened a special meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System at 8:03 a.m., Tuesday, September 12, 2023, in the Board of Regents Meeting Room, on the campus of Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas.

The following members of the Board were present via teleconference call:

Mr. Robert L. Albritton
Mr. David Baggett
Mr. John W. Bellinger
Mr. Randy Brooks
Mr. Jay Graham
Mr. Michael A. Hernandez
Mr. Michael J. Plank
Mr. Sam Torn
Ms. Annie Valicek (Student Regent)

The following member of the Board was present in the meeting room:

Mr. Bill Mahomes, Chairman

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Mahomes said the Board would recess to executive session to consider matters as permitted by Chapter 551, Sections 71, 72 and 74 of the Texas Government Code, and 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 8:03 a.m. until 9:53 a.m.)

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman Mahomes reconvened the meeting in open session at 9:54 a.m. He said the Board conferred with Chancellor Sharp, administration, and attorneys on legal, personnel and real property matters, including Items 1 through 3.

Chairman Mahomes noted for the record that Mark Welsh, Interim President of Texas A&M University, had asked that action on Item 1, concerning a pre-development agreement with Aplin Center LLC and construction of an educational facility, be deferred. Mr. Mahomes

said that President Welsh and his team intended to gather additional information and bring this matter back to the Board for consideration.

Mr. Mahomes presented Items 2 and 3 and asked if there was any further discussion. There being none he called for a motion for these two items.

Regent Albritton moved adoption of the minute orders contained in Items 1 and 2. Regent Brooks seconded the motion. Ms. Spillers called each regent's name for the vote. The record of the vote is as follows: Albritton – yes, Baggett – yes, Bellinger – yes, Brooks – yes, Graham – yes, Hernandez – yes, Plank – yes, Torn – yes, and Chairman Mahomes voted “yes.”

The following minute orders were approved (199 and 200).

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**MINUTE ORDER 199-2023 (ITEM 2)**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM  
TO TAKE ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO NEGOTIATE  
AND EXECUTE AGREEMENTS WITH APPROPRIATE  
COLLABORATING ENTITIES RELATING TO THE DEVELOPMENT  
AND SUBMISSION OF A PROPOSAL FOR THE MANAGEMENT  
AND OPERATION OF THE PANTEX PLANT, AND PERFORMANCE  
UNDER THE RESULTING CONTRACT, IF AWARDED,  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System, or designee, is authorized to take all actions necessary to negotiate and execute agreements with appropriate collaborating entities relating to the development and submission of a proposal for the management and operation of the Pantex Plant and performance under the resulting contract, if awarded. Texas A&M University, the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station, and the Texas Engineering Extension Service are authorized to participate in and support this effort, and the Board of Regents further authorizes the engagement of other A&M System members and A&M System-affiliated organizations, as appropriate.

**MINUTE ORDER 200-2023 (ITEM 3)**

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXERCISE RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL  
AND EXECUTE SPACE LEASE IN BUILDING LOCATED  
AT 8750 N. CENTRAL EXPRESSWAY IN DALLAS, TEXAS,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE**

The Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System, or designee, following legal review by the Office of General Counsel, is authorized to exercise a right of first refusal, execute an amendment to the current lease agreement to extend the term and execute an amendment to the current lease agreement or enter into a new lease for approximately 41,944 square feet of additional space in the building located at 8750 N. Central Expressway in Dallas, Texas, and to take any and all additional action and execute any and all ancillary documents deemed necessary to consummate the transaction.

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ADJOURN

There being no further business, on motion of Regent Torn, seconded by Regent Hernandez, the meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

Vickie Burt Spillers
Executive Director, Board of Regents

DRAFT

MINUTES

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS**

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

HELD IN

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

October 6, 2023

(Approved November 9, 2023)

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

October 6, 2023

Chairman Bill Mahomes convened a special meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System at 7:34 a.m., Friday, October 6, 2023, in the Board of Regents Meeting Room, Board of Regents Annex, College Station, Texas.

The following members of the Board were present:

Mr. Bill Mahomes, Chairman
Mr. Robert L. Albritton, Vice Chairman
Mr. David Baggett
Mr. John W. Bellinger
Mr. Randy Brooks
Mr. Jay Graham
Mr. Michael A. Hernandez
Mr. Michael J. Plank
Mr. Sam Torn
Ms. Annie Valicek (Student Regent)

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Mahomes announced that a quorum was present and said the Board would recess to executive session to consider matters as permitted by Chapter 551, Sections 71 and 74 of the Texas Government Code. He 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 7:34 a.m. until 1:54 p.m.)

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman Mahomes reconvened the meeting in open session at 1:54 p.m. and announced that the Board had met in executive session from 7:34 a.m. until 1:54 p.m., and conferred with the Chancellor, System administration and attorneys on legal and personnel matters.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:56 p.m., the same day.

Vickie Burt Spillers
Executive Director, Board of Regents

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
September 1, 2023

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

Subject: Granting of the Title of Emeritus, November 2023, 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. 24-01, 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

Mark A. Welsh III, Interim President
Texas A&M University

**THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
CONFIRMATION OF EMERITUS TITLES
EMERITUS TITLE LIST NO. 24-01**

ITEM
EXHIBIT

System Member Honoree	Years of Service	Current Rank	Title Conferred	Effective Date
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY				
Cynthia Billington	33	Director of Alumni and Corporate Engagement	Director Emerita	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. Lisa Campbell	27	Professor	Professor Emerita of Oceanography	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. John B. Carey	34	Professor	Professor Emeritus of Poultry Science	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. Samuel Cohn	34	Professor	Professor Emeritus of Sociology	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. Nancy W. Dickey	28	Professor	Professor Emerita of Primary Care and Rural Medicine	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. Edward R. Dougherty	27	Professor	Professor Emeritus of Electrical and Computer Engineering	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
*Dr. Eli Jones	6	Dean	Dean Emeritus of the Mays Business School	Upon Approval by the Board
Dr. Geoffrey Kapler	28	Professor	Professor Emeritus of Cell Biology and Genetics	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. Andruid Kerne	21	Professor	Professor Emeritus of Computer Science and Engineering	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement

System Member Honoree	Years of Service	Current Rank	Title Conferred	Effective Date
Janet Killion	26	Director, Research Reporting	Director, Research Reporting Emerita	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. Anthony H. Knap	10	Professor	Professor Emeritus of Oceanography	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
**Dr. Pamela R. Matthews	6	Dean	Dean Emerita of the College of Liberal Arts	Upon Approval by the Board
Dr. Barbara H. Miller	39	Associate Professor	Associate Professor Emerita of Comprehensive Dentistry	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. James O. Sanders	47	Senior Professor	Professor Emeritus of Animal Science	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. Jeremy S. Wasser	31	Associate Professor	Associate Professor Emeritus of Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement

*Dr. Jones served as dean of the Mays Business School for six years from July 2015 through May of 2021. Dr. Jones is a current full-time faculty member.

**Dr. Matthews served as dean of the College of Liberal Arts for six years from May 2015 through May of 2021. Dr. Matthews retired from the University on August 31, 2021.

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Janet Gordon, System Ethics and Compliance Officer
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 may 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. Peace officers are an imperative part of providing these services to Texans.

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

System Office of General Counsel

September 28, 2023

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,

Janet Gordon
Systems Ethics and Compliance Officer

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

Kelly M. Miller, President
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

Pablo Arenaz, President
Texas A&M International University

Col. Michael E. Fossum, USAFR (Ret.)
Chief Operating Officer
Texas A&M University at Galveston

The Texas A&M University System
Appointed and Commissioned Peace Officers

University Officer's Name	Title	Hire Date
TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY		
Perusquia Jr., Ricardo	Peace Officer	09/18/2023
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AT GALVESTON		
*Lopez, Michael A.	Peace Officer	06/16/2023
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI		
Garcia, Joshua A.	Peace Officer	08/22/2023

*Included in a previous submission at the same member with a break in service (180 days or less).

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 FY 2025 Operating Budget Guidelines

Proposed Board Action:

Approve FY 2025 operating budget guidelines per System Policy [27.03, Annual Operating Budget Process](#).

Background Information:

System Policy 27.03 states that the Board must approve annually, upon the recommendation of the chancellor, guidelines for the preparation of annual operating budgets for the system.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Not applicable.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The annual operating budget is inclusive of all the imperatives (directly or indirectly) included in the A&M System strategic plan.

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer
September 20, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of FY 2025 Operating Budget Guidelines

I recommend approval of the following minute order:

“The Texas A&M University System guidelines for the FY 2025 operating budget, as shown in the attached exhibit, are hereby approved.”

Respectfully submitted,

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

Approval Recommended:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Bill Mahomes, Chairman of the Board
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Appointment to the Board For Lease of University Lands

Proposed Board Action:

Appoint member to the Board for Lease of University Lands (BFL).

Background Information:

Board for Lease of University Lands (BFL)

The 41st Legislature created the BFL of University Lands. The BFL has authority over the leasing of oil and gas on lands dedicated to the Permanent University Fund and consists of the Commissioner of the General Land Office (as Chairman); two members of the Board of Regents of the University of Texas System and one member of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System. All members serve two-year terms, with the exception of the Land Commissioner.

The BFL membership is restricted as follows:

- 1) A person who is directly or indirectly employed by, or is an officer or employee of a person or entity actively engaged in the exploration for or production of oil and gas, other than as a landowner or royalty owner, may not be a regent member;
- 2) An officer, employee, or paid consultant of a trade association in the oil and gas industry may not be a regent member or employee of the board, nor may a person who cohabits with or is the spouse of an officer, managerial employee, or paid consultant of a trade association in the oil and gas industry be a regent member of the board or a non-classified employee of the board;
- 3) A person who is required to register as a lobbyist under Chapter 305, Government Code, by virtue of their activities for compensation in or on behalf of a profession related to the operation of the board, may not serve as a regent member of the board or act as the general counsel to the board.

At its meeting held on June 18, 2019, the A&M System Board appointed Regent Mike Hernandez to serve on the Board for Lease of University Lands and he was reappointed in 2021 and 2023. Due to other commitments, Regent Hernandez has decided to resign from the BFL. Action is requested to fill this vacant position. The term of this position will extend until February 1, 2025 or until a successor is appointed and qualified.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

None.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

This item advances Strategic Imperative 6 in that the appointment of qualified persons to the BFL is consistent with prudent financial stewardship.

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Office of the Board of Regents

October 30, 2023

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

Subject: Appointment to the Board For Lease of University Lands

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“Effective immediately, Regent David Baggett is hereby appointed to serve as a member of the Board for Lease of University Lands for a two-year term expiring February 1, 2025, or until a successor is appointed and qualified.”

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Mahomes
Chairman, Board of Regents

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

The Texas A&M University System
FY 2025 Operating Budget Guidelines

The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) is committed to serving the citizens of the state of Texas and understands that the valuable, but limited, resources provided to us must be utilized in the most efficient and effective manner and, as always, with the benefit of the state taxpayers foremost on our minds. The A&M System will continue to act as good stewards of the state of Texas' limited resources and will ensure the benefit to the state taxpayer is considered in every academic, research and service activity performed.

The A&M System remains focused on keeping the cost of attending our universities affordable, expanding student access, improving existing programs, developing innovative programs to meet new demands, expanding research and commercialization capabilities, and implementing operational efficiencies through shared services, strategic outsourcing and other opportunities. In addition, because of the state of Texas' Higher Education Affordability initiative, tuition and mandatory academic fees, including all academic-related general fees and college course fees, will remain at the currently approved levels for the fall 2024 semester. The imperative of excellence in all that we do and the reality of resource limitations in the state of Texas, increase the difficulty of meeting these challenges and dictate that we devote our collective skills to ensuring that the productivity of all A&M System resources is optimized.

In preparation for the upcoming FY 2025 budget process, we will remain focused on keeping administrative costs low through the continued improvement of operational efficiencies. In addition, budget recommendations shall be prepared within the estimated funds available and reserve balances should only be used in special one-time situations or where a definite plan provides justification for a limited use of such balances. In self-supporting activities, total funds budgeted shall not exceed realistic estimates of income and balances brought forward. Government and private contracts are expected to finance their proportionate share of the increases being recommended. Recommendations for other operating expenses should be based upon careful estimates of actual needs, considering every possibility for savings. Every effort should be made to ensure that we take advantage of cost-saving opportunities and reduce expenditures wherever possible. In addition, all budgetary projections should include provisions to accommodate items subject to possible inflationary increases during this operating year.

Chief Executive Officers are authorized to begin the process of preparing the FY 2025 operating budgets within the limits of available resources. The System Office of Budgets and Accounting will provide detailed instructions to be used in the support of each phase of the review and approval process for the chancellor and Board of Regents.

FY 2025 Budget Calendar

2024

February 7 th – 9 th	FY 2024 Budget Update (thru December) FY 2023 Financial Update
February/March	Preliminary Budget & Capital Plan submitted to the System Offices for review
April (TBD)	Programmatic Budget Reviews (PBR presentations will be provided to the Board two weeks prior)
May 6 th – 8 th	FY 2025 Budget & Capital Plan presented to the Board for approval

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

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

Subject: Approval of Substantive Revisions to System Policy 24.01, *Risk Management*

Proposed Board Action:

Approve substantive revisions to System Policy 24.01, *Risk Management*.

Background Information:

System Policy 24.01, Risk Management

Section 2.2 –Verbiage has been revised to remove reference to Texas Tort Claim Act and clarify OGC collaboration in such contracts.

Other stylistic-type edits were made to conform to system guidelines.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

None.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The board's adoption, maintenance and revision of system policies advances all eight Strategic Plan Imperatives by providing policy direction to the member institutions and agencies.

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
System Office the Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs
September 11, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of Revisions to System Policy *24.01, Risk Management*

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The revisions to System Policy *24.01, Risk Management*, as shown in the attached exhibit, are approved, effective immediately.”

Respectfully submitted,

Phillip Ray
Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs

Approval Recommended:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer



24.01 Risk Management

~~Revised August 16, 2023 (MO 169-2023)~~

~~Revised November 9, 2023 (MO -2023)~~

Next Scheduled Review: ~~November 9, 2028~~~~August 16, 2028~~

Click to view [Revision History](#).

Policy Summary

The Texas A&M University System (system) is exposed to a multitude of risks related to the operations, activities, and endeavors of its members. These risks can come in the form of potential loss of property, financial liability, and reputational risks. System Risk Management supports the system's strategic mission and goals ~~of the system~~ by identifying, analyzing, controlling and, when appropriate, financing these risks. This is accomplished through insurance procurement, administration of the system's self-insurance programs, developing and maintaining a standard for the protection of minors on campus, as well as implementing and overseeing Enterprise Risk Management systemwide.

Policy

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 This policy outlines the responsibilities and business processes of System Risk Management.
- 1.2 System Risk Management serves as a partner and risk advisor to the system and its members to empower them to understand the implications in making decisions to self-retain, mitigate, transfer, or eliminate the impact of risk.
- 1.3 System Risk Management prepares and submits an annual report on the system's risk management programs to the Board of Regents (board), chancellor and member chief executive officers~~CEOs~~.

2. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 2.1 System Risk Management encourages a review of all member contracts to determine the risks associated with the performance of the contract by outside parties. Insurance recommendations are provided to insert suggested language into the contract to better protect the interests of the system and its members.
- 2.2 System Risk Management reviews contractual insurance ~~requirements placed~~contracts entered by-on the system and/or its members and works with the Office of General

~~Counsel to determine the appropriateness of such contracts. Due to sovereign immunity, the Texas Tort Claim Act, and statutory limitations placed on state entities, System Risk Management works closely with General Counsel to be certain contractual insurance requirements placed on the system and its members are appropriate.~~

~~2.22.3~~ A systemwide standard and protocol is established and maintained by System Risk Management for all Camps and Programs for minors sponsored and operated by the system and its members, as well as third-party programs using member facilities.

~~2.32.4~~ Each ~~system~~-member can submit a Risk Assessment Matrix to System Risk Management for the evaluation and assessment of risks involved with a specific activity or endeavor. ~~The assessment will uncover~~s possible vulnerabilities, the estimated cost of recovery in the event of damage, and any mitigating risk strategies. ~~Based on the risk tolerance level determined,~~ —risk transfer options can be evaluated.

System Risk Management ~~will review~~s and provides risk assessments for all international travel to locations ~~that~~which are considered extreme risk.

~~2.42.5~~ System Risk Management provides ethical claims administration of the ~~S~~system's self-insured Workers' Compensation, Auto Liability, and Medical Malpractice plans. ~~It~~ also liaises with third-party administratorsters, brokers, and carriers of commercially procured insurance policyies claims departments to advocate for the best financial outcome for the system and its members.

System Risk Management may also handle the procurement and administration of systemwide Risk Management Information System software solutions.

3. RISK TRANSFER

System Risk Management ~~will work~~s to establish uniform risk transfer strategies in addressing the risks faced by the system. These risk transfer programs ~~will provide~~ effective ways to transfer risks to minimize the financial and reputational impact on members. These programs include, but are not limited to, System Self-Insured Auto Plan, System Self-Insured Workers Compensation Plan and other policies procured through commercial insurance companies.

4. ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGEMENT

4.1 Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) is the ~~S~~system's comprehensive program to identify and proactively manage/mitigate real and potential threats, as well as opportunities, that may affect the system and/or its members' strategic missions, goals or objectives.

4.2 ERM cultivates a culture of risk management across the system; where risk tolerance is considered at every level of decision—making, from strategic development and implementation of the system's missions and objectives, to individual member department's everyday operations.

4.3 ERM ~~will illuminate~~s risks that are interrelated across the system and facilitates effective mitigation strategies of these interrelated risks. Risk Management, at the system and/or member level, is positioned to identify and proactively realize opportunities for growth,

improved efficiencies, risk reduction or avoidance, and in some cases, increased risk tolerance.

4.4 To ensure the success of this program, members and the System Offices ~~will~~ conduct the ~~ERM~~enterprise risk management evaluation process on an annual basis, per System Regulation 16.01.01, *Ethics and Compliance Programs*, providing the report to System Risk Management for review. System Risk Management ~~will~~evaluates the reports from members and provides an executive summary to the chancellor.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[Tex. Educ. Code § 51.966](#)

[Tex. Lab. Code, Ch. 502](#)

[Texas Tort Claims Act, Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code, Ch. 101](#)

[System Regulation 24.01.02, *Risk Transfer*](#)

[System Regulation 24.01.06, *Programs for Minors*](#)

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

Risk Management
(979) 458-6330

24.01 Risk Management

Revised November 9, 2023 (MO -2023)
Next Scheduled Review: November 9, 2028
Click to view [Revision History](#).



Policy Summary

The Texas A&M University System (system) is exposed to a multitude of risks related to the operations, activities and endeavors of its members. These risks can come in the form of potential loss of property, financial liability and reputational risks. System Risk Management supports the system's strategic mission and goals by identifying, analyzing, controlling and, when appropriate, financing these risks. This is accomplished through insurance procurement, administration of the system's self-insurance programs, developing and maintaining a standard for the protection of minors on campus, as well as implementing and overseeing Enterprise Risk Management systemwide.

Policy

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 This policy outlines the responsibilities and business processes of System Risk Management.
- 1.2 System Risk Management serves as a partner and risk advisor to the system and its members to empower them to understand the implications in making decisions to self-retain, mitigate, transfer, or eliminate the impact of risk.
- 1.3 System Risk Management prepares and submits an annual report on the system's risk management programs to the Board of Regents (board), chancellor and member chief executive officers.

2. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 2.1 System Risk Management encourages a review of all member contracts to determine the risks associated with the performance of the contract by outside parties. Insurance recommendations are provided to insert suggested language into the contract to better protect the interests of the system and its members.
- 2.2 System Risk Management reviews contractual insurance contracts entered by the system and/or its members and works with the Office of General Counsel to determine the appropriateness of such contracts.

- 2.3 A systemwide standard and protocol is established and maintained by System Risk Management for all Camps and Programs for minors sponsored and operated by the system and its members, as well as third-party programs using member facilities.
- 2.4 Each member can submit a Risk Assessment Matrix to System Risk Management for the evaluation and assessment of risks involved with a specific activity or endeavor. The assessment uncovers possible vulnerabilities, the estimated cost of recovery in the event of damage, and any mitigating risk strategies. Based on the risk tolerance level determined, risk transfer options can be evaluated.

System Risk Management reviews and provides risk assessments for all international travel to locations that are considered extreme risk.

- 2.5 System Risk Management provides ethical claims administration of the system's self-insured Workers' Compensation, Auto Liability, and Medical Malpractice plans. It also liaises with third-party administrators, brokers and carriers of commercially procured insurance policy claims departments to advocate for the best financial outcome for the system and its members.

System Risk Management may also handle the procurement and administration of systemwide Risk Management Information System software solutions.

3. RISK TRANSFER

System Risk Management works to establish uniform risk transfer strategies in addressing the risks faced by the system. These risk transfer programs provide effective ways to transfer risks to minimize the financial and reputational impact on members. These programs include, but are not limited to, System Self-Insured Auto Plan, System Self-Insured Workers Compensation Plan and other policies procured through commercial insurance companies.

4. ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) is the system's comprehensive program to identify and proactively manage/mitigate real and potential threats, as well as opportunities, that may affect the system and/or its members' strategic missions, goals or objectives.
- 4.2 ERM cultivates a culture of risk management across the system where risk tolerance is considered at every level of decision-making, from strategic development and implementation of the system's missions and objectives, to individual member departments' everyday operations.
- 4.3 ERM illuminates risks that are interrelated across the system and facilitates effective mitigation strategies of these interrelated risks. Risk Management, at the system and/or member level, is positioned to identify and proactively realize opportunities for growth, improved efficiencies, risk reduction or avoidance, and in some cases, increased risk tolerance.
- 4.4 To ensure the success of this program, members and the System Offices conduct the ERM evaluation on an annual basis, per System Regulation *16.01.01, Ethics and Compliance Programs*, providing the report to System Risk Management for review. System Risk

Management evaluates the reports from members and provides an executive summary to the chancellor.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[Tex. Educ. Code § 51.966](#)

[Tex. Lab. Code, Ch. 502](#)

[Texas Tort Claims Act, Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code, Ch. 101](#)

[System Regulation 24.01.02, *Risk Transfer*](#)

[System Regulation 24.01.06, *Programs for Minors*](#)

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

Risk Management
(979) 458-6330

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: James R. Hallmark, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Non-substantive Revisions to Various Academic-related System Policies

Proposed Board Action:

Approve non-substantive revisions to various academic-related system policies.

Background Information:

The purpose of this agenda item is to propose non-substantive revisions to several academic-related policies in response to these policies' routine, five-year certification reviews. All policies reflect stylistic changes. The Office of General Counsel has reviewed all revisions for legal sufficiency.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

None.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The board's adoption, maintenance and revision of system policies advances all eight Strategic Plan Imperatives by providing policy direction to the member institutions and agencies.

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
September 28, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of Non-substantive Revisions to Various Academic-related System Policies

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The revisions to System Policies 07.02, Texas Higher Education Fair Lending Practices, 11.01, Collaboration Among System Academic Institutions, and 11.03, Shortened Courses, as shown in the attached exhibit, are approved, effective immediately.”

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approval Recommended:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

07.02 Texas Higher Education Fair Lending Practices

~~Revised November 15, 2018 (MO -2018)~~

~~Revised November 9, 2023 (MO -2023)~~

Next Scheduled Review: ~~November 15, 2023~~ November 9, 2028

Click to view [Revision History](#).



Policy Summary

The president of each university (academic institution) in The Texas A&M University System will adopt guidelines implementing this policy. This policy sets out operational and conflict of interest standards to be observed and to aid in establishing a heightened awareness of the potential for conflicts of interest in the conduct of student financial aid programs.

Definitions

Click to view [Definitions](#).

Policy

1. PROHIBITIONS

1.1 Prohibition against solicitation or acceptance of gifts by the institution and the institution's employees.

1.1.1 The institution will not~~;~~ directly~~;~~ or indirectly, solicit or accept any gift from or on behalf of a student loan lender.

1.1.2 An employee of the institution will not, on the employee's own behalf or on behalf of another person, directly or indirectly, solicit or accept any gift from or on behalf of a student loan lender. An employee ~~will~~ promptly reports~~s~~ to the institution president any instance of a student loan lender attempting to offer or provide a gift to the employee.

1.2 Prohibition against revenue sharing with lender.

The institution will not engage in revenue sharing with a student loan lender.

1.3 Prohibition against acceptance of remuneration by institution employee for service on lender board.

1.3.1 An employee of the institution will not accept any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses from a student loan lender for serving as a member of, or otherwise participating in, an advisory board, or board of directors or any other board or management council of a student loan lender.

1.3.2 An employee of the institution must obtain written authority from the institution president to serve as a member or otherwise participate in an advisory board, board of directors or any other board or management council of a student loan lender before becoming such a member or participant.

1.4 Prohibition against misleading identification of lender employees and representatives.

The institution must not identify an employee, representative, or agent of a student loan lender to borrowers or prospective borrowers as an employee, representative, or agent of the institution, nor will the institution, subject to its good faith efforts, authorize an employee, representative or agent of a student loan lender to represent, explicitly or implicitly, that ~~he/she~~ the individual employee is an employee, representative or agent of the institution.

1.5 Prohibition against high-risk student loan agreements.

The institution must not enter into a high-risk student loan agreement with a student loan lender under which the institution provides concessions or promises to the student loan lender that may prejudice borrowers or prospective borrowers.

1.6 Prohibition against directing potential borrowers to certain electronic loan agreements.

The institution will not direct in any manner a potential borrower who attends or has indicated an intent to attend the institution to an electronic master promissory note or other loan agreement that does not allow the borrower to enter the lender code or name for any student loan lender offering the relevant loan. This provision does not prohibit the institution from directing a potential borrower who has represented that ~~he/she~~ the borrower wishes requests to engage a particular lender to that lender's electronic loan agreements.

1.7 Disclosure of financing options required.

The institution ~~will~~ make available to a borrower, a borrower's parents, or a prospective borrower clear and conspicuous disclosure of information relating to available financing options under Title IV, Higher Education Act of 1965 (Pub. L. No. 89-329), including information on any terms and conditions of available loans under that title that are more favorable to the borrower than terms available through "preferred lenders." The institution's conspicuous posting of this information on a website available to borrowers, borrowers' parents and prospective borrowers will satisfy its duties under this section.

1.8 Requirements relating to lender lists.

1.8.1 Lenders cannot pay to be included on the lender list of a higher education institution.

- 1.8.2 If the institution provides or makes available to students or prospective students of the institution a lender list, it must ensure that the list:
- (a) is the product of a collaborative, objective process which recognizes the students' best interest as the overriding consideration;
 - (b) discloses clearly and conspicuously to borrowers and prospective borrowers the process and defined set of objective criteria by which the institution has selected student loan lenders for inclusion in the list, including the methods and criteria used to choose the lenders and the relative importance of the criteria;
 - (c) states, clearly and conspicuously to borrowers and prospective borrowers, that a borrower has the right and ability to select the student loan lender of the borrower's choice, is not required to use any of the lenders on the list, and will not be penalized for selecting a lender that is not on the list; and
 - (d) is reviewed and updated at least annually.
- 1.8.3 The institution's decision to include a student loan lender on a lender list and the institution's decision regarding where on the lender list the student loan lender's name appears must be determined solely by consideration of the best interests of the borrowers or prospective borrowers who may use the list, without regard to the pecuniary interests of the institution. Should the institution maintain a preferred lender list, unless the order of the lenders in the list is a rank order as determined by the process described in Section 1.8.2, the institution ~~will~~ periodically sorts the list so entities on the list are shifted in their position. If the order of the lenders on the list is not a rank order, then the institution ~~will~~ clearly and conspicuously discloses that although each lender has been chosen based on the objective criteria described in the Texas Higher Education Fair Lending Practices, no lender within the list is preferred over another.
- 1.8.4 The institution may include a student loan lender on the institution's lender list only if the lender provides assurance to the institution and to borrowers of the lender that the advertised benefits on loan repayment ~~will~~ continues to benefit the borrowers regardless of whether the lender's loans are sold.
- 1.8.5 Before including a student loan lender on a lender list, the institution ~~will~~ makes a reasonable inquiry regarding whether the lender has an agreement to sell its loans to another unaffiliated lender. If, after making a reasonable inquiry, the institution has knowledge of such an agreement, the institution may include the lender on the institution's preferred lender list only if the existence and general nature of the agreement are disclosed clearly and conspicuously on the preferred lender list.
- 1.8.6 Before compiling a lender list, the institution ~~will~~ makes a reasonable inquiry as to the availability of zero-interest loan providers and non-profit loan providers.
- 1.8.7 A student loan lender may not be placed on any institution lender list or be provided favored placement on any institution lender list for a particular type of

loan in exchange for benefits provided to the institution or to students of the institution in connection with a different type of loan.

1.8.8 The institution will not place a student loan lender on a lender list for a period of at least one year if the student loan lender has violated the Texas Higher Education Fair Lending Practices.

1.8.9 The institution must ensure that the requirements of 34 CFR Part 601, Subpart B are met with creating and distributing any lender list.

1.9 Prohibition against stock ownership.

A person employed in the financial aid office of the institution will not own stock or hold another ownership interest in a student loan lender, other than through ownership of shares in a publicly traded mutual fund or similar investment vehicle in which the person does not exercise any discretion regarding the investment of the assets of the fund or other investment vehicle.

2. REQUIREMENT

On a yearly basis, every employee of the financial aid office of the institution ~~will~~ receives training concerning Texas Higher Education Fair Lending Practices and Texas ethics laws relating to state employment.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[Tex. Educ. Code § 61.003](#)

[Title IV, Higher Education Act of 1965 \(~~Pub. L. No. 89-329~~\)](#)

[34 CFR Part 601, Subpart B](#)

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

~~System Office of~~ Academic Affairs
(979) 458-6072

System Policy 07.02, Texas Higher Education Fair Lending Practices

Definitions

Clear and conspicuous –

- (a) for print communications, the message ~~will be~~ is in a type size and location sufficiently noticeable for an ordinary consumer to read and comprehend it, in print that contrasts with the background against which it appears;
- (b) in communications disseminated orally, the message ~~will be~~ is delivered in a volume and cadence sufficient for an ordinary consumer to comprehend it; or
- (c) in communications made through an electronic medium (such as television, video, radio, and interactive media such as the Internet, online services, and software), the message ~~will be~~ is presented simultaneously in both the audio and visual portions of the communication. In any communication presented solely through visual or audio means, the message may be made through the same means by which the communication is presented. Any audio message ~~will be~~ is delivered in a volume and cadence sufficient for an ordinary consumer to hear and comprehend it. Any visual message ~~will be~~ is of a size and shade, with a degree of contrast to the background against which it appears, and ~~will appear~~ s on the screen for a duration and in a location sufficiently noticeable for an ordinary consumer to read and comprehend it. The message ~~will be~~ is in understandable language and syntax. Nothing contrary to, inconsistent with, or in mitigation of the message ~~will be~~ is used in any communication.

Employee of an institution of higher education – includes any employee, agent, student financial aid contractor, director, officer, or regent of the institution.

Gift – any discount, favor, gratuity, inducement, loan, stock, or thing of value exceeding \$20 in value.

The term includes:

- (a) any money, service, loan, entertainment, honoraria, hospitality, lodging costs, meal, registration fee, travel expense, discount, forbearance, or promise;
- (b) a gift provided in kind, by purchase of a ticket, through payment in advance, or through reimbursement after expenses have been incurred;
- (c) any computer hardware for which the recipient pays a below-market price; or
- (d) any printing costs or services.

The term does not include:

- (a) a student loan lender's own brochure or promotional literature;
- (b) training, or informational material furnished to an employee of an institution of higher education as an integral part of a training session, if that training session contributes to the professional development of the employee; or
- (c) money from a student loan lender that is given to the institution of higher education, outside the office of student financial aid, for a philanthropic purpose and not for the

purpose of securing a benefit relating to student lending for the student loan lender, including, but not limited to, money for:

- (1) scholarships, grants, work study funds, or similar types of awards that are passed directly on to students;
- (2) any building, room, facility, or equipment for a department other than the department in which the office of student financial services is located;
- (3) naming a facility or program in accordance with applicable naming regulations and policies adopted by the institution; or
- (4) programs or operations other than those related to the office of student financial services. Money donated as described in this section may not have any direct connection or benefit to any institution employee involved in decisions relating to the offering of student loan products and may not be considered by the institution in the assessment of a lender in the student loan process.

Higher education expenses – includes:

- (a) tuition and fees charged by an institution of higher education; and
- (b) costs incurred in connection with attending an institution of higher education for room, board, books, supplies, transportation, and miscellaneous personal expenses.

High risk student loan – a student loan made pursuant to a high risk student loan agreement.

High risk student loan agreement – any agreement between a student loan lender and an institution of higher education under which the lender provides student loans to students of the institution who have a poor credit history or no credit history and who would not otherwise be eligible for a student loan.

Lender list – a list of one or more recommended or suggested student loan lenders that an institution of higher education makes available for use, in print or any other medium or form, by borrowers, prospective borrowers who attend or have indicated an intent to attend the institution, or members of the public.

Revenue sharing – any arrangement under which a student loan lender pays an institution of higher education or an affiliated entity or organization of the institution a percentage of the principal of student loans directed toward the lender from a borrower for higher education expenses related to attending the institution.

Student loan –

- (a) any loan that is made, insured, or guaranteed under Title IV, Higher Education Act of 1965 (Pub.L. No. 89-329), as amended;
- (b) a ~~high-risk~~high-risk student loan; or
- (c) any private loan issued by a student loan lender that requires all or part of the loan proceeds to be used to assist a person in paying higher education expenses.

Student loan lender –

- (a) any person who is in the business of, independently or through an affiliate:
 - (1) making, brokering, arranging, or accepting applications for student loans; or

- (2) a combination of activities described by (a)(1) above;
- (b) any entity or association of entities that guarantees student loans, except for the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation or any similarly structured entity; or
- (c) any industry, trade, or professional association or other entity that receives money from any entity or association of entities described in (a) or (b) above.

11.01 Collaboration Among System Academic Institutions

~~Revised November 15, 2018 (MO -2018)~~

~~Revised November 9, 2023 (MO -2023)~~

Next Scheduled Review: ~~November 15, 2023~~ November 9, 2028

Click to view [Revision History](#).



Policy Summary

This policy requires that universities (academic institutions) of The Texas A&M University System create collaborative agreements between academic institutions, colleges, departments, or degree programs ~~which~~ that can provide a higher level of service to students and the community while efficiently using institutional resources.

Policy

1. Presidents of the academic institutions are charged to develop collaborative programs that ~~will~~ achieve the highest effective utilization of the resources of the academic institutions and respond most fully to the needs of students.
2. Individual departments or colleges at any two or more of the academic institutions are permitted to make collaborative arrangements for handling the programs of study for students enrolled at their institutions. Each collaborative arrangement is to be in written form and must be approved by the president or designee at each academic institution.
3. Collaborative arrangements should be based on the principles that course content and quality are mutually acceptable, that facilities are adequate and that details of the arrangements are agreed upon in advance of their application. The following operating guidelines ~~will~~ apply to all collaborative arrangements:
 - 3.1 Program arrangements must be consistent with authorities for degree programs and course inventories established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.
 - 3.2 The student may maintain registration at either academic institution. If credit for any course or work taken at a secondary academic institution is to be through student registration in an appropriate course at the primary academic institution (such as graduate special problems), the dean or other appropriate official of the secondary academic institution ~~will~~ certifies the course grade to the dean or other appropriate official of the primary academic institution by letter or by form adopted for this purpose.
 - 3.3 Students doing work at a secondary academic institution ~~will~~ comply with all appropriate rules of the secondary academic institution as applicable.

- 3.4 Students ~~will~~ pay all applicable fees at the academic institution at which they register as outlined in the collaborative agreement.
- 3.5 Students on a fellowship or in receipt of financial assistance at the primary academic institution may continue receiving such assistance, if otherwise appropriate, while doing research in a laboratory or taking courses at a secondary academic institution.
- 3.6 Where appropriate, collaborating departments ~~will~~ agree on matters which ~~will~~ facilitate the collaboration, such as:
- (a) use of faculty between academic institutions for teaching courses or for serving on examining committees;
 - (b) joint filing of degree plans;
 - (c) waiver of transfer credit restrictions;
 - (d) creating financial aid consortiums to allow students to remain eligible for financial aid based upon total semester credit hour enrollment between the academic institutions; and
 - (e) other items germane to the particular program situation.

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

~~System Office of~~ Academic Affairs
(979) 458-6072



11.03 Shortened Courses

~~Revised November 15, 2018 (MO—2018)~~

~~Revised November 9, 2023 (MO -2023)~~

Next Scheduled Review: ~~November 15, 2023~~ November 9, 2028

Click to view [Revision History](#).

Policy Summary

This policy provides the universities (academic institutions) of The Texas A&M University System with the necessary guidelines by which to measure the number of contact hours required for each semester credit hour offered by the academic institution for traditional and non-traditional courses and reemphasizes the expectations of academic quality and rigor for courses offered by the academic institutions in a shortened format.

Definitions

Click to view [Definitions](#).

Policy

1. Academic institutions must be guided by the following Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board rule concerning the minimum length of courses:
 - 1.1 The minimum length for traditionally delivered three semester credit hour courses will be as follows:
 - 1.1.1 All shortened face-to-face courses must consist of the same number of class contact hours as similar three-hour courses offered in a regular session or summer session: that is, normally 45 to 48 contact hours. Courses must also have the same objectives, requirements and quality of instruction as regular length courses.
 - 1.1.2 Students should not carry more courses at a time in a shortened format than will give them total credit of one semester credit hour per week of instruction.
 - 1.1.3 Academic institutions may offer courses in a non-traditional format, such as through the Internet or in a shortened intensive format such as competency-based education or prior learning assessment strategies, which does not meet contact hour requirements if the course/strategy has been reviewed by a faculty

review committee and determined to have equivalent learning outcomes to a traditionally delivered course.

- 1.1.4 All requirements for three semester credit hour courses must apply proportionately to courses for one, two, four or other semester credit hour values.
2. Academic institution presidents ~~will~~ develop guidelines necessary to implement and assure compliance with this policy. Any exceptions to Section 1.1.2 must be included in the guidelines.

Member Rule Requirement

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

~~System Office of~~ Academic Affairs
(979) 458-6072

System Policy 11.03, Shortened Courses

Definitions

Credit hour – for purposes of the application of this policy and in accordance with federal regulations, a credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates:

1. Not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours out of class student work each week for approximately 15 weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or 10-12 weeks for one-quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or
2. At least an equivalent amount of work as required and outlined above for other academic activities as established by the institution including laboratory work, internships, practicums, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours. (SACSCOC, 2018).

Shortened format course – a term to describe a course ~~offered in a shortened format is any course~~ for which academic credit is given and for which the elapsed time from the first class meeting until the last class meeting or examination period is less than a normal semester or summer session term.

Traditionally delivered course – a term to describe a face-to-face course in which students and instructor meet at a regular time over a fifteen-week semester for a total of between 45 and 48 contact hours.

07.02 Texas Higher Education Fair Lending Practices

Revised [November 9, 2023 \(MO -2023\)](#)
Next Scheduled Review: November 9, 2028
Click to view [Revision History](#).



Policy Summary

The president of each university (academic institution) in The Texas A&M University System will adopt guidelines implementing this policy. This policy sets out operational and conflict of interest standards to be observed and to aid in establishing a heightened awareness of the potential for conflicts of interest in the conduct of student financial aid programs.

Definitions

Click to view [Definitions](#).

Policy

1. PROHIBITIONS

1.1 Prohibition against solicitation or acceptance of gifts by the institution and the institution's employees.

1.1.1 The institution will not directly, or indirectly, solicit or accept any gift from or on behalf of a student loan lender.

1.1.2 An employee of the institution will not, on the employee's own behalf or on behalf of another person, directly or indirectly, solicit or accept any gift from or on behalf of a student loan lender. An employee promptly reports to the institution president any instance of a student loan lender attempting to offer or provide a gift to the employee.

1.2 Prohibition against revenue sharing with lender.

The institution will not engage in revenue sharing with a student loan lender.

1.3 Prohibition against acceptance of remuneration by institution employee for service on lender board.

- 1.3.1 An employee of the institution will not accept any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses from a student loan lender for serving as a member of, or otherwise participating in, an advisory board, or board of directors or any other board or management council of a student loan lender.
- 1.3.2 An employee of the institution must obtain written authority from the institution president to serve as a member or otherwise participate in an advisory board, board of directors or any other board or management council of a student loan lender before becoming such a member or participant.

1.4 Prohibition against misleading identification of lender employees and representatives.

The institution must not identify an employee, representative, or agent of a student loan lender to borrowers or prospective borrowers as an employee, representative or agent of the institution, nor will the institution, subject to its good faith efforts, authorize an employee, representative or agent of a student loan lender to represent, explicitly or implicitly, that the individual is an employee, representative or agent of the institution.

1.5 Prohibition against high-risk student loan agreements.

The institution must not enter into a high-risk student loan agreement with a student loan lender under which the institution provides concessions or promises to the student loan lender that may prejudice borrowers or prospective borrowers.

1.6 Prohibition against directing potential borrowers to certain electronic loan agreements.

The institution will not direct in any manner a potential borrower who attends or has indicated an intent to attend the institution to an electronic master promissory note or other loan agreement that does not allow the borrower to enter the lender code or name for any student loan lender offering the relevant loan. This provision does not prohibit the institution from directing a potential borrower who has represented that the borrower requests to engage a particular lender to that lender's electronic loan agreements.

1.7 Disclosure of financing options required.

The institution makes available to a borrower, a borrower's parents or a prospective borrower clear and conspicuous disclosure of information relating to available financing options under Title IV, Higher Education Act of 1965 (Pub. L. No. 89-329), including information on any terms and conditions of available loans under that title that are more favorable to the borrower than terms available through "preferred lenders." The institution's conspicuous posting of this information on a website available to borrowers, borrowers' parents and prospective borrowers will satisfy its duties under this section.

1.8 Requirements relating to lender lists.

- 1.8.1 Lenders cannot pay to be included on the lender list of a higher education institution.
- 1.8.2 If the institution provides or makes available to students or prospective students of the institution a lender list, it must ensure that the list:

- (a) is the product of a collaborative, objective process which recognizes the students' best interest as the overriding consideration;
 - (b) discloses clearly and conspicuously to borrowers and prospective borrowers the process and defined set of objective criteria by which the institution has selected student loan lenders for inclusion in the list, including the methods and criteria used to choose the lenders and the relative importance of the criteria;
 - (c) states, clearly and conspicuously to borrowers and prospective borrowers, that a borrower has the right and ability to select the student loan lender of the borrower's choice, is not required to use any of the lenders on the list, and will not be penalized for selecting a lender that is not on the list; and
 - (d) is reviewed and updated at least annually.
- 1.8.3 The institution's decision to include a student loan lender on a lender list and the institution's decision regarding where on the lender list the student loan lender's name appears must be determined solely by consideration of the best interests of the borrowers or prospective borrowers who may use the list, without regard to the pecuniary interests of the institution. Should the institution maintain a preferred lender list, unless the order of the lenders in the list is a rank order as determined by the process described in Section 1.8.2, the institution periodically sorts the list so entities on the list are shifted in their position. If the order of the lenders on the list is not a rank order, then the institution clearly and conspicuously discloses that although each lender has been chosen based on the objective criteria described in the Texas Higher Education Fair Lending Practices, no lender within the list is preferred over another.
- 1.8.4 The institution may include a student loan lender on the institution's lender list only if the lender provides assurance to the institution and to borrowers of the lender that the advertised benefits on loan repayment continues to benefit the borrowers regardless of whether the lender's loans are sold.
- 1.8.5 Before including a student loan lender on a lender list, the institution makes a reasonable inquiry regarding whether the lender has an agreement to sell its loans to another unaffiliated lender. If, after making a reasonable inquiry, the institution has knowledge of such an agreement, the institution may include the lender on the institution's preferred lender list only if the existence and general nature of the agreement are disclosed clearly and conspicuously on the preferred lender list.
- 1.8.6 Before compiling a lender list, the institution makes a reasonable inquiry as to the availability of zero-interest loan providers and non-profit loan providers.
- 1.8.7 A student loan lender may not be placed on any institution lender list or be provided favored placement on any institution lender list for a particular type of loan in exchange for benefits provided to the institution or to students of the institution in connection with a different type of loan.

1.8.8 The institution will not place a student loan lender on a lender list for a period of at least one year if the student loan lender has violated the Texas Higher Education Fair Lending Practices.

1.8.9 The institution must ensure that the requirements of 34 CFR Part 601, Subpart B are met with creating and distributing any lender list.

1.9 Prohibition against stock ownership.

A person employed in the financial aid office of the institution will not own stock or hold another ownership interest in a student loan lender, other than through ownership of shares in a publicly traded mutual fund or similar investment vehicle in which the person does not exercise any discretion regarding the investment of the assets of the fund or other investment vehicle.

2. REQUIREMENT

On a yearly basis, every employee of the financial aid office of the institution receives training concerning Texas Higher Education Fair Lending Practices and Texas ethics laws relating to state employment.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[Tex. Educ. Code § 61.003](#)

[34 CFR Part 601, Subpart B](#)

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

Academic Affairs
(979) 458-6072

System Policy 07.02, Texas Higher Education Fair Lending Practices

Definitions

Clear and conspicuous –

- (a) for print communications, the message is in a type size and location sufficiently noticeable for an ordinary consumer to read and comprehend it, in print that contrasts with the background against which it appears;
- (b) in communications disseminated orally, the message is delivered in a volume and cadence sufficient for an ordinary consumer to comprehend it; or
- (c) in communications made through an electronic medium (such as television, video, radio, and interactive media such as the Internet, online services, and software), the message is presented simultaneously in both the audio and visual portions of the communication. In any communication presented solely through visual or audio means, the message may be made through the same means by which the communication is presented. Any audio message is delivered in a volume and cadence sufficient for an ordinary consumer to hear and comprehend it. Any visual message is of a size and shade, with a degree of contrast to the background against which it appears, and appears on the screen for a duration and in a location sufficiently noticeable for an ordinary consumer to read and comprehend it. The message is in understandable language and syntax. Nothing contrary to, inconsistent with, or in mitigation of the message is used in any communication.

Employee of an institution of higher education – includes any employee, agent, student financial aid contractor, director, officer, or regent of the institution.

Gift – any discount, favor, gratuity, inducement, loan, stock, or thing of value exceeding \$20 in value.

The term includes:

- (a) any money, service, loan, entertainment, honoraria, hospitality, lodging costs, meal, registration fee, travel expense, discount, forbearance, or promise;
- (b) a gift provided in kind, by purchase of a ticket, through payment in advance, or through reimbursement after expenses have been incurred;
- (c) any computer hardware for which the recipient pays a below-market price; or
- (d) any printing costs or services.

The term does not include:

- (a) a student loan lender's own brochure or promotional literature;
- (b) training, or informational material furnished to an employee of an institution of higher education as an integral part of a training session, if that training session contributes to the professional development of the employee; or
- (c) money from a student loan lender that is given to the institution of higher education, outside the office of student financial aid, for a philanthropic purpose and not for the

purpose of securing a benefit relating to student lending for the student loan lender, including, but not limited to, money for:

- (1) scholarships, grants, work study funds, or similar types of awards that are passed directly on to students;
- (2) any building, room, facility, or equipment for a department other than the department in which the office of student financial services is located;
- (3) naming a facility or program in accordance with applicable naming regulations and policies adopted by the institution; or
- (4) programs or operations other than those related to the office of student financial services. Money donated as described in this section may not have any direct connection or benefit to any institution employee involved in decisions relating to the offering of student loan products and may not be considered by the institution in the assessment of a lender in the student loan process.

Higher education expenses – includes:

- (a) tuition and fees charged by an institution of higher education; and
- (b) costs incurred in connection with attending an institution of higher education for room, board, books, supplies, transportation, and miscellaneous personal expenses.

High risk student loan – a student loan made pursuant to a high risk student loan agreement.

High risk student loan agreement – any agreement between a student loan lender and an institution of higher education under which the lender provides student loans to students of the institution who have a poor credit history or no credit history and who would not otherwise be eligible for a student loan.

Lender list – a list of one or more recommended or suggested student loan lenders that an institution of higher education makes available for use, in print or any other medium or form, by borrowers, prospective borrowers who attend or have indicated an intent to attend the institution, or members of the public.

Revenue sharing – any arrangement under which a student loan lender pays an institution of higher education or an affiliated entity or organization of the institution a percentage of the principal of student loans directed toward the lender from a borrower for higher education expenses related to attending the institution.

Student loan –

- (a) any loan that is made, insured, or guaranteed under Title IV, Higher Education Act of 1965 (Pub.L. No. 89-329), as amended;
- (b) a high-risk student loan; or
- (c) any private loan issued by a student loan lender that requires all or part of the loan proceeds to be used to assist a person in paying higher education expenses.

Student loan lender –

- (a) any person who is in the business of, independently or through an affiliate:
 - (1) making, brokering, arranging, or accepting applications for student loans; or

- (2) a combination of activities described by (a)(1) above;
- (b) any entity or association of entities that guarantees student loans, except for the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation or any similarly structured entity; or
- (c) any industry, trade, or professional association or other entity that receives money from any entity or association of entities described in (a) or (b) above.

11.01 Collaboration Among System Academic Institutions

Revised November 9, 2023 (MO -2023)

Next Scheduled Review: November 9, 2028

Click to view [Revision History](#).



Policy Summary

This policy requires that universities (academic institutions) of The Texas A&M University System create collaborative agreements between academic institutions, colleges, departments, or degree programs that can provide a higher level of service to students and the community while efficiently using institutional resources.

Policy

1. Presidents of the academic institutions are charged to develop collaborative programs that achieve the highest effective utilization of the resources of the academic institutions and respond most fully to the needs of students.
2. Individual departments or colleges at any two or more of the academic institutions are permitted to make collaborative arrangements for handling the programs of study for students enrolled at their institutions. Each collaborative arrangement is to be in written form and must be approved by the president or designee at each academic institution.
3. Collaborative arrangements should be based on the principles that course content and quality are mutually acceptable, that facilities are adequate and that details of the arrangements are agreed upon in advance of their application. The following operating guidelines apply to all collaborative arrangements:
 - 3.1 Program arrangements must be consistent with authorities for degree programs and course inventories established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.
 - 3.2 The student may maintain registration at either academic institution. If credit for any course or work taken at a secondary academic institution is to be through student registration in an appropriate course at the primary academic institution (such as graduate special problems), the dean or other appropriate official of the secondary academic institution certifies the course grade to the dean or other appropriate official of the primary academic institution by letter or by form adopted for this purpose.
 - 3.3 Students doing work at a secondary academic institution comply with all appropriate rules of the secondary academic institution as applicable.

- 3.4 Students pay all applicable fees at the academic institution at which they register as outlined in the collaborative agreement.
- 3.5 Students on a fellowship or in receipt of financial assistance at the primary academic institution may continue receiving such assistance, if otherwise appropriate, while doing research in a laboratory or taking courses at a secondary academic institution.
- 3.6 Where appropriate, collaborating departments agree on matters which facilitate the collaboration, such as:
- (a) use of faculty between academic institutions for teaching courses or for serving on examining committees;
 - (b) joint filing of degree plans;
 - (c) waiver of transfer credit restrictions;
 - (d) creating financial aid consortiums to allow students to remain eligible for financial aid based upon total semester credit hour enrollment between the academic institutions; and
 - (e) other items germane to the particular program situation.
-

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

Academic Affairs
(979) 458-6072



11.03 Shortened Courses

Revised November 9, 2023 (MO -2023)

Next Scheduled Review: November 9, 2028

Click to view [Revision History](#).

Policy Summary

This policy provides the universities (academic institutions) of The Texas A&M University System with the necessary guidelines by which to measure the number of contact hours required for each semester credit hour offered by the academic institution for traditional and non-traditional courses and reemphasizes the expectations of academic quality and rigor for courses offered by the academic institutions in a shortened format.

Definitions

Click to view [Definitions](#).

Policy

1. Academic institutions must be guided by the following Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board rule concerning the minimum length of courses:
 - 1.1 The minimum length for traditionally delivered three semester credit hour courses will be as follows:
 - 1.1.1 All shortened face-to-face courses must consist of the same number of class contact hours as similar three-hour courses offered in a regular session or summer session: that is, normally 45 to 48 contact hours. Courses must also have the same objectives, requirements and quality of instruction as regular length courses.
 - 1.1.2 Students should not carry more courses at a time in a shortened format than will give them total credit of one semester credit hour per week of instruction.
 - 1.1.3 Academic institutions may offer courses in a non-traditional format, such as through the Internet or in a shortened intensive format such as competency-based education or prior learning assessment strategies, which does not meet contact hour requirements if the course/strategy has been reviewed by a faculty review committee and determined to have equivalent learning outcomes to a traditionally delivered course.

- 1.1.4 All requirements for three semester credit hour courses must apply proportionately to courses for one, two, four or other semester credit hour values.
2. Academic institution presidents develop guidelines necessary to implement and assure compliance with this policy. Any exceptions to Section 1.1.2 must be included in the guidelines.

Member Rule Requirement

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

Academic Affairs
(979) 458-6072

System Policy *11.03, Shortened Courses*

Definitions

Credit hour – for purposes of the application of this policy and in accordance with federal regulations, a credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates:

1. Not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours out of class student work each week for approximately 15 weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or 10-12 weeks for one-quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or
2. At least an equivalent amount of work as required and outlined above for other academic activities as established by the institution including laboratory work, internships, practicums, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours. (SACSCOC, 2018).

Shortened format course – a term to describe a course for which academic credit is given and for which the elapsed time from the first class meeting until the last class meeting or examination period is less than a normal semester or summer session term.

Traditionally delivered course – a term to describe a face-to-face course in which students and instructor meet at a regular time over a fifteen-week semester for a total of between 45 and 48 contact hours.

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Ray Bonilla, General Counsel
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Non-substantive Revisions to System Policy *01.01, System Policies and Regulations, and Member Rules and Procedures*

Proposed Board Action:

Approve non-substantive revisions to System Policy *01.01, System Policies and Regulations, and Member Rules and Procedures*.

Background Information:

This agenda item proposes non-substantive revisions to this policy subsequent to its routine, five-year certification review. This policy reflects stylistic revisions to conform to system style guidelines and clarifying language in Section 8 to revise where to access member rules.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

None.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The board's adoption, maintenance and revision of system policies advances all eight Strategic Plan Imperatives by providing policy direction to the member institutions and agencies.

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Office of General Counsel

August 31, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of Non-substantive Revisions to System Policy *01.01, System Policies and Regulations, and Member Rules and Procedures*

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The revisions to System Policy *01.01, System Policies and Regulations, and Member Rules and Procedures*, as shown in the attached exhibit, are approved, effective immediately.”

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Approval Recommended:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

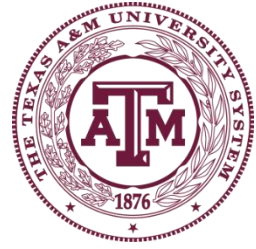
01.01 System Policies and Regulations, and Member Rules and Procedures

~~Revised November 15, 2018 (MO-203-2018)~~

~~Revised November 9, 2023 (MO-2023)~~

Next Scheduled Review: ~~November 15, 2023~~ November 9, 2028

Click to view [Revision History](#).



Policy Summary

Official actions taken by the Board of Regents (board) of The Texas A&M University System (system), each member (including the System Offices) and the member's respective administrators, employees, agents, and students are governed by applicable federal and state laws, board bylaws, system policies, system regulations, and member rules and -procedures.

Definitions

Click to view [Definitions](#).

Policy

The official actions of the board, each member and the member's respective administrators, employees, agents, and students are governed by the following:

1. FEDERAL AND STATE LAW

All policies of the system are subject to all relevant laws, rules and regulations of the federal government and the government of the state of Texas. It is the policy of the board to comply with federal and state laws, rules and regulations at all times. Any policy, regulation, rule, or procedure found to be in conflict with a federal or state law, rule or regulation ~~will be~~ null and void to the extent of the conflict.

2. BOARD BYLAWS

Board bylaws govern the organization and conduct of board activities. The board requires its members to comply with all board bylaws at all times.

3. SYSTEM POLICIES

System policies guide the system by incorporating the board's philosophies, expectations and priorities. System policies create administrative structures, set priorities, delegate authority,

assign responsibility, ensure accountability, and define reporting requirements. System policies should be concise and understandable and contain minimal detail.

3.1 The board ~~will~~formulates, updates, adopts, and publishes policies to establish direction for the system. The chancellor is responsible for the implementation of the policies adopted by the board.

3.2 The chancellor is responsible for the periodic review and recommendations to the board on the adoption of new policies and/or the revision of current policies. Each policy must be reviewed at least every five years. All policies are subject to review at any time on special call by any member of the board or on the recommendation of the chancellor. The chancellor or designee ~~will be~~is responsible for maintaining an updated copy of system policies.

4. SYSTEM REGULATIONS

System regulations ~~will~~include specific directives and reporting requirements needed to implement system policies and interpretations where issues are not covered or are unclear in system policies. System regulations may also be used to communicate uniform guidelines established by the chancellor on matters of overall system concern that are not specifically addressed in system policies and to provide for uniform compliance with fiscal, academic, research, human resources, and other management standards and requirements imposed from federal or state law or external administrative agency rule.

4.1 The chancellor ~~will~~establishes system regulations. System regulations are null and void to the extent they conflict with system policies.

4.2 Each regulation must be reviewed at least every five years. All regulations are subject to review at any time on special call by the chancellor.

5. MEMBER RULES

Member rules supplement system policies and regulations and are established at the member level. Rules should be concise and understandable and contain minimal operational details.

5.1 The member chief executive officers (CEOs) must establish member rules **under the following conditions:**

- (a) when required by a policy or regulation;
- (b) when directed by the board chair or chancellor; or
- (c) for matters unique to the member at the discretion of each member CEO.

5.2 Member-required rules must be submitted to System Offices within six months of the related policy's or regulation's publication, or board chair's or chancellor's request.

5.3 Rules must not duplicate policies or regulations, but rather provide ~~the~~additional guidance specific to the member.

- 5.4 Drafts of new member rules, as well as revisions to existing member rules, must be submitted to System Offices for review, which includes Office of General Counsel review for legal sufficiency and consistency with system policies and regulations, and final approval by the chancellor. Member rules are null and void to the extent they conflict with system policies or system regulations.

6. MEMBER PROCEDURES

Member procedures ~~will~~ implement system policies, regulations and member rules at the member level.

- 6.1 Each member CEO ~~will~~ establishes procedures at his/her discretion for matters unique to the members.
- 6.2 Procedures must not duplicate policies, regulations or rules, but rather provide operational details specific to the member.
- 6.3 Member procedures are null and void to the extent they conflict with system policies, system regulations or member rules.

7. COMPLIANCE WITH SYSTEM POLICIES, REGULATIONS, AND MEMBER RULES AND PROCEDURES

Each member and the member's respective administrators, employees, agents, and students must comply with all system policies, system regulations and applicable member rules and procedures at all times. Noncompliance with system policies, system regulations and applicable member rules and procedures may be considered grounds for disciplinary action up to and including termination of employees or expulsion of students.

8. SYSTEM POLICY AND, REGULATION ~~AND MEMBER RULE~~ LIBRARY

- 8.1 The System Policy and, Regulation ~~and Member Rule~~ Library, composed of all system policies and, system regulations ~~and member rules~~, ~~will be~~ are is published, updated regularly and maintained on the system policy website. Member rules may be accessed from member websites through links on the system policy website. Each policy, regulation and rule must bear the date of its most recent revision. Members are responsible for any desired reproduction and internal distribution of copies.
- 8.2 It is the responsibility of the chancellor and each CEO to ensure that:
- (a) system policies, system regulations, and member rules and procedures, and all updates to such items are readily available to all employees; and
 - (b) all employees are trained in the application of the policies, regulations, rules and procedures that are pertinent to their responsibilities.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

~~System~~ Policy Office
(979) 458-6038

01.01 System Policies and Regulations, and Member Rules and Procedures

Revised November 9, 2023 (MO -2023)
Next Scheduled Review: November 9, 2028
Click to view [Revision History](#).



Policy Summary

Official actions taken by the Board of Regents (board) of The Texas A&M University System (system), each member (including the System Offices) and the member's respective administrators, employees, agents, and students are governed by applicable federal and state laws, board bylaws, system policies, system regulations, and member rules and procedures.

Definitions

Click to view [Definitions](#).

Policy

The official actions of the board, each member and the member's respective administrators, employees, agents, and students are governed by the following:

1. FEDERAL AND STATE LAW

All policies of the system are subject to all relevant laws, rules and regulations of the federal government and the government of the state of Texas. It is the policy of the board to comply with federal and state laws, rules and regulations at all times. Any policy, regulation, rule, or procedure found to be in conflict with a federal or state law, rule or regulation is null and void to the extent of the conflict.

2. BOARD BYLAWS

Board bylaws govern the organization and conduct of board activities. The board requires its members to comply with all board bylaws at all times.

3. SYSTEM POLICIES

System policies guide the system by incorporating the board's philosophies, expectations and priorities. System policies create administrative structures, set priorities, delegate authority,

assign responsibility, ensure accountability, and define reporting requirements. System policies should be concise and understandable and contain minimal detail.

- 3.1 The board formulates, updates, adopts, and publishes policies to establish direction for the system. The chancellor is responsible for the implementation of the policies adopted by the board.
- 3.2 The chancellor is responsible for the periodic review and recommendations to the board on the adoption of new policies and/or the revision of current policies. Each policy must be reviewed at least every five years. All policies are subject to review at any time on special call by any member of the board or on the recommendation of the chancellor. The chancellor or designee is responsible for maintaining an updated copy of system policies.

4. SYSTEM REGULATIONS

System regulations include specific directives and reporting requirements needed to implement system policies and interpretations where issues are not covered or are unclear in system policies. System regulations may also be used to communicate uniform guidelines established by the chancellor on matters of overall system concern that are not specifically addressed in system policies and to provide for uniform compliance with fiscal, academic, research, human resources, and other management standards and requirements imposed from federal or state law or external administrative agency rule.

- 4.1 The chancellor establishes system regulations. System regulations are null and void to the extent they conflict with system policies.
- 4.2 Each regulation must be reviewed at least every five years. All regulations are subject to review at any time on special call by the chancellor.

5. MEMBER RULES

Member rules supplement system policies and regulations and are established at the member level. Rules should be concise and understandable and contain minimal operational details.

- 5.1 The member chief executive officers (CEOs) must establish member rules **under the following conditions:**
 - (a) when required by a policy or regulation;
 - (b) when directed by the board chair or chancellor; or
 - (c) for matters unique to the member at the discretion of each member CEO.
- 5.2 Member-required rules must be submitted to System Offices within six months of the related policy's or regulation's publication, or board chair's or chancellor's request.
- 5.3 Rules must not duplicate policies or regulations, but rather provide additional guidance specific to the member.

- 5.4 Drafts of new member rules, as well as revisions to existing member rules, must be submitted to System Offices for review, which includes Office of General Counsel review for legal sufficiency and consistency with system policies and regulations, and final approval by the chancellor. Member rules are null and void to the extent they conflict with system policies or system regulations.

6. MEMBER PROCEDURES

Member procedures implement system policies, regulations and member rules at the member level.

- 6.1 Each member CEO establishes procedures at his/her discretion for matters unique to the members.
- 6.2 Procedures must not duplicate policies, regulations or rules, but rather provide operational details specific to the member.
- 6.3 Member procedures are null and void to the extent they conflict with system policies, system regulations or member rules.

7. COMPLIANCE WITH SYSTEM POLICIES, REGULATIONS AND MEMBER RULES AND PROCEDURES

Each member and the member's respective administrators, employees, agents, and students must comply with all system policies, system regulations and applicable member rules and procedures at all times. Noncompliance with system policies, system regulations and applicable member rules and procedures may be considered grounds for disciplinary action up to and including termination of employees or expulsion of students.

8. SYSTEM POLICY AND REGULATION LIBRARY

- 8.1 The System Policy and Regulation Library, composed of all system policies and system regulations, is published, updated regularly and maintained on the system policy website. Member rules may be accessed from member websites through links on the system policy website. Each policy, regulation and rule must bear the date of its most recent revision. Members are responsible for any desired reproduction and internal distribution of copies.
- 8.2 It is the responsibility of the chancellor and each CEO to ensure that:
- (a) system policies, system regulations, and member rules and procedures, and all updates to such items are readily available to all employees; and
 - (b) all employees are trained in the application of the policies, regulations, rules and procedures that are pertinent to their responsibilities.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

Policy Office
(979) 458-6038

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

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

Subject: Approval of Non-substantive Revisions to Policies *13.04, Student Travel, 28.03, Vending Machines* and *32.01, Employee Complaint and Appeal Procedures*

Proposed Board Action:

Approve non-substantive revisions to System Policy *13.04, Student Travel* and *32.01, Employee Complaint and Appeal Procedures*.

Background Information:

The purpose of this agenda item is to propose non-substantive revisions to System Policies *13.04, Student Travel* and *32.01, Employee Complaint and Appeal Procedures* in response to these policies' routine, five-year certification reviews. Revisions to the policies are listed below:

Policy 13.04

Section 2.1 clarifying language related to safety issues. Additional minor edits were made to conform to style guidelines.

Policy 28.03

Only stylistic changes have been made in this policy.

Policy 32.01

Section 4 - replacing "veteran" terminology with "military" per SB 1376 (military employment preference). Additional minor edits were made to conform to style guidelines.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

None.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The board's adoption, maintenance and revision of system policies advances all eight Strategic Plan Imperatives by providing policy direction to the member institutions and agencies.

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs
August 31, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of Non-substantive Revisions to Policies *13.04, Student Travel, 28.03, Vending Machines* and *32.01, Employee Complaint and Appeal Procedures*

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The non-substantive revisions to System Policies *13.04, Student Travel, 28.03, Vending Machines* and *32.01, Employee Complaint and Appeal Procedures*, as shown in the attached exhibits, are approved, effective immediately.”

Respectfully submitted,

Phillip Ray
Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs

Approval Recommended:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer



13.04 Student Travel

November 9, 2023 (MO -2023)

Revised November 15, 2018 (MO-238-2018)

Next Scheduled Review: November ~~15, 2023~~ 9, 2028

Click to view [Revision History](#).

Policy Summary

The Texas Education Code requires the adoption of a policy for student travel meeting certain criteria. Each university (academic institution) of The Texas A&M University System (system) must adopt a rule governing certain student travel which must be submitted to the Board of Regents (board) for approval to meet this requirement. This policy provides the framework for the development of student travel rules tailored to the requirements of each campus.

Policy

1. GENERAL

Each academic institution must adopt a rule governing student travel. The rule must specifically address enrolled students who travel more than 25 miles from campus to an activity or event that is organized and sponsored by the academic institution and that is:

- (a) funded by the academic institution, and travel is undertaken using a vehicle owned or leased by the academic institution; or
- (b) travel required by an organization registered at the academic institution.

2. STUDENT TRAVEL RULES

The system recognizes that each academic institution has unique requirements regarding travel. However, each rule must address the following areas:

- ~~(1a)~~ different modes of travel likely to be used by students; and
- ~~(2)~~ safety issues related to student travel, including:
 - ~~(ba)~~ use of seat belts and other safety devices;
 - ~~(eb)~~ passenger capacity of the vehicle used;
 - ~~(dc)~~ qualifications and training of the operator of the vehicle; and
 - ~~(ed)~~ fatigue of the operator at the time of travel.

3. RULE REVIEW PROCESS

Prior to final adoption of the rule, each academic institution must seek advice and comments from faculty and students of the academic institution. The final rules and any future amendments or changes ~~will be~~ are reviewed for legal sufficiency by the System Office of General Counsel. The policy and the final new rules ~~will be~~ are approved by the system board and provided to The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. After the rule has been adopted and approved, it must be published in the academic institution's catalog and posted on the academic institution's website.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[Tex. Educ. Code § 51.950](#)

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is required to supplement this policy. See Sections 1, 2 and 3.

Contact Office

~~System Office of~~ Risk Management
(979) 458-6330

28.03 Vending Machines

Revised November 9, 2023 (MO -2023)

Revised November 15, 2018 (MO 238-2018)

Next Scheduled Review: November 15, 2023November 9, 2028

Click to view [Revision History](#).



Policy Summary

The Board of Regents (board) of The Texas A&M University System (system) is responsible for approving all member vending machine contracts. This policy provides specific authorizations and delegations of authority to the member chief executive officers (CEOs) with respect to the approval of these vending machine contracts.

Policy

1. Vending machines may be located on properties under the control of the board and its member universities and agencies in buildings and such outdoor areas as are appropriate and do not interfere with the regular business activities of the respective member.
2. Member CEOs are authorized to contract for vending machines on properties owned or leased by the member. The contracts ~~will be~~ are in accordance with procedures established by the board and contract administration delegation adopted pursuant to System Policy 25.07, *Contract Administration*.
3. Members ~~will~~ comply with all applicable reporting requirements as established by state law.
4. CEOs must submit annually to the board a report summarizing the vendor contracts in place, the amounts received from such contracts, and the disposition of such funds.
5. Commissions received from vending machines are allocated to the respective member to be used for institutional development and support. A portion of such revenue may be assessed for support of the board office and for System Offices support, at the discretion of the chancellor.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[Tex. Gov't Code § 2203.005 – Vending Machines Authorized](#)

[System Policy 25.07, *Contract Administration*](#)

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

~~System Office of~~ Budgets and Accounting
(979) 458-6100

32.01 Employee Complaint and Appeal Procedures

~~Revised August 26, 2021 (MO-148-2021)~~

~~Revised November 9, 2023 (MO-2023)~~

Next Scheduled Review: ~~August 26, 2026~~ November 9, 2028

Click to view [Revision History](#).



Policy Summary

Employee complaints against any member of The Texas A&M University System (system) are resolved pursuant to regulations established by the chancellor.

Policy

1. The chancellor establishes comprehensive regulations for the resolution of all faculty, staff, student and other complaints against the system or any of its members, including appeals of employment actions.
 2. The chancellor may establish procedures to determine if a complaint is frivolous and, if found to be frivolous, the complaint is dismissed.
 3. Employees of the system must have all protection offered by federal and state laws, and procedures for reporting violations of law must be established in system regulations.
 4. An individual entitled to a ~~veteran's~~ military or former foster child's employment preference under Texas Government Code, Chapters 657 and 672, may appeal a member's decision relating to hiring the individual or retaining the individual if the member reduces its workforce. Such appeals must follow the complaint procedures found in System Regulation 32.01.01, *Complaint and Appeal Process for Faculty Members* for faculty positions, and System Regulation 32.01.02, *Complaint and Appeal Process for Nonfaculty Employees* for nonfaculty positions. The system Board of Regents delegates its power to hear and decide such appeals to the respective system employee(s) designated in these system regulations.
-

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[Tex. Gov't Code Ch. 657](#)

[Tex. Gov't Code Ch. 672](#)

[Regulation 32.01.01, Complaint and Appeal Process for Faculty Members](#)

[Regulation 32.01.02, Complaint and Appeal Process for Nonfaculty Employees](#)

[Policy 32.02, Discipline and Dismissal of Employees](#)

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

~~System Offices~~ Human Resources
(979) 458-6169



13.04 Student Travel

Revised [November 9, 2023](#) (MO -2023)

Next Scheduled Review: November 9, 2028

Click to view [Revision History](#).

Policy Summary

The Texas Education Code requires the adoption of a policy for student travel meeting certain criteria. Each university (academic institution) of The Texas A&M University System (system) must adopt a rule governing certain student travel which must be submitted to the Board of Regents (board) for approval to meet this requirement. This policy provides the framework for the development of student travel rules tailored to the requirements of each campus.

Policy

1. GENERAL

Each academic institution must adopt a rule governing student travel. The rule must specifically address enrolled students who travel more than 25 miles from campus to an activity or event that is organized and sponsored by the academic institution and that is:

- (a) funded by the academic institution, and travel is undertaken using a vehicle owned or leased by the academic institution; or
- (b) travel required by an organization registered at the academic institution.

2. STUDENT TRAVEL RULES

The system recognizes that each academic institution has unique requirements regarding travel. However, each rule must address the following areas:

- (1) different modes of travel likely to be used by students; and
- (2) safety issues related to student travel, including:
 - (a) use of seat belts and other safety devices;
 - (b) passenger capacity of the vehicle used;
 - (c) qualifications and training of the operator of the vehicle; and
 - (d) fatigue of the operator at the time of travel.

3. RULE REVIEW PROCESS

Prior to final adoption of the rule, each academic institution must seek advice and comments from faculty and students of the academic institution. The final rules and any future amendments or changes are reviewed for legal sufficiency by the System Office of General Counsel. The policy and the final new rules are approved by the system board and provided to The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. After the rule has been adopted and approved, it must be published in the academic institution's catalog and posted on the academic institution's website.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[Tex. Educ. Code § 51.950](#)

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is required to supplement this policy. See Sections 1, 2 and 3.

Contact Office

Risk Management
(979) 458-6330

28.03 Vending Machines

Revised November 9, 2023 (MO -2023)
Next Scheduled Review: November 9, 2028
Click to view [Revision History](#).



Policy Summary

The Board of Regents (board) of The Texas A&M University System (system) is responsible for approving all member vending machine contracts. This policy provides specific authorizations and delegations of authority to the member chief executive officers (CEOs) with respect to the approval of these vending machine contracts.

Policy

1. Vending machines may be located on properties under the control of the board and its member universities and agencies in buildings and such outdoor areas as are appropriate and do not interfere with the regular business activities of the respective member.
 2. Member CEOs are authorized to contract for vending machines on properties owned or leased by the member. The contracts are in accordance with procedures established by the board and contract administration delegation adopted pursuant to System Policy 25.07, *Contract Administration*.
 3. Members comply with all applicable reporting requirements as established by state law.
 4. CEOs must submit annually to the board a report summarizing the vendor contracts in place, the amounts received from such contracts, and the disposition of such funds.
 5. Commissions received from vending machines are allocated to the respective member to be used for institutional development and support. A portion of such revenue may be assessed for support of the board office and for System Offices support, at the discretion of the chancellor.
-

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[Tex. Gov't Code § 2203.005 – Vending Machines Authorized](#)

[System Policy 25.07, *Contract Administration*](#)

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

Budgets and Accounting
(979) 458-6100

32.01 Employee Complaint and Appeal Procedures

Revised [November 9, 2023](#) (MO -2023)
Next Scheduled Review: November 9, 2028
Click to view [Revision History](#).



Policy Summary

Employee complaints against any member of The Texas A&M University System (system) are resolved pursuant to regulations established by the chancellor.

Policy

1. The chancellor establishes comprehensive regulations for the resolution of all faculty, staff, student and other complaints against the system or any of its members, including appeals of employment actions.
 2. The chancellor may establish procedures to determine if a complaint is frivolous and, if found to be frivolous, the complaint is dismissed.
 3. Employees of the system must have all protection offered by federal and state laws, and procedures for reporting violations of law must be established in system regulations.
 4. An individual entitled to a military or former foster child's employment preference under Texas Government Code, Chapters 657 and 672, may appeal a member's decision relating to hiring the individual or retaining the individual if the member reduces its workforce. Such appeals must follow the complaint procedures found in System Regulation 32.01.01, *Complaint and Appeal Process for Faculty Members* for faculty positions, and System Regulation 32.01.02, *Complaint and Appeal Process for Nonfaculty Employees* for nonfaculty positions. The system Board of Regents delegates its power to hear and decide such appeals to the respective system employee(s) designated in these system regulations.
-

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[Tex. Gov't Code Ch. 657](#)

[Tex. Gov't Code Ch. 672](#)

[Regulation 32.01.01, Complaint and Appeal Process for Faculty Members](#)

[Regulation 32.01.02, Complaint and Appeal Process for Nonfaculty Employees](#)

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

Human Resources
(979) 458-6169

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 Non-substantive Revisions to System Policy 23.02, *Debt Management*

Proposed Board Action:

Approve non-substantive revisions to System Policies 23.02, *Debt Management*.

Background Information:

The purpose of this agenda item is to propose non-substantive revisions to policy 23.02 in response to this policy' routine, five-year certification review. All policies reflect stylistic changes, including cleaning up terminology and the addition of new state-authorized debt entitled "capital construction assistance projects.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

None.

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Deputy Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer
September 11, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of Non-substantive Revisions to System Policy 23.02, *Debt Management*

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The revisions to System Policy 23.02, *Debt Management*, as shown in the attached exhibit, are approved, effective immediately.”

Respectfully submitted,

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

Approval Recommended:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel



23.02 Debt Management

~~Revised November 15, 2018 (MO 235-2018)~~

~~Revised November 9, 2023 (MO -2023)~~

Next Scheduled Review: November ~~15, 2023~~ 9, 2028

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 indebtedness of The Texas A&M University System (system).

This policy also delineates the roles and responsibilities of the board, chancellor, and staff regarding the management of system indebtedness.

Policy

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 As provided in the Texas Education Code, each member of the board has the legal responsibilities of a fiduciary in the management of system indebtedness. All debt programs ~~will be~~ are made in accordance with applicable state and federal regulations. The board ~~will~~ approves the issuance of all system bond indebtedness.
- 1.2 The chancellor or authorized representative is authorized to issue short-term indebtedness up to the authorized amounts approved in the resolutions for Revenue Financing System (RFS) and Permanent University Fund (PUF) programs. The short-term debt programs are utilized to purchase equipment and to provide interim financing for capital projects during construction. All conversions to long-term indebtedness ~~will be~~ are approved by the board.
- 1.3 The treasurer or authorized representative of the system is delegated the authority to designate a financing team consisting of bond counsel, financial advisor and underwriters and is responsible for assuring that all bond covenants are in compliance and that all necessary approvals, certifications and authorizations are fully documented and made available to the board and to all bondholders. Pricing of bond issues may be handled by the Office of Treasury Services.
- 1.4 The Office of Treasury Services is responsible for assuring that all debt service payments are made in a timely manner to the appropriate paying agents.
- 1.5 Debt service funding is the responsibility of each member participating in the RFS and the HEF programs. PUF debt service ~~will be~~ is paid from the Available University Fund (AUF).

- 1.6 The chancellor or authorized representative is authorized and directed to execute Reimbursement Certificates, as required by U.S. Treasury Regulations, Section 1.150-2, in connection with projects the board intends to debt finance.

2. RFS DEBT MANAGEMENT

2.1 General

All members are eligible to participate in the RFS.

2.2 Guidelines

- 2.2.1 Buildings and other major capital projects ~~will be~~ are financed for a period up to the lesser of the project's estimated useful life or 40 years.
- 2.2.2 Equipment ~~will be~~ can be financed for a period up to 120% of its useful life.
- 2.2.3 To the extent required by law, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board approval ~~will~~ must be obtained and debt ~~will~~ may not be issued for a project prior to receiving such approval.
- 2.2.4 Individual revenue streams considered for proposed debt service must meet a 1.15 debt coverage ratio test, unless the debt is being issued as ~~"tuition revenue"~~ or "capital construction assistance program" debt, in which case it must meet a 1.00 debt coverage ratio test. Debt coverage is defined as Total Revenues divided by Total Debt Service.
- 2.2.5 Debt financing resources ~~will be~~ are approved by the board in accordance with System Policy 51.04, *Delegation of Authority on Construction Projects*. Revenue stream certification by the members, the non-default certificate from the Office of Treasury Services and all requirements of the Master Resolution ~~will be~~ are included in agenda items submitted to the board.
- 2.2.6 For minor construction projects, as defined by System Policy 51.04, to be financed through the RFS, the chancellor or authorized representative is authorized and directed to make the finding, on behalf of the board, required by Section 5(a) of the Master Resolution Authorizing the Revenue Financing System. A copy of the finding for each minor construction project ~~will~~ must be filed with the Office of Treasury Services.
- 2.2.7 If required, application to and approval from the Texas Bond Review Board for new long-term issues will be made after the board has approved the long-term debt issuance. Long-term debt issuances are also subject to approval of the Attorney General.

2.3 -Reporting

2.3.1 Certification by Members

Each member with debt outstanding ~~will~~ prepares a fiscal year-end certification. The certification, signed and approved by the chief financial officer (CFO) and

chief executive officer (CEO), ~~will be is~~ submitted to the Office of Treasury Services no later than December 15th of each year and ~~will be is~~ used by the Office of Treasury Services as input for reporting the status of the RFS to the system CFO, the chancellor and the board. The certification ~~will includes~~ the following:

2.3.1.1 A comparison of revenue projections with those actually collected in the previous year and an updated assessment of anticipated future revenues. If actual revenues were not sufficient, then an explanation as to why they were insufficient and the impact on the member's current and future ability to pay for its share of debt service ~~will be is~~ required;

2.3.1.2 verification that the member has sufficient legally available funds for the next fiscal year's principal and interest payments; and

2.3.1.3 verification that the member is in compliance with all bond covenants and board policies relative to the issuance of debt.

2.3.2 Report on the Status of the RFS

The Office of Treasury Services ~~will prepares~~ an annual report on the status of RFS obligations for the chancellor and the board. The report ~~will includes~~ the following:

2.3.2.1 the balance of RFS obligations outstanding at the beginning of the fiscal year and on the date of the report;

2.3.2.2 a listing of projected needs (by member and funding source) for the next year;

2.3.2.3 the amount of RFS obligations ~~that will be~~ necessary to fund the system's needs for the next year; and

2.3.2.4 a certification that members are current on debt service funding for RFS obligations outstanding. If a member is not in compliance, the steps being taken to bring the member into compliance ~~will be are~~ included and will be reported monthly until compliance is achieved.

3. PUF DEBT MANAGEMENT

3.1 General

The Texas A&M University System Offices, Texas A&M University, Prairie View A&M University, Tarleton State University, Texas A&M University at Galveston, Texas A&M University-San Antonio, Texas A&M University-Central Texas, Texas A&M Forest Service, Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station, Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service, and Texas A&M Transportation Institute are eligible to participate in PUF financing.

3.2 Guidelines

- 3.2.1 PUF debt proceeds may be used for acquiring land, constructing and equipping permanent improvements, major repair and rehabilitation of permanent improvements, acquiring capital equipment, library books and library materials, and refunding previously issued PUF indebtedness.
- 3.2.2 Buildings and other major capital projects ~~will be~~ are financed for a period up to the lesser of the project's estimated useful life or 30 years.
- 3.2.3 Equipment ~~will be~~ can be financed for a period up to 120% of its useful life.
- 3.2.4 The chancellor ~~will be~~ is responsible for a system-wide PUF equipment and minor construction projects funding appropriation in amounts approved by the board as part of the annual budget.
- 3.2.5 PUF bond proceeds ~~will cannot not~~ be used for maintenance, minor repairs, operating expenses, student housing, intercollegiate athletics, or auxiliary enterprises.
- 3.2.6 PUF bond proceeds may be used for major repair and rehabilitation of leased buildings or other permanent improvements, provided there is clear and adequate consideration to the system in the overall transaction, such as the existence of a lease of sufficient length to provide expected benefits which would justify the expenditure.
- 3.2.7 The indebtedness ~~will be~~ is payable solely out of the AUF and, except for refunding bonds, the debt ~~will be~~ is competitively bid. PUF bonds and notes ~~will be~~ are submitted for approval by the Attorney General as required.
- 3.2.8 The outstanding PUF debt of the system is limited by the Constitution to 10 percent of the cost value of the PUF, exclusive of real estate.

4. HEF DEBT MANAGEMENT

4.1 General

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Texas A&M International University, West Texas A&M University, Texas A&M University-Commerce and Texas A&M University-Texarkana are eligible to participate in the HEF financing program.

4.2 Guidelines

- 4.2.1 HEF debt proceeds may be used for acquiring land, constructing and equipping permanent improvements, major repair and rehabilitation of permanent improvements, acquiring capital equipment, library books and library materials, and refunding previously issued HEF indebtedness.
- 4.2.2 Indebtedness ~~will be~~ is payable with HEF appropriations. Maturities will not exceed ten years and the indebtedness ~~will be~~ is competitively bid. HEF indebtedness is subject to approval by the Attorney General.

- 4.2.3 No more than fifty percent of the annual HEF appropriation of a member ~~will~~ can be used for paying debt service on HEF indebtedness issued on behalf of the member.
- 4.2.4 HEF debt proceeds ~~will-cannot~~ be used for maintenance, minor repairs, operating expenses, student housing, intercollegiate athletics, or auxiliary enterprises.
- 4.2.5 HEF debt proceeds may be used for major repair and rehabilitation of leased buildings or other permanent improvements, provided there is clear and adequate consideration to the system in the overall transaction, such as the existence of a lease of sufficient length to provide expected benefits which would justify the expenditure.

5. INTEREST RATE MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 As provided in the Texas Education Code, Chapter 55 and Texas Government Code, Chapter 1371, the board has the authority to enter into interest rate management agreements including swap, basis, forward, option, cap, collar, floor, lock, and hedge transactions, similar transactions, or any combination of those types of transactions in conjunction with management of the system's RFS debt program.
- 5.2 Interest rate management transactions ~~will-may~~ be used for the purpose of reducing the cost of existing or planned debt, hedging the interest rate of existing or planned debt, or optimizing capital structure. Interest rate management transactions ~~will-may~~ not be entered into for speculative purposes.
- 5.3 In connection with the execution of an interest rate management transaction, the system must obtain independent advice with respect to such transaction from a financial advisor or swap advisor with experience in comparable interest rate management transactions.
- 5.4 The authorized representative ~~will-determines~~ that each interest rate management transaction entered into by the system conforms to this policy after reviewing a report prepared in accordance with Texas Government Code, Chapter 1371.
- 5.5 To the extent the system enters into an interest rate management transaction pursuant to which it may be required to pay a variable rate of interest, the authorized representative ~~will-must~~ consider at the time such transaction is executed what, if any, liquidity ~~will-be-is~~ necessary to ensure the payment of such obligations.
- 5.6 Counterparty Qualifications
 - 5.6.1 In order to qualify as an eligible counterparty, at the time of entry into an interest rate management transaction, a potential counterparty must (i) meet the requirements of Section 5.6.1.1 or Section 5.6.1.2 and (ii) satisfy the system's exposure limit described in Section 5.8.
 - 5.6.1.1 The counterparty ~~will-be-must be~~ rated at least AA- or Aa3 by two of the three nationally recognized credit rating agencies.

5.6.1.2 The counterparty ~~will be~~must be rated at least A or A2 by two of the three nationally recognized credit rating agencies and ~~will be~~is required to obtain credit enhancement from a third--party provider meeting the requirements of Section 5.6.1.1 with respect to its obligations under the interest rate management transaction.

5.6.2 Each counterparty to an interest rate management transaction must provide the authorized representative with a written disclosure of any payments made by the counterparty to another person to procure such interest -rate management transaction.

5.7 Methods for Awarding Interest Rate Management Transactions

5.7.1 In general, interest rate management transactions will be selected via competitive bids.

5.7.2 An authorized representative may determine to enter into an interest rate management transaction on a negotiated basis with counterparties meeting the requirements in Section 5.6.1 of this policy.

5.7.3 For interest rate management transactions that are not awarded through the competitive bidding process, each counterparty must provide the authorized representative with a written certification as required by Texas Government Code, Chapter 1371.

5.8 Managing Interest Rate Management Transaction Risks

Certain risks ~~will be~~are created when the system enters into interest rate management transactions. These risks, including counterparty, amortization, basis, credit, termination, and tax risk, ~~will be~~are considered when entering into an interest rate management transaction.

5.8.1 The system's exposure to counterparty ~~will be~~is calculated as the sum of mark-to-market values of all interest rate management transactions between the counterparty and the system, net of collateral posted by the counterparty.

5.8.2 The system ~~will~~must not enter into an interest rate management transaction with an otherwise qualified counterparty unless the system's exposure, calculated as described in Section 5.8.1, is less than the threshold shown for the counterparty's rating category in the following chart.

Unenhanced Credit Rating		Exposure Limit
AAA	Aaa	\$30 million
AA+	Aa1	\$25 million
AA	Aa2	\$20 million
AA-	Aa3	\$15 million
A+	A1	\$10 million
A	A2	\$5 million

The counterparty's credit rating category ~~will be~~ is determined by the counterparty's lowest prevailing credit rating by one of the three nationally recognized credit rating agencies.

- 5.8.3 If a counterparty's credit rating is downgraded and results in the mark-to-market value exceeding the exposure limit, the counterparty ~~will~~ must provide collateral, obtain other credit enhancement acceptable to the authorized representative, or terminate a portion of the interest rate management transaction to ensure compliance with this policy.

5.9 Reporting Interest Rate Management Transactions

At least annually, an authorized representative ~~will~~ must present to the board a written report, signed by an authorized representative, on all outstanding interest rate management agreement transactions which addresses the requirements of Texas Government Code, Chapter 1371.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[Tex. Const. art. VII, § 17](#)

[Tex. Const. art. VII, § 18](#)

[Tex. Gov't Code Ch. 1371](#)

[Tex. Educ. Code Ch. 55](#)

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

~~System Office of~~ Treasury Services
(979) 458-6330

23.02 Debt Management

Revised November 9, 2023 (MO -2023)

Next Scheduled Review: November 9, 2028

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 indebtedness of The Texas A&M University System (system).

This policy also delineates the roles and responsibilities of the board, chancellor, and staff regarding the management of system indebtedness.

Policy

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 As provided in the Texas Education Code, each member of the board has the legal responsibilities of a fiduciary in the management of system indebtedness. All debt programs are made in accordance with applicable state and federal regulations. The board approves the issuance of all system bond indebtedness.
- 1.2 The chancellor or authorized representative is authorized to issue short-term indebtedness up to the authorized amounts approved in the resolutions for Revenue Financing System (RFS) and Permanent University Fund (PUF) programs. The short-term debt programs are utilized to purchase equipment and to provide interim financing for capital projects during construction. All conversions to long-term indebtedness are approved by the board.
- 1.3 The treasurer or authorized representative of the system is delegated the authority to designate a financing team consisting of bond counsel, financial advisor and underwriters and is responsible for assuring that all bond covenants are in compliance and that all necessary approvals, certifications and authorizations are fully documented and made available to the board and to all bondholders. Pricing of bond issues may be handled by the Office of Treasury Services.
- 1.4 The Office of Treasury Services is responsible for assuring that all debt service payments are made in a timely manner to the appropriate paying agents.
- 1.5 Debt service funding is the responsibility of each member participating in the RFS and the HEF programs. PUF debt service is paid from the Available University Fund (AUF).
- 1.6 The chancellor or authorized representative is authorized and directed to execute Reimbursement Certificates, as required by U.S. Treasury Regulations, Section 1.150-2, in connection with projects the board intends to debt finance.

2. RFS DEBT MANAGEMENT

2.1 General

All members are eligible to participate in the RFS.

2.2 Guidelines

- 2.2.1 Buildings and other major capital projects are financed for a period up to the lesser of the project's estimated useful life or 40 years.
- 2.2.2 Equipment can be financed for a period up to 120% of its useful life.
- 2.2.3 To the extent required by law, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board approval must be obtained and debt may not be issued for a project prior to receiving such approval.
- 2.2.4 Individual revenue streams considered for proposed debt service must meet a 1.15 debt coverage ratio test, unless the debt is being issued as "tuition revenue" or "capital construction assistance program" debt, in which case it must meet a 1.00 debt coverage ratio test. Debt coverage is defined as Total Revenues divided by Total Debt Service.
- 2.2.5 Debt financing resources are approved by the board in accordance with System Policy *51.04, Delegation of Authority on Construction Projects*. Revenue stream certification by the members, the non-default certificate from the Office of Treasury Services and all requirements of the Master Resolution are included in agenda items submitted to the board.
- 2.2.6 For minor construction projects, as defined by System Policy *51.04*, to be financed through the RFS, the chancellor or authorized representative is authorized and directed to make the finding, on behalf of the board, required by Section 5(a) of the Master Resolution Authorizing the Revenue Financing System. A copy of the finding for each minor construction project must be filed with the Office of Treasury Services.
- 2.2.7 If required, application to and approval from the Texas Bond Review Board for new long-term issues will be made after the board has approved the long-term debt issuance. Long-term debt issuances are also subject to approval of the Attorney General.

2.3 Reporting

2.3.1 Certification by Members

Each member with debt outstanding prepares a fiscal year-end certification. The certification, signed and approved by the chief financial officer (CFO) and chief executive officer (CEO), is submitted to the Office of Treasury Services no later than December 15th of each year and is used by the Office of Treasury

Services as input for reporting the status of the RFS to the system CFO, the chancellor and the board. The certification includes the following:

- 2.3.1.1 A comparison of revenue projections with those actually collected in the previous year and an updated assessment of anticipated future revenues. If actual revenues were not sufficient, then an explanation as to why they were insufficient and the impact on the member's current and future ability to pay for its share of debt service is required;
- 2.3.1.2 verification that the member has sufficient legally available funds for the next fiscal year's principal and interest payments; and
- 2.3.1.3 verification that the member is in compliance with all bond covenants and board policies relative to the issuance of debt.

2.3.2 Report on the Status of the RFS

The Office of Treasury Services prepares an annual report on the status of RFS obligations for the chancellor and the board. The report includes the following:

- 2.3.2.1 the balance of RFS obligations outstanding at the beginning of the fiscal year and on the date of the report;
- 2.3.2.2 a listing of projected needs (by member and funding source) for the next year;
- 2.3.2.3 the amount of RFS obligations necessary to fund the system's needs for the next year; and
- 2.3.2.4 a certification that members are current on debt service funding for RFS obligations outstanding. If a member is not in compliance, the steps being taken to bring the member into compliance are included and will be reported monthly until compliance is achieved.

3. PUF DEBT MANAGEMENT

3.1 General

The Texas A&M University System Offices, Texas A&M University, Prairie View A&M University, Tarleton State University, Texas A&M University at Galveston, Texas A&M University-San Antonio, Texas A&M University-Central Texas, Texas A&M Forest Service, Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station, Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service, and Texas A&M Transportation Institute are eligible to participate in PUF financing.

3.2 Guidelines

- 3.2.1 PUF debt proceeds may be used for acquiring land, constructing and equipping permanent improvements, major repair and rehabilitation of permanent improvements, acquiring capital equipment, library books and library materials, and refunding previously issued PUF indebtedness.

- 3.2.2 Buildings and other major capital projects are financed for a period up to the lesser of the project's estimated useful life or 30 years.
- 3.2.3 Equipment can be financed for a period up to 120% of its useful life.
- 3.2.4 The chancellor is responsible for a system-wide PUF equipment and minor construction projects funding appropriation in amounts approved by the board as part of the annual budget.
- 3.2.5 PUF bond proceeds cannot be used for maintenance, minor repairs, operating expenses, student housing, intercollegiate athletics, or auxiliary enterprises.
- 3.2.6 PUF bond proceeds may be used for major repair and rehabilitation of leased buildings or other permanent improvements, provided there is clear and adequate consideration to the system in the overall transaction, such as the existence of a lease of sufficient length to provide expected benefits which would justify the expenditure.
- 3.2.7 The indebtedness is payable solely out of the AUF and, except for refunding bonds, the debt is competitively bid. PUF bonds and notes are submitted for approval by the Attorney General as required.
- 3.2.8 The outstanding PUF debt of the system is limited by the Constitution to 10 percent of the cost value of the PUF, exclusive of real estate.

4. HEF DEBT MANAGEMENT

4.1 General

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Texas A&M International University, West Texas A&M University, Texas A&M University-Commerce and Texas A&M University-Texarkana are eligible to participate in the HEF financing program.

4.2 Guidelines

- 4.2.1 HEF debt proceeds may be used for acquiring land, constructing and equipping permanent improvements, major repair and rehabilitation of permanent improvements, acquiring capital equipment, library books and library materials, and refunding previously issued HEF indebtedness.
- 4.2.2 Indebtedness is payable with HEF appropriations. Maturities will not exceed ten years and the indebtedness is competitively bid. HEF indebtedness is subject to approval by the Attorney General.
- 4.2.3 No more than fifty percent of the annual HEF appropriation of a member can be used for paying debt service on HEF indebtedness issued on behalf of the member.

- 4.2.4 HEF debt proceeds cannot be used for maintenance, minor repairs, operating expenses, student housing, intercollegiate athletics, or auxiliary enterprises.
- 4.2.5 HEF debt proceeds may be used for major repair and rehabilitation of leased buildings or other permanent improvements, provided there is clear and adequate consideration to the system in the overall transaction, such as the existence of a lease of sufficient length to provide expected benefits which would justify the expenditure.

5. INTEREST RATE MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 As provided in the Texas Education Code, Chapter 55 and Texas Government Code, Chapter 1371, the board has the authority to enter into interest rate management agreements including swap, basis, forward, option, cap, collar, floor, lock, and hedge transactions, similar transactions, or any combination of those types of transactions in conjunction with management of the system's RFS debt program.
- 5.2 Interest rate management transactions may be used for the purpose of reducing the cost of existing or planned debt, hedging the interest rate of existing or planned debt, or optimizing capital structure. Interest rate management transactions may not be entered into for speculative purposes.
- 5.3 In connection with the execution of an interest rate management transaction, the system must obtain independent advice with respect to such transaction from a financial advisor or swap advisor with experience in comparable interest rate management transactions.
- 5.4 The authorized representative determines that each interest rate management transaction entered into by the system conforms to this policy after reviewing a report prepared in accordance with Texas Government Code, Chapter 1371.
- 5.5 To the extent the system enters into an interest rate management transaction pursuant to which it may be required to pay a variable rate of interest, the authorized representative must consider at the time such transaction is executed what, if any, liquidity is necessary to ensure the payment of such obligations.
- 5.6 Counterparty Qualifications
 - 5.6.1 In order to qualify as an eligible counterparty, at the time of entry into an interest rate management transaction, a potential counterparty must (i) meet the requirements of Section 5.6.1.1 or Section 5.6.1.2 and (ii) satisfy the system's exposure limit described in Section 5.8.
 - 5.6.1.1 The counterparty must be rated at least AA- or Aa3 by two of the three nationally recognized credit rating agencies.
 - 5.6.1.2 The counterparty must be rated at least A or A2 by two of the three nationally recognized credit rating agencies and is required to obtain credit enhancement from a third-party provider meeting the requirements of Section 5.6.1.1 with respect to its obligations under the interest rate management transaction.

- 5.6.2 Each counterparty to an interest rate management transaction must provide the authorized representative with a written disclosure of any payments made by the counterparty to another person to procure such interest rate management transaction.

5.7 Methods for Awarding Interest Rate Management Transactions

- 5.7.1 In general, interest rate management transactions will be selected via competitive bids.
- 5.7.2 An authorized representative may determine to enter into an interest rate management transaction on a negotiated basis with counterparties meeting the requirements in Section 5.6.1 of this policy.
- 5.7.3 For interest rate management transactions that are not awarded through the competitive bidding process, each counterparty must provide the authorized representative with a written certification as required by Texas Government Code, Chapter 1371.

5.8 Managing Interest Rate Management Transaction Risks

Certain risks are created when the system enters into interest rate management transactions. These risks, including counterparty, amortization, basis, credit, termination, and tax risk, are considered when entering into an interest rate management transaction.

- 5.8.1 The system's exposure to counterparty is calculated as the sum of mark-to-market values of all interest rate management transactions between the counterparty and the system, net of collateral posted by the counterparty.
- 5.8.2 The system must not enter into an interest rate management transaction with an otherwise qualified counterparty unless the system's exposure, calculated as described in Section 5.8.1, is less than the threshold shown for the counterparty's rating category in the following chart.

Unenhanced Credit Rating		Exposure Limit
AAA	Aaa	\$30 million
AA+	Aa1	\$25 million
AA	Aa2	\$20 million
AA-	Aa3	\$15 million
A+	A1	\$10 million
A	A2	\$5 million

The counterparty's credit rating category is determined by the counterparty's lowest prevailing credit rating by one of the three nationally recognized credit rating agencies.

- 5.8.3 If a counterparty's credit rating is downgraded and results in the mark-to-market value exceeding the exposure limit, the counterparty must provide collateral, obtain other credit enhancement acceptable to the authorized representative, or

terminate a portion of the interest rate management transaction to ensure compliance with this policy.

5.9 Reporting Interest Rate Management Transactions

At least annually, an authorized representative must present to the board a written report, signed by an authorized representative, on all outstanding interest rate management agreement transactions which addresses the requirements of Texas Government Code, Chapter 1371.

Related Statutes, Policies or Requirements

[Tex. Const. art. VII, § 17](#)

[Tex. Const. art. VII, § 18](#)

[Tex. Gov't Code Ch. 1371](#)

[Tex. Educ. Code Ch. 55](#)

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

Treasury Services
(979) 458-6330

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: John Sharp, Chancellor
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Designation of the *Regents Professor Awards* and the *Regents Fellow Service Awards* for Exemplary Performance and Professional Service During Fiscal Year 2022-23

Proposed Board Action:

Grant the designation of Regents Professor to 14 faculty members and of Regents Fellow to 13 agency service, extension, and research professionals within The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) universities and agencies for exemplary performance and professional service during FY 2022-23.

Background Information:

The A&M System Board of Regents established the Regents Professor Award program in 1996 to recognize and honor faculty members who have made exemplary contributions to the academic institutions and to the people of the state of Texas. Since its adoption, 291 faculty members from academic institutions across the A&M System have been recognized with this prestigious award.

The Regents Fellow Service Award, an analogous program developed to recognize exceptional service by professionals in the A&M System agencies, was established by the Board in 1997. To date, 175 agency professionals have been recognized.

A call for nominations for the Regents Awards designation for exemplary performance and professional service during FY 2023-24 was distributed to all A&M System Chief Executive Officers. The Chancellor's Office received 14 nominations for the Regents Professor Award and 13 nominations for the Regents Fellow Service Award. Per award guidelines, A&M System-level committees reviewed all nominations for eligibility requirements and 27 nominees were recommended for approval to the chancellor and, upon his concurrence, are being brought to the Board as candidates for Regents Awards designation.

The Regents Award provides the following benefits.

- (a) Award recipients are designated as a "Regents Professor" or "Regents Fellow" and retain this title for the duration of their service/employment within the A&M System.
- (b) Recipients receive a \$15,000 stipend, payable in the amount of \$5,000 for three consecutive years as a non-base award. The stipend is funded from each respective institution and agency through the normal budgeting process.
- (c) Regents Professors and Regents Fellows are presented a special commemorative medallion bearing the seal of the A&M System and a certificate signed by the Chairman of the Board of Regents and the Chancellor, designating the recipient as a Regents Professor or Regents Fellow.

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- (d) Regents recipients may wear the A&M System medallion on occasions when appropriate for their respective university or agency.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The university or agency that employs the recipient provides the funds. Other expenses are funded through System Offices.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

This award influences the performance of the faculty, extension, research and service professionals and helps retain those who bring excellence in teaching, research and service. This action is necessary to achieve Strategic Plan Imperatives 3, 4 and 5 (preparing our students for successful careers, building our research portfolio, and providing services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and contribute to the strength of the state's economy (respectively).

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Office of the Chancellor

October 12, 2023

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

Subject: Designation of the *Regents Professor Awards* and the *Regents Fellow Service Awards* for Exemplary Performance and Professional Service During Fiscal Year 2022-23

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby grants the designation of ‘Regents Professor’ for exemplary performance during FY 2022-23 to the following 14 faculty members, effective immediately:

Dr. Ananda S. Amarasekara, *Prairie View A&M University*

Dr. Gary Bigham, *West Texas A&M University*

Dr. Ann O. Bowman, *Texas A&M University*

Dr. Satish T.S. Bukkapatnam, *Texas A&M University*

Dr. Noah D. Cohen, *Texas A&M University*

Dr. Dilma Da Silva, *Texas A&M University*

Dr. Kim E. Dooley, *Texas A&M University*

Dr. Maribel González-García, *Texas A&M University-Kingsville*

Dr. Derald A. Harp, *Texas A&M University-Commerce*

Dr. Stephen Maren, *Texas A&M University*

Dr. Jon T. Skare, *Texas A&M University*

Dr. Michael R. Waters, *Texas A&M University*

Dr. Joshua C. Watson, *Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi*

Dr. Thomas H. Welsh, Jr., *Texas A&M University*

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby grants the designation of ‘Regents Fellow’ for exemplary professional service during FY 2022-23 to the following 13 agency service, extension and research professionals, effective immediately:

Dr. Juan Reymundo Anciso, *Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service*

Dr. Kevin N. Balke, *Texas A&M Transportation Institute*

**Dr. Rukeia Draw-Hood, *Prairie View A&M University Cooperative
Extension Program***

Mr. Joseph N. Dunn, *Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station*

Dr. William L. Eisele, *Texas A&M Transportation Institute*

Ms. Kathy Farrow, *Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service*

**Dr. Martin Ficken, *Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic
Laboratory***

Ms. Jackquenet Goetz, *Texas Division of Emergency Management*

Dr. Jaehak Jeong, *Texas A&M AgriLife Research*

Dr. Cindy Lawley, *Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station*

Ms. Vicki Newlin, *Texas Division of Emergency Management*

Mr. Ronald K. Taylor, Jr., *Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service*

Mr. Bruce V. Woods, *Texas A&M Forest Service.*

Respectfully submitted,

John Sharp
Chancellor

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

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

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Ray Bonilla, General Counsel
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Review and Potential Amendment of Revised Concealed Carry Rules for Six System Members

Proposed Board Action:

Review and potentially amend proposed revisions to the following six concealed carry rules, to become effective November 9, 2023. A listing of these rules is attached, along with a summary of the revisions for each rule.

Background Information:

Per the campus concealed carry bill signed by Governor Abbott on June 13, 2015, the original member campus carry rules were submitted to the Board of Regents for consideration at the April 27, 2016 meeting, and several amended rules were submitted at the February 2018 meeting. In accordance with the applicable statute, the Board reviewed the rules and took no action to make amendments to the original or amended rules. Consequently, the Texas A&M System universities and agencies proceeded to implement the campus carry rules as submitted on August 1, 2016, the effective date of this legislation, and the amended rules took effect on February 8, 2018. Member rules were again amended in fall/winter 2019 and reviewed by the Board of Regents in February 2020 and amended again in fall 2021 and reviewed by the Board of Regents in November 2021.

This year, the process was delayed until after the legislative session. No substantive changes were made to the campus carry statutes, although a number of minor changes were made to the Texas Penal Code provisions relating to weapons. Having completed the consultations called for in Tex. Gov't Code Ann. § 411.2031(d-1) for the original rule, each Chief Executive Officer is now authorized to amend their campus carry rule "as necessary for campus safety." For example, we understand that amendments may be necessary to reflect new campus buildings or changes to existing buildings. Three members amended their campus carry rules to reflect additional campus premises prohibited from carrying a concealed handgun as necessary for campus safety. Two other members took this opportunity to make various non-substantive changes, including a template re-design and stylistic-type edits to use the preferred term "agency" in lieu of its acronym. The System Offices added language to ensure that all members with operational responsibility of a premises on RELLIS Campus notify RELLIS Administration of any approved concealed carry restrictions so that such prohibitions can be listed in the System Offices rule.

The Office of General Counsel reviewed all the changes proposed by the six members as shown on the attached exhibits and deems them legally sufficient.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Not applicable.

Agenda Item No.
Agenda Item Briefing

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed revisions to the six concealed carry rules advance all eight Strategic Plan Imperatives by ensuring that the system and its members comply with state law with respect to the operation and use of member campuses and vehicles, including member activities directly related to each imperative.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Approval Recommended:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

PROPOSED REVISIONS SUMMARY
MEMBER RULES 34.06.02

- Rule 34.06.02.C1, *Carrying Concealed Handguns on Campus*, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
 - **Section 2.** This section was divided into two separate sections. Section 2 prohibits the open carrying of a handgun on campus.
 - **Section 3.** This section references licensed handgun holders where allowed on campus unless prohibited by state or federal law or this rule.
 - **Section 6.3(c).** Additional premises were added where administrative hearings/investigations are being conducted.
 - **Section 6.3(d).** This section was rewritten for clarity.
 - **Section 6.3(f)(iv)(v).** Specific room numbers were removed.
- Rule 34.06.02.H1, *Carrying Concealed Handguns on Campus*, Texas A&M University-Texarkana
 - **Section 5.** A prohibited area (Student Counseling Center) was hard to identify due to formatting issues.
 - Other non-substantive revisions include formatting changes to align with current template and an updated hyperlink.
- Rule 34.06.02.L1, *Carrying Concealed Handguns on Campus*, Texas A&M International University
 - **Section 4.3 (d).** Rooms in the Chemistry Labs were revised and seven rooms in the Petroleum Engineering Labs were added as campus premises prohibited from carrying a concealed handgun.
 - **Section 5.** The responsibilities for reporting and reviewing requests for temporary exclusion zones are delegated to the Senior Director of Campus Safety and Planning and the Chief of Police rather than a committee.
- Rule 34.06.02.M1, *Carrying Concealed Handguns on Campus*, Texas A&M University
 - **Section C 1a.** The Becky Gates Child Care facility listed as a campus premise prohibited from licensed carry of a handgun is modified to include “child-care facilities owned or operated by Texas A&M University.”
- Rule 34.06.02.F1, *Carrying Concealed Handguns on Texas A&M Forest Service Property*, Texas A&M Forest Service.
 - Non-substantive revisions include a template re-design as well as updating all references of the Texas A&M Forest Service to the preferred term “agency” rather than to its TFS acronym.
- Rule 34.06.02.S1, *Carrying Concealed Handguns on Premises of System Offices*, The Texas A&M University System.
 - **Section 5.** Added language to ensure that all members with operational responsibility of a premises on the RELLIS Campus notify RELLIS Administration of any approved concealed carry restrictions so that such prohibitions can be listed in the System Offices rule.

34.06.02.C1 Carrying Concealed Handguns on Campus



Revised: ~~November 18, 2021~~November 9, 2023
Next Scheduled Review: November ~~18, 2026~~9, 2028
[Revision History](#)

Rule Summary

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC) recognizes and enforces state law regulating firearms on campus. Senate Bill No. 11 was passed by the Texas Legislature, signed into law on June 16, 2015, and made effective August 1, 2016. This bill added a new section to Chapter 411 of the Texas Government Code.

Definitions

Campus – means all land and buildings owned or leased by TAMU-CC.

On-campus residential facilities – means on-campus housing owned and/or operated by the university, or its designees.

Interscholastic event – means a function or program existing or done between schools not including a collegiate sporting event.

Premises – means a building or portion of a building. The term does not include any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

Rule

1. The university president has established this rule after consulting with TAMU-CC students, staff, and faculty about the nature of the student population, specific safety considerations, and the uniqueness of the campus environment. These rules were reviewed by the system board of regents as required by law.
- ~~2. A handgun license holder under Chapter 411, Texas Government Code, may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on the TAMU-CC campus or in a TAMU-CC vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal~~

~~law, or this rule.~~ The open carrying of a handgun on campus is prohibited. Licensed peace officers are authorized by law to carry firearms at all times.

3. A handgun license holder under Chapter 411, Texas Government Code, may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on the TAMU-CC campus or in a TAMU-CC vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law, or this rule.

2.4. TAMU-CC enforces state law regulating firearms on campus. This enforcement occurs in two ways. First, ~~university police~~the University Police Department or other applicable law enforcement agencies will investigate and take appropriate action, including referral for criminal prosecution when violations occur. Second, TAMU-CC will consider any violation of state law regulating firearms to be a violation of the university rules and procedures. Accordingly, such a violation is subject to disciplinary action under rules applicable to students, staff, and faculty.

3.5. On-Campus Residential Facilities

Any resident of on-campus residential facilities who is a license holder and wants to store a handgun in their room must securely store it in a safe that is purchased or rented from Islander Housing or their approved vendor.

4.6. Rules Applicable to Carrying a Concealed Handgun on Campus

4.1.6.1. State Law Prohibitions.

A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable state law prohibitions. See Appendix.

4.2.6.2. Federal Law Prohibitions.

A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable federal law prohibitions.

4.3.6.3. Other Prohibited Campus Premises. A license holder is also prohibited from carrying a concealed handgun on the following campus premises.

(a) Blanche Davis Moore Early Childhood Development Center Complex (ECDC, Math and Science Education Center, school playground)

(b) University Health Center

~~(b)(c)~~ Premises where formal administrative hearings/investigations are being conducted.

~~(e)~~(d) Campus facilities where mental health care professionals or individuals under their supervision receive and/or treat patients.~~University Counseling Center~~

~~(d)~~(e) The following laboratories:

- i. Pathogenic Materials (BSL-2 and higher laboratories)
- ii. Strong Magnetic Hazard
- iii. High Pressure, Cryogenic and Flammable Gases

~~(e)~~(f) The following athletic premises while an interscholastic or collegiate sporting event is taking place, or while used for recreational sports programing:

- i. Thomas J. Henry Tennis Center
- ii. Dr. Jack Dugan Family Soccer & Track Stadium Complex
- iii. Chapman Baseball and Softball Complex
- iv. Dugan Wellness Center: Gym ~~(Room 134)~~, Locker Rooms ~~123-126~~, and Exercise Rooms ~~133, 240, 243, and 248~~
- v. Island Hall Gym ~~(Room 136)~~, Exercise Rooms ~~137 and 141~~, Exercise Labs ~~139, 142, and 146~~, Locker Rooms ~~173, 178, 179~~, Corridor ~~167~~, and Track ~~258~~
- vi. Field House
- vii. Momentum Campus Recreational Sports Building
- viii. American Bank Center and other facilities when leased for collegiate sporting events

~~(f)~~(g) The following offices, meeting rooms, and facilities:

- i. Office of Student Conduct & Advocacy
- ii. Specific premises in which formal hearings are being conducted pursuant to university rules or procedures for faculty and staff disciplinary matters, student conduct proceedings, and academic grievances.
- iii. Any campus premises where Pre-K through Grade 12 Camps are occurring.
- iv. Any campus premises where UIL or similarly sponsored interscholastic events are occurring.

~~(g)~~(h) Any premises where the university, as directed or approved by the president as necessary for campus safety, gives effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code. For this rule, the term “owner of the property” in Section 30.06(b), Penal Code, means the president of the university. –No university employee is “someone with apparent authority to act for the owner” for purposes of Section 30.06(b), Penal Code. –All notices under Section 30.06, Penal Code, will be

institutional notice, conform to Section 46.03 of the Penal Code, and apply equally to all handgun license holders.

~~(h)~~(i) TAMU-CC leases premises to certain businesses such as banks, bookstores, etc. The management company of the leased facilities determines the restrictions on possession of weapons in those facilities and displays those restrictions pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code. If there are restrictions, the management company of the leased facilities will notify the university Vice President for Student Engagement and Success and the Vice President for Finance and Administration of those restrictions by August 1 of each year.

~~5.7.~~ At all premises where concealed carry is prohibited, TAMU-CC must give effective notice under Section 30.06, Penal Code. The University Police Department is to be contacted for questions about signage or to acquire signs.

~~6.8.~~ The President's Cabinet will review the list of prohibited campus premises at least annually and approve changes as necessary.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[Texas Government Code, Chapter 411](#)
[Texas Penal Code, Section 30](#)
[Texas Penal Code, Section 46](#)
[System Regulation 34.06.02, Weapons](#)

Appendix

[Texas Statutory Prohibitions](#)

Contact Office

Contact for interpretation and clarification: University Police Department
(361) 825-4242

~~UR~~ 34.06.02.H1 Carrying Concealed Handguns on Campus



Approved: April 2016 (Effective August 1, 2016)

Revised: February 6, 2020

Revised: November 18, 2021

Revised: ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~November 9, 2023

Next Scheduled Review: ~~November 18, 2026~~~~XXXXX~~November 9, 2028

Rule ~~Statement~~ Summary

A handgun license holder may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on the campus of Texas A&M University-Texarkana (A&M-Texarkana), unless prohibited by this rule, state or federal law.

~~Reason for Rule~~

This rule is established to identify areas on campus where license holders may not carry a concealed handgun and outline provisions regarding the storage of handguns in dormitories or other residential facilities. This rule complies with requirements outlined in [System Regulation 34.06.02, Weapons](#) and Texas Government Code §411.2031.

Procedures and Responsibilities

5. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- 1.1. The university president established this rule after consulting with A&M-Texarkana students, staff and faculty about the nature of the student population, specific safety considerations, and the uniqueness of the campus environment. These rules were reviewed by the system board of regents as required by law.
- 1.2. A handgun license holder under Chapter 411, Texas Government Code, may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on the campus of A&M-Texarkana or in an A&M-Texarkana vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law, or this rule. **The open carrying of a handgun on campus is prohibited.** Licensed peace officers are authorized by law to carry firearms at all times.
- 1.3. A&M-Texarkana enforces state law regulating firearms on campus. This enforcement occurs in two ways. First, university police or other applicable law enforcement agencies will investigate and take appropriate action, including referral for criminal prosecution when violations occur. Second, A&M-Texarkana will consider any violation of state law regulating firearms to be a violation of A&M-Texarkana rules. Accordingly, such a violation is subject to disciplinary action under rules applicable to students, faculty, and staff.

~~1.4.~~ The Vice President of Finance and Administration shall manage the provision of effective notice under [Texas Penal Code §30.06](#).

~~1.4.~~

2. STORAGE OF HANDGUNS IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

~~2.1.~~ This section applies to dormitories or other residential facilities located on campus that are: (1) owned and operated by A&M-Texarkana; or (2) leased and operated by A&M-Texarkana.

~~2.1.~~ When in the residence hall, any resident of campus housing who is a handgun license holder must store their handgun when not carried on or about their person in a safe that is provided and installed by A&M-Texarkana.

3. STATE LAW PROHIBITIONS

A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable state law prohibitions. See Appendix.

4. FEDERAL LAW PROHIBITIONS

A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable federal law prohibitions.

5. ~~OTHER~~ PROHIBITED CAMPUS PREMISES

A license holder is also prohibited from carrying a concealed handgun on the following campus premises:

5.1. Student Counseling Center;

~~5.1.5.2.~~ Psychology and Counseling Laboratories;

~~5.2.5.3.~~ Patterson Student Center;

~~5.3.5.4.~~ Premises where Programs for Minors, as defined and administered by [System Regulation 24.01.06](#) and [University Rule 24.01.06.H1](#), are held, including summer camps, workshops, conferences, and other activities serving participants under the age of 18;

~~5.4.5.5.~~ Premises on which interscholastic events are hosted by A&M-Texarkana and where minors are the primary participants/audience;

~~5.5.5.6.~~ Premises during which intercollegiate athletic events are hosted by A&M-Texarkana for 2 hours prior through no longer than 2 hours after the conclusion of the event, as indicated by 30.06 Notice. These locations include, but are not limited to:

~~5.5.1.5.6.1.~~ George Dobson Baseball Field

~~5.5.2.5.6.2.~~ Judy Kelley Morgan Soccer Field

~~5.5.3.5.6.3.~~ Bramlett Softball Field

~~5.5.4.5.6.4.~~ Tennis Courts at Texarkana College

~~5.7.~~ Specific premises in which formal hearings are being conducted pursuant to university rules or procedures for faculty and staff disciplinary matters, student conduct proceedings, and academic grievances;

~~5.6.~~

~~5.7.5.8.~~ Testing Center, in accordance with the requirements of the third-party testing agency;

~~5.9.~~ Laboratories that have in their bounds flammable organic solvents, flammable liquids, or unstable (reactive chemicals);

~~5.8.~~

~~5.9.5.10.~~ Any premises where the university, as directed or approved by the president as necessary for campus safety, gives effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code. For this rule, the term “owner of the property” in Section 30.06(b), Penal Code, means the president of the university. No university employee is “someone with apparent authority to act for the owner” for purposes of Section 30.06(b), Penal Code unless the President has documented delegated authority during a time when he/she is unavailable. All notices under Section 30.06, Penal Code, will be institutional notice, conform to Section 46.03, Penal Code, and apply equally to all handgun license holders;

~~5.10.5.11.~~ Any portion of the campus leased by the university to a third party, if the third party determines to prohibit the concealed carry of handguns on the premises and provides effective notice pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code; and

~~5.11.5.12.~~ Assigned offices, as approved by the president, for which the employee has demonstrated that the carrying of a concealed handgun by a license holder in the office presents a significant risk of substantial harm due to a negligent discharge.

6. PROHIBITED PREMISES

6.1. At all premises where concealed carry is prohibited, A&M-Texarkana must give effective notice under Section 30.06, Penal Code.

Definitions

Assigned office - an office assigned to an individual faculty or staff member that is not generally open to the public.

Campus - means all land and buildings owned or leased by the A&M-Texarkana.

Campus housing - means dormitories or other residential facilities located on campus that are: (1) owned and operated by A&M-Texarkana; or (2) leased and operated by A&M-Texarkana.

Interscholastic event - means a function or program existing or done between schools not including a collegiate sporting event.

Premises - means a building or portion of a building. The term does not include any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

Significant risk - means a high probability of harm, not just a slightly increased, speculative, or remote risk.

Substantial harm - means serious injury or death to a person or persons, or destruction of valuable property.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[System Regulation 34.06.02, *Weapons*](#)

Appendix

[Texas Statutory Prohibitions](#)

Contact Office

University Police Department
(903) 223-3114



TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Rule

34.06.02.L1 Carrying Concealed Handguns on Campus

First Approved: April 27, 2016 (effective August 1, 2016)

Revised: April 27, 2016

June 5, 2019

February 6, 2020

November 18, 2021

~~June 1~~ November 9, 2023

Next Scheduled Review: ~~November 18, 2026~~ June 1 November 9, 2028

Rule Statement and Reason for Rule

The Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) President [/CEO](#) established this Rule after consulting with TAMIU students, staff, and faculty about the nature of the student population, specific safety considerations, and the uniqueness of the campus environment. This Rule has been reviewed by the System Board of Regents as required by law.

Senate Bill 11, signed into law in the 84th Legislative Session, authorizes handgun license holders to carry a concealed handgun on university campuses and includes a provision allowing institutions to establish limited rules regarding the storage of handguns in campus housing and prohibiting areas/premises on which license holders may carry.

Procedures and Responsibilities

1. GENERAL

A handgun license holder under Chapter 411, Texas Government Code, may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on the TAMIU campus or in a TAMIU vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law, or this Rule. *The open carrying of a handgun on campus is prohibited.* Licensed peace officers are authorized by law to carry firearms at all times.

2. ENFORCEMENT

TAMIU enforces state law regulating firearms on campus. This enforcement occurs in two ways. First, TAMIU police or other applicable law enforcement agencies will investigate and take appropriate action, including referral for criminal prosecution, when violations occur. Second, TAMIU will consider any violation of state law regulating firearms to be a violation of TAMIU rules. Accordingly, such a violation is subject to disciplinary action under rules applicable to students, faculty, and staff.

3. STORAGE OF HANDGUNS IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

TAMIU does not own and operate or lease and operate the residential facilities located on campus. Therefore, the management company of the residential facilities determines the restrictions on possession and storage of weapons in those facilities and lists those restrictions in its lease documents.

4. RULES APPLICABLE TO CARRYING A CONCEALED HANDGUN ON CAMPUS

4.1 State Law Prohibitions – A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable state law prohibitions. See “Texas Statutory Prohibitions” under Appendix below.

4.2 Federal Law Prohibitions – A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable federal law prohibitions.

4.3 Other Prohibited Campus Premises – A license holder is also prohibited from carrying a concealed handgun in the following campus premises:

4.3.1 As applicable, the room numbers shown below are where the particular prohibited premise is located at the time this Rule was last revised (refer to last revision date above). Since it is possible for the premises to be relocated, please visit <https://www.tamtu.edu/adminis/campuscarry> for the most current room numbers.

- a) Office of Student Health Services (STC 125);
- b) Office of Student Counseling and Disability Services (STC 126, 128) and TAMIU Community Counseling Center (CWT 213);
- c) Kinesiology, Wellness and Recreation Center (REC): Access-controlled portions of the building. The following non-access-controlled portions of the building, all located on the first floor, are not included in the prohibited area: entrance, foyer, public restrooms (not locker rooms) on the first floor, and classroom/laboratory spaces 128, 129, 131;
- d) Science/Research laboratories with compressed gas cylinders: Electron Microscopy Lab (CNS 212), Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Spectroscopy Labs (LBV 119 and 394), Dual Energy X-Ray Absorptiometry (DEXA) Lab (REC 130), Research Labs (LBV 121E, 197, 297, 388, 390 and CNS 209, 215, 215A), Chemistry Labs (LBV 272, 286, 288 and AIC 202, 2068, 2079), ~~and~~ Machine Shop AIC 113, and Petroleum Engineering Labs (AIC 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 208, 209);
- e) The Texas Academy of International and STEM Studies (PLG 205 AND 215); and
- f) On the premises where a collegiate sporting event is taking place, so long as effective notice is given under Section 30.06, Penal Code.

4.3.2 Any premises where, as directed or approved by the ~~Chief Executive Officer (CEO)~~ President/~~CEO~~ as necessary for campus safety, TAMIU gives effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code. For this Rule, the term 'owner of the property' in Section 30.06(b), Penal Code means the President of TAMIU ~~in the~~his role as CEO, or in the President's absence, a vice president or other executive designated by the President. No other TAMIU employee is 'someone with apparent authority to act for the owner' for purposes of Section 30.03(b), Penal Code. All notices under Section 30.06, Penal Code will be institutional notice, will conform to Section 46.03, Penal Code, and will apply equally to all handgun license holders.

4.3.3 Any campus premises leased by TAMIU to a third party, if the third party determines to prohibit the concealed carry of handguns on the premises and provides effective notice pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code.

4.4 At all premises where concealed carry is prohibited, TAMIU ~~shall~~must give effective notice under Section 30.06, Penal Code.

5. ~~COMMITTEE~~REPORTING AND REQUESTS FOR TEMPORARY EXCLUSION ZONES

To aid in the maintenance and biennial reporting of this Rule, TAMIU designates the Senior Director of Campus Safety and Planning and the Chief of Police. Additionally, they serve as the authorities to review requests for temporary exclusion zones and make recommendations regarding approval to the President/CEO, the authority to designate temporary exclusion zones rests solely with the President/CEO and may not be delegated.~~shall establish a standing committee.~~ The primary purpose and charge for the Senior- Director and Chief~~of the committee~~ is to function as the subject matter experts on Senate Bill 11 and to ensure compliance with the law, advise the ~~President/CEO~~President, and evaluate requests for additional prohibited areas, ~~including temporary prohibited zones.~~

Related Statutes, Policies, Regulations, or SAP's

[System Regulation 34.06.02, Weapons](#)

Definitions

Campus - All land and buildings owned or leased by TAMIU.

Premises - A building or portion of a building. The term does not include any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

Appendix

Contact Office

Office of Campus Safety and Planning, 956-326-3310



UNIVERSITY RULE

34.06.02.M1 Carrying Concealed Handguns on Campus

Approved April 27, 2016 (Effective August 1, 2016)

Revised: February 6, 2020

Revised: November 18, 2021

Reviewed December 5, 2022

Revised: November 9, 2023~~Draft 2023~~

Next scheduled review: ~~December 5, 2027~~November 9, 2028

Rule Statement

A license holder may carry a concealed handgun on the campus of Texas A&M University or in a university vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law, or this rule.

Reason for Rule

This rule is required by state law.

Definitions

Assigned office - means an office assigned solely for the use of the employee and not generally open to the public.

Campus - means all land and buildings owned or leased by Texas A&M.

Campus housing - means dormitories or other residential facilities located on campus that are: (1) owned by Texas A&M; or (2) leased and operated by Texas A&M.

Premises - means a building or portion of a building. The term does not include any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

Significant Risk – means a high probability of harm, not just a slightly increased, speculative, or remote risk.

Substantial harm – means serious injury or death to a person or persons, or destruction of valuable property.

Official Rule/Responsibilities/Process

1. The university president established this rule after consulting with Texas A&M students, staff and faculty about the nature of the student population, specific safety considerations, and the uniqueness of the campus environment. This rule was reviewed by the system board of regents as required by law.
2. A license holder under Chapter 411, Texas Government Code, may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on the campus of Texas A&M or in a university vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law, or this rule. Employees who are license holders are permitted to store a handgun in their office space so long as the gun is secured in a locked drawer or compartment. All license holders must secure their handgun when it is not on or about their person.
3. The open carrying of handguns is prohibited everywhere on campus. Licensed peace officers are authorized by law to carry firearms at all times.
4. Storage of Handguns in Residential Facilities
 - A. This section applies to dormitories or other residential facilities located on campus that are: (1) owned by Texas A&M; or (2) leased and operated by Texas A&M.
 - B. Any resident of campus housing who is a license holder and wants to store a handgun in his/her room must securely store it in a safe that is purchased or rented from the Department of Residence Life or their approved vendor.
5. Third-parties that lease a premise from the university have the authority to determine the concealed carry rights on the portion of the premise subject to the lease. If concealed carry is prohibited, lessee must provide effective notice under Section 30.06, Penal Code.
6. Rules Applicable to Carrying a Concealed Handgun on Campus
 - A. State Law Prohibitions

A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable state law prohibitions. See Appendix.

Texas law prohibits the possession of handguns in the following campus locations or under the following circumstances.

 - 1) A license holder may not carry a handgun if he/she is intoxicated.
 - 2) A license holder may not intentionally or knowingly display his/her handgun in plain view of another person, even if holstered, on campus, including on any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

- 3) A license holder may not intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly carry a handgun on or about the license holder's person on the following premises:
 - a) professional or high school sporting event or collegiate interscholastic event is taking place,
 - b) where a collegiate sporting event is taking place if effective notice under 30.06 is provided,
 - c) polling location,
 - d) government court or offices utilized by the court,
 - e) in the room or rooms where a meeting of a governmental entity is held and if the meeting is an open meeting subject to chapter 551, Government Code, and the entity provided notice as required by that chapter, or
 - f) secured area of an airport.

B. Federal Law Prohibitions

A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable federal law prohibitions. This includes, but is not limited to, the following facilities:

- 1) George Bush Presidential Library;
- 2) Nuclear research reactors; and
- 3) Multi-Program Research and Education Facility.

C. Other Prohibited Campus Premises

A license holder is also prohibited from carrying a concealed handgun on the following premises. Effective notice under Section 30.06, Penal Code shall be provided for each of these premises. Guidelines for posting approved signage must be followed as established through a TAMU Standard Administrative Procedure (SAP).

- 1) The premises in this section are determined by the president to be categorically prohibited from licensed carry of a handgun.
 - a) ~~child-care facilities owned or operated by Texas A&M University~~~~Becky Gates Child-Care facility~~;
 - b) counseling centers where licensed health care professionals or individuals under their supervision receiving patients;
 - c) health care facilities – licensed health care professionals or individuals under their supervision are receiving patients;
 - d) premises where formal administrative hearings/investigations are being conducted;
 - e) clinical facilities associated with the School of Law; and
 - f) marine vessels, such as those owned or operated by Texas A&M University at Galveston.
- 2) Premises that fall within one of the categories in this section, if specifically approved by the president, may be prohibited from licensed carry of a handgun. A process for making requests as well as the process for review and approval of such requests under this section is established in a SAP.
 - a) assigned offices for which the employee has demonstrated that the carrying of a concealed handgun by a license holder in the office presents a significant risk of substantial harm due to a negligent discharge;
 - b) high hazard research areas and laboratories where the presence of high hazard materials or operations creates a significant risk of catastrophic harm due to a negligent discharge, for example, BioSafety Level 3 laboratories, animal

care/use facilities, and areas having high magnetic fields, such as MRI research facilities; and

- c) research areas and laboratories in which research subjects are high risk (e.g., binge drinkers, subjects with diagnosed psychological disorders, subjects diagnosed with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder), or where the integrity of psychological research could be compromised.

- 3) Any premises where the university, as directed or approved by the president as necessary for campus safety, gives effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code. For this rule, the phrase “owner of the property” in Section 30.06(b) means the president of the university. No university employee is “someone with apparent authority to act for the owner” for purposes of 30.06(b). All notices under 30.06 will be institutional notice, conform to Penal Code Section 46.03 and apply equally to all license holders.

- 4) A violation of these specific prohibitions may be considered an offense under sections 46.02, 46.03, or 30.06 of the Texas Penal Code.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[System Regulation 34.06.02, Weapons](#)

Appendix

[Texas Statutory Prohibitions](#)

Contact Office

[University Police Department](#)



AGENCY RULE

34.06.02.F1 Carrying Concealed Handguns on Texas A&M Forest Service Property

Supplements Senate Bill 11

Approved April 27, 2016 (Effective August 1, 2016)

Revised November 18, 2021

Revised ~~May 30~~ November 9, 2023

Next Scheduled Review ~~May 30~~ November 9, 2028

RULE STATEMENT

Texas A&M Forest Service must adhere to all the requirements of System Regulation 34.06.02 Weapons.

REASON FOR RULE

This rule is required by System Regulation 34.06.02, Weapons.

PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. GENERAL

The Director established this rule after consulting with Texas A&M Forest Service (~~TFS~~) employees about specific safety considerations and the uniqueness of the agency environment. This rule was reviewed by the system board of regents as required by law.

2. PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 A handgun license holder under Chapter 411, Texas Government Code, may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on ~~TFS~~-agency property, or in an agency vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law, or this rule. The open carrying of handguns on agency property is prohibited. Licensed peace officers are authorized to carry firearms at all times. Employees who are license holders are permitted to store a handgun in their office space so long as the handgun is secured in a locked drawer or compartment. A license holder is personally responsible for researching, knowing and complying with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations related to concealed handguns and to weapons in general.

2.2 ~~TFS~~-The agency enforces the state law regulating firearms on ~~TFS~~-agency property. This enforcement occurs in two ways. First, police or other applicable law enforcement agencies will investigate and take appropriate action, including referral for criminal prosecution when violations occur. Second, ~~TFS~~-the agency will consider any violation of state law regulating firearms to be a violation of ~~TFS~~-agency rules. Accordingly, such a violation is subject to disciplinary action under rules applicable to employees.

3. RULES APPLICABLE TO CARRYING CONCEALED HANDGUNS ON ~~TFS~~-AGENCY PROPERTY

3.1. State Law Prohibitions.

~~A.~~ A licensed holder is responsible for complying with the applicable state law prohibitions. See Appendix.

~~B~~3.2. Federal Law Prohibitions.

A licensed holder is responsible for complying with the applicable federal law prohibitions.

~~C~~3.3. Any premises where the agency, as directed or approved by the director as necessary for property safety, gives effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code. For this rule, the phrase “owner of the property” in Section 30.06(b) means the director of the agency. No agency employee is “someone with apparent authority to act for the owner” for purposes of 30.06(b). All notices under 30.06 will be institutional notice, conform to Penal Code Section 46.03, and apply equally to all license holders.

~~4.~~ RELATED STATUTES, POLICIES, ~~OR~~ AND REQUIREMENTS

~~—~~ System Regulation 34.06.02, Weapons

APPENDIX

Texas Statutory Prohibitions

~~5.~~ DEFINITIONS

~~—~~ Property - All land and buildings owned or leased by ~~TFS~~the agency.

Premises - A building or portion of a building. The term does not include any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

CONTACT OFFICE~~6.~~ ~~—~~ APPENDIX

~~—~~ Texas Statutory Prohibitions

~~CONTACT:~~ Director, Texas A&M Forest Service,
(979) 458-6600

34.06.02.S1 Carrying Concealed Handguns on the Premises of System Offices

Revised November 9, 2023

Revised November 18, 2021

Next Scheduled Review: November ~~18, 2026~~9, 2028

Click to view [Revision History](#).



Rule Summary

A license holder may carry a concealed handgun on the premises of the System Offices of The Texas A&M University System (System Offices) or in a system vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law.

Definitions

Click to view [Definitions](#).

Rule

-
1. The Texas A&M University System (system) chancellor established this rule after consultation within the System Offices about specific safety considerations and the uniqueness of the System Offices environment. This rule was reviewed by the system Board of Regents as required by law.
 2. A handgun license holder under Chapter 411, Texas Government Code, may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on the premises of the System Offices, or in a system vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law. The open carrying of a handgun on System Offices' land and premises is prohibited. Licensed peace officers are authorized by law to carry firearms at all times.
 3. Employees who are license holders are permitted to store a handgun in their office space so long as the handgun is secured in a locked drawer or compartment.
 4. Concealed carry is prohibited in any premises where the System Offices, as directed or approved by the chancellor as necessary for institutional safety, gives effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code. For this rule, the term "owner of the property" in Section 30.06(b), Penal Code, means the chancellor. No System Offices employee is "someone with apparent authority to act for the owner" for purposes of Section 30.06(b), Penal Code. All notices under Section 30.06, Penal Code, will be institutional notice, conform to Section 46.03, Penal Code, and apply equally to all handgun license holders.

5. RELLIS Campus. ~~Concealed carry is prohibited only in the Academic Alliance Buildings in the following locations. Access points to all prohibited locations must be marked with a lawful 30.06 notice sign.~~

(a) All system agencies and universities with operational responsibility of a premises on RELLIS Campus must ensure they have a concealed handgun carry rule for the facilities under their management. If there are specific areas identified in member facilities on RELLIS Campus prohibiting concealed handguns, those areas must be identified and listed in System Offices Rule 34.06.02.S1. Additionally, system members will provide a copy of their rule to RELLIS Administration with a list of location(s) of the prohibited concealed carry areas.

(b) All System Offices departments/programs on RELLIS Campus will utilize System Offices Rule 34.06.02.S1. System departments/programs will route through RELLIS Administration a list of locations of prohibited firearm areas for inclusion in System Offices Rule 34.06.02.S1.

- i. Concealed carry is prohibited only in the Academic Alliance Buildings in the following locations. Access points to all prohibited locations must be marked with a lawful 30.06 notice sign.

- i. The biology labs (BSL1 and BSL2) located on the third floor of Building 1 (Building 6000).

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[System Regulation 34.06.02, Weapons](#)

Appendix

[Texas Statutory Prohibitions](#)

Contact Office

~~System Office of~~ General Counsel
(979) 458-6120

34.06.02.C1 Carrying Concealed Handguns on Campus

Revised: November 9, 2023

Next Scheduled Review: November 9, 2028

[Revision History](#)



Rule Summary

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC) recognizes and enforces state law regulating firearms on campus. Senate Bill No. 11 was passed by the Texas Legislature, signed into law on June 16, 2015, and made effective August 1, 2016. This bill added a new section to Chapter 411 of the Texas Government Code.

Definitions

Campus – means all land and buildings owned or leased by TAMU-CC.

On-campus residential facilities – means on-campus housing owned and/or operated by the university, or its designees.

Interscholastic event – means a function or program existing or done between schools not including a collegiate sporting event.

Premises – means a building or portion of a building. The term does not include any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

Rule

1. The university president has established this rule after consulting with TAMU-CC students, staff, and faculty about the nature of the student population, specific safety considerations, and the uniqueness of the campus environment. These rules were reviewed by the system board of regents as required by law.
2. The open carrying of a handgun on campus is prohibited. Licensed peace officers are authorized by law to carry firearms at all times.

3. A handgun license holder under Chapter 411, Texas Government Code, may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on the TAMU-CC campus or in a TAMU-CC vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law, or this rule.
4. TAMU-CC enforces state law regulating firearms on campus. This enforcement occurs in two ways. First, the University Police Department or other applicable law enforcement agencies will investigate and take appropriate action, including referral for criminal prosecution when violations occur. Second, TAMU-CC will consider any violation of state law regulating firearms to be a violation of the university rules and procedures. Accordingly, such a violation is subject to disciplinary action under rules applicable to students, staff, and faculty.
5. On-Campus Residential Facilities

Any resident of on-campus residential facilities who is a license holder and wants to store a handgun in their room must securely store it in a safe that is purchased or rented from Islander Housing or their approved vendor.

6. Rules Applicable to Carrying a Concealed Handgun on Campus

- 6.1. State Law Prohibitions.

A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable state law prohibitions. See Appendix.

- 6.2. Federal Law Prohibitions.

A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable federal law prohibitions.

- 6.3. Other Prohibited Campus Premises. A license holder is also prohibited from carrying a concealed handgun on the following campus premises.

- (a) Blanche Davis Moore Early Childhood Development Center Complex (ECDC, Math and Science Education Center, school playground)
- (b) University Health Center
- (c) Premises where formal administrative hearings/investigations are being conducted.
- (d) Campus facilities where mental health care professionals or individuals under their supervision receive and/or treat patients.
- (e) The following laboratories:

- i. Pathogenic Materials (BSL-2 and higher laboratories)
 - ii. Strong Magnetic Hazard
 - iii. High Pressure, Cryogenic and Flammable Gases
- (f) The following athletic premises while an interscholastic or collegiate sporting event is taking place, or while used for recreational sports programming:
 - i. Thomas J. Henry Tennis Center
 - ii. Dr. Jack Dugan Family Soccer & Track Stadium Complex
 - iii. Chapman Baseball and Softball Complex
 - iv. Dugan Wellness Center: Gym, Locker Rooms, and Exercise Rooms
 - v. Island Hall Gym, Exercise Rooms, Exercise Labs, Locker Rooms, Corridor, and Track
 - vi. Field House
 - vii. Momentum Campus Recreational Sports Building
 - viii. American Bank Center and other facilities when leased for collegiate sporting events
- (g) The following offices, meeting rooms, and facilities:
 - i. Office of Student Conduct & Advocacy
 - ii. Specific premises in which formal hearings are being conducted pursuant to university rules or procedures for faculty and staff disciplinary matters, student conduct proceedings, and academic grievances.
 - iii. Any campus premises where Pre-K through Grade 12 Camps are occurring.
 - iv. Any campus premises where UIL or similarly sponsored interscholastic events are occurring.
- (h) Any premises where the university, as directed or approved by the president as necessary for campus safety, gives effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code. For this rule, the term “owner of the property” in Section 30.06(b), Penal Code, means the president of the university. No university employee is “someone with apparent authority to act for the owner” for purposes of Section 30.06(b), Penal Code. All notices under Section 30.06, Penal Code, will be institutional notice, conform to Section 46.03 of the Penal Code, and apply equally to all handgun license holders.
- (i) TAMU-CC leases premises to certain businesses such as banks, bookstores, etc. The management company of the leased facilities determines the restrictions on possession of weapons in those facilities and displays those restrictions pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code. If there are restrictions,

the management company of the leased facilities will notify the university Vice President for Student Engagement and Success and the Vice President for Finance and Administration of those restrictions by August 1 of each year.

7. At all premises where concealed carry is prohibited, TAMU-CC must give effective notice under Section 30.06, Penal Code. The University Police Department is to be contacted for questions about signage or to acquire signs.
8. The President's Cabinet will review the list of prohibited campus premises at least annually and approve changes as necessary.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[Texas Government Code, Chapter 411](#)
[Texas Penal Code, Section 30](#)
[Texas Penal Code, Section 46](#)
[System Regulation 34.06.02, *Weapons*](#)

Appendix

[Texas Statutory Prohibitions](#)

Contact Office

Contact for interpretation and clarification: University Police Department
(361) 825-4242

34.06.02.H1**Carrying Concealed Handguns
on Campus**

Approved: April 2016 (Effective August 1, 2016)

Revised: February 6, 2020

Revised: November 18, 2021

Revised: November 9, 2023

Next Scheduled Review: November 9, 2028

Rule Summary

A handgun license holder may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on the campus of Texas A&M University-Texarkana (A&M-Texarkana), unless prohibited by this rule, state or federal law.

This rule is established to identify areas on campus where license holders may not carry a concealed handgun and outline provisions regarding the storage of handguns in dormitories or other residential facilities. This rule complies with requirements outlined in [System Regulation 34.06.02, *Weapons*](#) and Texas Government Code §411.2031.

Procedures and Responsibilities

5. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- 1.1. The university president established this rule after consulting with A&M-Texarkana students, staff and faculty about the nature of the student population, specific safety considerations and the uniqueness of the campus environment. These rules were reviewed by the system board of regents as required by law.
- 1.2. A handgun license holder under Chapter 411, Texas Government Code, may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on the campus of A&M-Texarkana or in an A&M-Texarkana vehicle unless prohibited by state or federal law, or this rule. **The open carrying of a handgun on campus is prohibited.** Licensed peace officers are authorized by law to carry firearms at all times.
- 1.3. A&M-Texarkana enforces state law regulating firearms on campus. This enforcement occurs in two ways. First, university police or other applicable law enforcement agencies will investigate and take appropriate action, including referral for criminal prosecution when violations occur. Second, A&M-Texarkana will consider any violation of state law regulating firearms to be a violation of A&M-Texarkana rules. Accordingly, such a violation is subject to disciplinary action under rules applicable to students, faculty and staff.
- 1.4. The Vice President of Finance and Administration shall manage the provision of effective notice under [Texas Penal Code §30.06](#).

2. STORAGE OF HANDGUNS IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

This section applies to dormitories or other residential facilities located on campus that are: (1) owned and operated by A&M-Texarkana; or (2) leased and operated by A&M-Texarkana.

When in the residence hall, any resident of campus housing who is a handgun license holder must store their handgun when not carried on or about their person in a safe that is provided and installed by A&M-Texarkana.

3. STATE LAW PROHIBITIONS

A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable state law prohibitions. See Appendix.

4. FEDERAL LAW PROHIBITIONS

A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable federal law prohibitions.

5. PROHIBITED CAMPUS PREMISES

A license holder is also prohibited from carrying a concealed handgun on the following campus premises:

- 5.1. Student Counseling Center;
- 5.2. Psychology and Counseling Laboratories;
- 5.3. Patterson Student Center;
- 5.4. Premises where Programs for Minors, as defined and administered by [System Regulation 24.01.06](#) and [University Rule 24.01.06.H1](#), are held, including summer camps, workshops, conferences, and other activities serving participants under the age of 18;
- 5.5. Premises on which interscholastic events are hosted by A&M-Texarkana and where minors are the primary participants/audience;
- 5.6. Premises during which intercollegiate athletic events are hosted by A&M-Texarkana for 2 hours prior through no longer than 2 hours after the conclusion of the event, as indicated by 30.06 Notice. These locations include, but are not limited to:
 - 5.6.1. George Dobson Baseball Field
 - 5.6.2. Judy Kelley Morgan Soccer Field
 - 5.6.3. Bramlett Softball Field
 - 5.6.4. Tennis Courts at Texarkana College
- 5.7. Specific premises in which formal hearings are being conducted pursuant to university rules or procedures for faculty and staff disciplinary matters, student conduct proceedings, and academic grievances;

- 5.8. Testing Center, in accordance with the requirements of the third-party testing agency;
- 5.9. Laboratories that have in their bounds flammable organic solvents, flammable liquids, or unstable (reactive chemicals);
- 5.10. Any premises where the university, as directed or approved by the president as necessary for campus safety, gives effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code. For this rule, the term “owner of the property” in Section 30.06(b), Penal Code, means the president of the university. No university employee is “someone with apparent authority to act for the owner” for purposes of Section 30.06(b), Penal Code unless the President has documented delegated authority during a time when he/she is unavailable. All notices under Section 30.06, Penal Code, will be institutional notice, conform to Section 46.03, Penal Code, and apply equally to all handgun license holders;
- 5.11. Any portion of the campus leased by the university to a third party, if the third party determines to prohibit the concealed carry of handguns on the premises and provides effective notice pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code; and
- 5.12. Assigned offices, as approved by the president, for which the employee has demonstrated that the carrying of a concealed handgun by a license holder in the office presents a significant risk of substantial harm due to a negligent discharge.

6. PROHIBITED PREMISES

- 6.1. At all premises where concealed carry is prohibited, A&M-Texarkana must give effective notice under Section 30.06, Penal Code.

Definitions

Assigned office - an office assigned to an individual faculty or staff member that is not generally open to the public.

Campus - means all land and buildings owned or leased by the A&M-Texarkana.

Campus housing - means dormitories or other residential facilities located on campus that are: (1) owned and operated by A&M-Texarkana; or (2) leased and operated by A&M-Texarkana.

Interscholastic event - means a function or program existing or done between schools not including a collegiate sporting event.

Premises - means a building or portion of a building. The term does not include any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

Significant risk - means a high probability of harm, not just a slightly increased, speculative, or remote risk.

Substantial harm - means serious injury or death to a person or persons, or destruction of valuable property.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[System Regulation 34.06.02, *Weapons*](#)

Appendix

[Texas Statutory Prohibitions](#)

Contact Office

University Police Department
(903) 223-3114



TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Rule

34.06.02.L1 Carrying Concealed Handguns on Campus

First Approved: April 27, 2016 (effective August 1, 2016)
Revised: April 27, 2016
June 5, 2019
February 6, 2020
November 18, 2021
November 9, 2023
Next Scheduled Review: November 9, 2028

Rule Statement and Reason for Rule

The Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) President/CEO established this Rule after consulting with TAMIU students, staff, and faculty about the nature of the student population, specific safety considerations, and the uniqueness of the campus environment. This Rule has been reviewed by the System Board of Regents as required by law.

Senate Bill 11, signed into law in the 84th Legislative Session, authorizes handgun license holders to carry a concealed handgun on university campuses and includes a provision allowing institutions to establish limited rules regarding the storage of handguns in campus housing and prohibiting areas/premises on which license holders may carry.

Procedures and Responsibilities

1. GENERAL

A handgun license holder under Chapter 411, Texas Government Code, may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on the TAMIU campus or in a TAMIU vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law, or this Rule. *The open carrying of a handgun on campus is prohibited.* Licensed peace officers are authorized by law to carry firearms at all times.

2. ENFORCEMENT

TAMIU enforces state law regulating firearms on campus. This enforcement occurs in two ways. First, TAMIU police or other applicable law enforcement agencies will investigate and take appropriate action, including referral for criminal prosecution, when violations occur. Second, TAMIU will consider any violation of state law regulating firearms to be a violation of TAMIU rules. Accordingly, such a violation is subject to disciplinary action under rules applicable to students, faculty, and staff.

3. STORAGE OF HANDGUNS IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

TAMIU does not own and operate or lease and operate the residential facilities located on campus. Therefore, the management company of the residential facilities determines the restrictions on possession and storage of weapons in those facilities and lists those restrictions in its lease documents.

4. RULES APPLICABLE TO CARRYING A CONCEALED HANDGUN ON CAMPUS

4.1 State Law Prohibitions – A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable state law prohibitions. See “Texas Statutory Prohibitions” under Appendix below.

4.2 Federal Law Prohibitions – A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable federal law prohibitions.

4.3 Other Prohibited Campus Premises – A license holder is also prohibited from carrying a concealed handgun in the following campus premises:

4.3.1 As applicable, the room numbers shown below are where the particular prohibited premise is located at the time this Rule was last revised (refer to last revision date above). Since it is possible for the premises to be relocated, please visit <https://www.tamtu.edu/adminis/campuscarry> for the most current room numbers.

- a) Office of Student Health Services (STC 125);
- b) Office of Student Counseling and Disability Services (STC 126, 128) and TAMIU Community Counseling Center (CWT 213);
- c) Kinesiology, Wellness and Recreation Center (REC): Access-controlled portions of the building. The following non-access-controlled portions of the building, all located on the first floor, are not included in the prohibited area: entrance, foyer, public restrooms (not locker rooms) on the first floor, and classroom/laboratory spaces 128, 129, 131;
- d) Science/Research laboratories with compressed gas cylinders: Electron Microscopy Lab (CNS 212), Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Spectroscopy Labs (LBV 119 and 394), Dual Energy X-Ray Absorptiometry (DEXA) Lab (REC 130), Research Labs (LBV 121E, 197, 297, 388, 390 and CNS 209, 215, 215A), Chemistry Labs (LBV 272, 286, 288 and AIC 202, 206, 207), Machine Shop AIC 113, and Petroleum Engineering Labs (AIC 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 208, 209);
- e) The Texas Academy of International and STEM Studies (PLG 205 AND 215); and
- f) On the premises where a collegiate sporting event is taking place, so long as effective notice is given under Section 30.06, Penal Code.

4.3.2 Any premises where, as directed or approved by the President/CEO as necessary for campus safety, TAMIU gives effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code. For this Rule, the term 'owner of the property' in Section 30.06(b), Penal Code means the President of TAMIU in the role as CEO, or in the President's absence, a vice president or other executive designated by the President. No other TAMIU employee is 'someone with apparent authority to act for the owner' for purposes of Section 30.03(b), Penal Code. All notices under Section 30.06, Penal Code will be institutional notice, will conform to Section 46.03, Penal Code, and will apply equally to all handgun license holders.

4.3.3 Any campus premises leased by TAMIU to a third party, if the third party determines to prohibit the concealed carry of handguns on the premises and provides effective notice pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code.

4.4 At all premises where concealed carry is prohibited, TAMIU must give effective notice under Section 30.06, Penal Code.

5. REPORTING AND REQUESTS FOR TEMPORARY EXCLUSION ZONES

To aid in the maintenance and biennial reporting of this Rule, TAMIU designates the Senior Director of Campus Safety and Planning and the Chief of Police. Additionally, they serve as the authorities to review requests for temporary exclusion zones and make recommendations regarding approval to the President/CEO, the authority to designate temporary exclusion zones rests solely with the President/CEO and may not be delegated. The primary purpose and charge for the Senior Director and Chief is to function as the subject matter experts on Senate Bill 11 and to ensure compliance with the law, advise the President/CEO, and evaluate requests for additional prohibited areas.

Related Statutes, Policies, Regulations, or SAP's

[System Regulation 34.06.02, Weapons](#)

Definitions

Campus - All land and buildings owned or leased by TAMIU.

Premises - A building or portion of a building. The term does not include any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

Appendix

[Texas Statutory Prohibitions](#)

Contact Office

Office of Campus Safety and Planning, 956-326-3310



UNIVERSITY RULE

34.06.02.M1 Carrying Concealed Handguns on Campus

Approved April 27, 2016 (Effective August 1, 2016)

Revised: February 6, 2020

Revised: November 18, 2021

Reviewed December 5, 2022

Revised: November 9, 2023

Next scheduled review: November 9, 2028

Rule Statement

A license holder may carry a concealed handgun on the campus of Texas A&M University or in a university vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law, or this rule.

Reason for Rule

This rule is required by state law.

Definitions

Assigned office - means an office assigned solely for the use of the employee and not generally open to the public.

Campus - means all land and buildings owned or leased by Texas A&M.

Campus housing - means dormitories or other residential facilities located on campus that are: (1) owned by Texas A&M; or (2) leased and operated by Texas A&M.

Premises - means a building or portion of a building. The term does not include any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

Significant Risk – means a high probability of harm, not just a slightly increased, speculative, or remote risk.

Substantial harm – means serious injury or death to a person or persons, or destruction of valuable property.

Official Rule/Responsibilities/Process

1. The university president established this rule after consulting with Texas A&M students, staff and faculty about the nature of the student population, specific safety considerations, and the uniqueness of the campus environment. This rule was reviewed by the system board of regents as required by law.
2. A license holder under Chapter 411, Texas Government Code, may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on the campus of Texas A&M or in a university vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law, or this rule. Employees who are license holders are permitted to store a handgun in their office space so long as the gun is secured in a locked drawer or compartment. All license holders must secure their handgun when it is not on or about their person.
3. The open carrying of handguns is prohibited everywhere on campus. Licensed peace officers are authorized by law to carry firearms at all times.
4. Storage of Handguns in Residential Facilities
 - A. This section applies to dormitories or other residential facilities located on campus that are: (1) owned by Texas A&M; or (2) leased and operated by Texas A&M.
 - B. Any resident of campus housing who is a license holder and wants to store a handgun in his/her room must securely store it in a safe that is purchased or rented from the Department of Residence Life or their approved vendor.
5. Third-parties that lease a premise from the university have the authority to determine the concealed carry rights on the portion of the premise subject to the lease. If concealed carry is prohibited, lessee must provide effective notice under Section 30.06, Penal Code.
6. Rules Applicable to Carrying a Concealed Handgun on Campus
 - A. State Law Prohibitions

A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable state law prohibitions. See Appendix.

Texas law prohibits the possession of handguns in the following campus locations or under the following circumstances.

 - 1) A license holder may not carry a handgun if he/she is intoxicated.
 - 2) A license holder may not intentionally or knowingly display his/her handgun in plain view of another person, even if holstered, on campus, including on any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

- 3) A license holder may not intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly carry a handgun on or about the license holder's person on the following premises:
 - a) professional or high school sporting event or collegiate interscholastic event is taking place,
 - b) where a collegiate sporting event is taking place if effective notice under 30.06 is provided,
 - c) polling location,
 - d) government court or offices utilized by the court,
 - e) in the room or rooms where a meeting of a governmental entity is held and if the meeting is an open meeting subject to chapter 551, Government Code, and the entity provided notice as required by that chapter, or
 - f) secured area of an airport.

B. Federal Law Prohibitions

A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable federal law prohibitions. This includes, but is not limited to, the following facilities:

- 1) George Bush Presidential Library;
- 2) Nuclear research reactors; and
- 3) Multi-Program Research and Education Facility.

C. Other Prohibited Campus Premises

A license holder is also prohibited from carrying a concealed handgun on the following premises. Effective notice under Section 30.06, Penal Code shall be provided for each of these premises. Guidelines for posting approved signage must be followed as established through a TAMU Standard Administrative Procedure (SAP).

- 1) The premises in this section are determined by the president to be categorically prohibited from licensed carry of a handgun.
 - a) child-care facilities owned or operated by Texas A&M University;
 - b) counseling centers where licensed health care professionals or individuals under their supervision receiving patients;
 - c) health care facilities – licensed health care professionals or individuals under their supervision are receiving patients;
 - d) premises where formal administrative hearings/investigations are being conducted;
 - e) clinical facilities associated with the School of Law; and
 - f) marine vessels, such as those owned or operated by Texas A&M University at Galveston.
- 2) Premises that fall within one of the categories in this section, if specifically approved by the president, may be prohibited from licensed carry of a handgun. A process for making requests as well as the process for review and approval of such requests under this section is established in a SAP.
 - a) assigned offices for which the employee has demonstrated that the carrying of a concealed handgun by a license holder in the office presents a significant risk of substantial harm due to a negligent discharge;
 - b) high hazard research areas and laboratories where the presence of high hazard materials or operations creates a significant risk of catastrophic harm due to a negligent discharge, for example, BioSafety Level 3 laboratories, animal

care/use facilities, and areas having high magnetic fields, such as MRI research facilities; and

- c) research areas and laboratories in which research subjects are high risk (e.g., binge drinkers, subjects with diagnosed psychological disorders, subjects diagnosed with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder), or where the integrity of psychological research could be compromised.

- 3) Any premises where the university, as directed or approved by the president as necessary for campus safety, gives effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code. For this rule, the phrase “owner of the property” in Section 30.06(b) means the president of the university. No university employee is “someone with apparent authority to act for the owner” for purposes of 30.06(b). All notices under 30.06 will be institutional notice, conform to Penal Code Section 46.03 and apply equally to all license holders.

- 4) A violation of these specific prohibitions may be considered an offense under sections 46.02, 46.03, or 30.06 of the Texas Penal Code.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[System Regulation 34.06.02, Weapons](#)

Appendix

[Texas Statutory Prohibitions](#)

Contact Office

[University Police Department](#)



AGENCY RULE

34.06.02.F1 Carrying Concealed Handguns on Texas A&M Forest Service Property

Supplements Senate Bill 11

Approved April 27, 2016 (Effective August 1, 2016)

Revised November 18, 2021

Revised November 9, 2023

Next Scheduled Review November 9, 2028

RULE STATEMENT

Texas A&M Forest Service must adhere to all the requirements of System Regulation 34.06.02 *Weapons*.

REASON FOR RULE

This rule is required by System Regulation 34.06.02, *Weapons*.

PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. GENERAL

The Director established this rule after consulting with Texas A&M Forest Service employees about specific safety considerations and the uniqueness of the agency environment. This rule was reviewed by the system board of regents as required by law.

2. PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 A handgun license holder under Chapter 411, Texas Government Code, may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on agency property, or in an agency vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law, or this rule. The open carrying of handguns on agency property is prohibited. Licensed peace officers are authorized to carry firearms at all times. Employees who are license holders are permitted to store a handgun in their office space so long as the handgun is secured in a locked drawer or compartment. A license holder is personally responsible for researching, knowing and complying with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations related to concealed handguns and to weapons in general.

2.2 The agency enforces the state law regulating firearms on agency property. This enforcement occurs in two ways. First, police or other applicable law enforcement agencies will investigate and take appropriate action, including referral for criminal prosecution when violations occur. Second, the agency will consider any violation of state law regulating firearms to be a violation of agency rules. Accordingly, such a violation is subject to disciplinary action under rules applicable to employees.

3. RULES APPLICABLE TO CARRYING CONCEALED HANDGUNS ON AGENCY PROPERTY

- 3.1. State Law Prohibitions. A licensed holder is responsible for complying with the applicable state law prohibitions. See Appendix.
- 3.2. Federal Law Prohibitions. A licensed holder is responsible for complying with the applicable federal law prohibitions.
- 3.3. Any premises where the agency, as directed or approved by the director as necessary for property safety, gives effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code. For this rule, the phrase “owner of the property” in Section 30.06(b) means the director of the agency. No agency employee is “someone with apparent authority to act for the owner” for purposes of 30.06(b). All notices under 30.06 will be institutional notice, conform to Penal Code Section 46.03, and apply equally to all license holders.

RELATED STATUTES, POLICIES AND REQUIREMENTS

[System Regulation 34.06.02, Weapons](#)

APPENDIX

[Texas Statutory Prohibitions](#)

DEFINITIONS

Property - All land and buildings owned or leased by the agency.

Premises - A building or portion of a building. The term does not include any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

CONTACT OFFICE

Director, Texas A&M Forest Service
(979) 458-6600

34.06.02.S1 Carrying Concealed Handguns on the Premises of System Offices

Revised November 9, 2023

Next Scheduled Review: November 9, 2028

Click to view [Revision History](#).



Rule Summary

A license holder may carry a concealed handgun on the premises of the System Offices of The Texas A&M University System (System Offices) or in a system vehicle unless prohibited by state or federal law.

Definitions

Click to view [Definitions](#).

Rule

1. The Texas A&M University System (system) chancellor established this rule after consultation within the System Offices about specific safety considerations and the uniqueness of the System Offices environment. This rule was reviewed by the system Board of Regents as required by law.
2. A handgun license holder under Chapter 411, Texas Government Code, may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on the premises of the System Offices, or in a system vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law. The open carrying of a handgun on System Offices' land and premises is prohibited. Licensed peace officers are authorized by law to carry firearms at all times.
3. Employees who are license holders are permitted to store a handgun in their office space so long as the handgun is secured in a locked drawer or compartment.
4. Concealed carry is prohibited in any premises where the System Offices, as directed or approved by the chancellor as necessary for institutional safety, gives effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code. For this rule, the term "owner of the property" in Section 30.06(b), Penal Code, means the chancellor. No System Offices employee is "someone with apparent authority to act for the owner" for purposes of Section 30.06(b), Penal Code. All notices under Section 30.06, Penal Code, will be institutional notice, conform to Section 46.03, Penal Code, and apply equally to all handgun license holders.

5. RELLIS Campus.

- (a) All system agencies and universities with operational responsibility of a premises on RELLIS Campus must ensure they have a concealed handgun carry rule for the facilities under their management. If there are specific areas identified in member facilities on RELLIS Campus prohibiting concealed handguns, those areas must be identified and listed in System Offices Rule 34.06.02.S1. Additionally, system members will provide a copy of their rule to RELLIS Administration with a list of location(s) of the prohibited concealed carry areas.
- (b) All System Offices departments/programs on RELLIS Campus will utilize System Offices Rule 34.06.02.S1. System departments/programs will route through RELLIS Administration a list of locations of prohibited firearm areas for inclusion in System Offices Rule 34.06.02.S1.
 - i. Concealed carry is prohibited only in the Academic Alliance Buildings in the following locations. Access points to all prohibited locations must be marked with a lawful 30.06 notice sign.
 - i. The biology labs (BSL1 and BSL2) located on the third floor of Building 1 (Building 6000).

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[System Regulation 34.06.02, Weapons](#)

Appendix

[Texas Statutory Prohibitions](#)

Contact Office

General Counsel
(979) 458-6120

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Joe Elabd, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor for Research
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval for Dr. Zachary Grasley, a System Employee, to Serve as an Employee, Officer and Member of the Board of Directors of Circle Concrete Tech, Inc., a Business Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System

Proposed Board Action:

Approve for Dr. Zachary Grasley, Professor, Civil Engineering at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M), to serve in his individual capacity as an employee, officer and member of the board of directors of Circle Concrete Tech, Inc., a business entity that proposes to enter into a license agreement with The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) for technology developed by Dr. Grasley.

Background Information:

Currently a professor, the Zachry Chair for Construction Integration, and department head of the Zachry Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Dr. Grasley first joined Texas A&M University in 2006 as an assistant professor in Civil Engineering. He completed his B.S. in Civil Engineering from Michigan Technological University in 2001, and his M.S. and Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2003 and 2006, respectively. Dr. Grasley is a concrete materials expert who has executed over \$10 million in sponsored research and published over 75 refereed journal articles on advancing cement and concrete.

Dr. Grasley has worked with Texas A&M Innovation to file applicable patent applications for invention, TAMUS 5275, entitled “Eco-Friendly, Crack-Resistant Cementitious Materials” to protect the A&M System’s intellectual property rights in this technology.

Circle Concrete Tech, Inc. is an early-stage concrete manufacturing company founded in 2022 to commercialize intellectual property related to a novel use of recycled materials in concrete developed by Dr. Grasley at Texas A&M University. Dr. Grasley is requesting approval to work with Circle Concrete Tech, Inc. as an employee, officer and member of the board of directors of the company. Circle Concrete Tech, Inc. has plans to enter into an exclusive license agreement with the A&M System to commercialize the above-stated technology and have the right to make, have made, sell, and use licensed products for commercial purposes.

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. Grasley to serve in his individual capacity as an employee, officer and member of the board of directors of Circle Concrete Tech, Inc. Any potential conflicts of interest will be evaluated under System Regulation [15.01.03, Financial Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Research](#). A conflict of interest management plan has been developed by the Texas A&M Division of Research to mitigate potential conflicts of interest that might arise in connection with Circle

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Agenda Item Briefing

Concrete Tech, Inc. and continued research relating to the intellectual property to be licensed to Circle Concrete Tech, Inc. Dr. Grasley's request for permission for faculty consulting and external professional employment under System Regulation [31.05.01, Faculty Consulting and/or External Professional Employment](#) has been approved.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

None.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Approval of this agenda item will advance the A&M System strategic imperative 5 of enabling the A&M System to provide services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and contribute to the strength of the state's economy. Approval will enable the A&M System to license intellectual property developed by Dr. Grasley to Circle Concrete Tech, Inc., which will enable Circle Concrete Tech, Inc. to offer services and products that incorporate the intellectual property. As a result, a novel eco-friendly concrete that utilizes readily available recycled materials will be introduced to the marketplace contributing to the strength of the state's infrastructure building industry.

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research
September 28, 2023

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

Subject: Approval for Dr. Zachary Grasley, a System Employee, to Serve as an Employee, Officer, and Member of the Board of Directors of Circle Concrete Tech, Inc., a Business 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. Zachary Grasley, an employee of Texas A&M University, to serve, in his individual capacity, as an employee, officer and member of the board of directors of Circle Concrete Tech, Inc., a business 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, discovered, invented, or developed by Dr. Grasley.”

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Elabd, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Research

Approval Recommended:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Joe Elabd, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor for Research
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval for Dr. Mark Benden, a System Employee, to Serve as an Employee, Officer and Member of the Board of Directors of Humanate Digital, LLC, a Business Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System

Proposed Board Action:

Approve for Dr. Mark Benden, Certified Professional Ergonomist (CPE#706), Department Head and Professor for the Environmental and Occupational Health Department in the School of Public Health at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M), to serve in his individual capacity as an employee, officer and member of the board of directors of Humanate Digital, LLC, a business entity that proposes to enter into a license agreement with The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) for technology developed by Dr. Benden.

Background Information:

Dr. Mark E. Benden, received his B.S. in Bioengineering, M.S. in Industrial Engineering and Ph.D. from Texas A&M University. His career includes experience as an officer, an inventor, a rehabilitation engineer, an ergonomics consultant, a plant and corporate ergonomics engineer, and executive vice president. His career includes work for organizations from the United States Army Reserve, Johnson & Johnson, Neutral Posture and in 2008, he started work at Texas A&M University. By the age of 32 he was an officer of a NASDAQ traded company. He currently serves as Executive Director of the Texas A&M Ergonomics Center and is Department Chair for the Environmental & Occupational Health Department within the School of Public Health. He is the founder of four faculty-led startups and has licensed seven different products to four different companies since becoming a faculty member. His 30-year career in occupational safety and ergonomics has produced multiple processes, tools, and devices to decrease injury and illness risk. Most of those devices are protected by 25 issued U.S. Patents, and multiple pending patent applications. Dr. Benden is the author of many articles, books and book chapters on ergonomics and has been called upon to lecture to multiple professional groups throughout the United States, Canada, Asia, Europe, the Caribbean, and Central and South America.

Dr. Benden has worked with Texas A&M Innovation to file applicable patent applications for invention TAMUS 6208, entitled “Digital Human Work Force Solution for Healthcare Clinical Practices” to protect the A&M System’s intellectual property rights in this technology.

Humanate Digital, LLC is an early-stage healthcare company founded in 2023 to commercialize intellectual property related to a novel digital human Clinical Care Concierge (C3) developed by Dr. Benden at Texas A&M University. Dr. Benden is requesting approval to work with Humanate Digital, LLC as an employee, officer and member of the board of directors of the company. Humanate Digital, LLC has plans to enter into an exclusive license agreement with the A&M

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System to commercialize the above-stated technology and have the right to make, have made, sell, and use licensed products for commercial purposes.

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. Benden to serve in his individual capacity as an employee, officer and member of the board of directors of Humanate Digital, LLC. Any potential conflicts of interest will be evaluated under System Regulation [15.01.03, Financial Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Research](#). A conflict of interest management plan has been developed by the Texas A&M Division of Research to mitigate potential conflicts of interest that might arise in connection with Humanate Digital, LLC and continued research relating to the intellectual property to be licensed to Humanate Digital, LLC. Dr. Benden's request for permission for faculty consulting and external professional employment under System Regulation [31.05.01, Faculty Consulting and/or External Professional Employment](#) has been approved.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

None.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Approval of this agenda item will advance the A&M System strategic imperative 5 of enabling the A&M System to provide services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and contribute to the strength of the state's economy. Approval will enable the A&M System to license intellectual property developed by Dr. Benden to Humanate Digital, LLC, which will enable Humanate Digital, LLC to offer services and products that incorporate the intellectual property. As a result, a novel use of digital humans in a clinical setting will provide optimization and enhancement to patient experience and reduce operational costs of the healthcare system contributing to the strength of the state's healthcare industry.

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research

September 28, 2023

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

Subject: Approval for Dr. Mark Benden, a System Employee, to Serve as an Employee, Officer and Member of the Board of Directors of Humanate Digital, LLC, a Business 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. Mark Benden, an employee of Texas A&M University, to serve, in his individual capacity, as an employee, officer and member of the board of directors of Humanate Digital, LLC, a business 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, discovered, invented, or developed by Dr. Benden.”

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Elabd, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Research

Approval Recommended:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Joe Elabd, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor for Research
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval for Mr. John Hanks and Dr. Amir Zavareh, System Employees, to Serve as Officers, Members of the Board of Directors and Employees of SageSpectra, Inc., a Business Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System

Proposed Board Action:

Approve for Mr. John Hanks, Professor of Practice in the Department of Biomedical Engineering, College of Engineering at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) and Dr. Amir Zavareh, Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Biomedical Engineering, College of Engineering at Texas A&M, to serve in their individual capacities as officers, members of the board of directors, and employees of SageSpectra, Inc., a business entity that proposes to enter into a license agreement with The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) for technology developed by Mr. Hanks and Dr. Zavareh.

Background Information:

Mr. Hanks is an experienced industry veteran with more than 30 years of corporate experience at National Instruments, Maxim Integrated (now Analog Device), and Siemens Medical Systems with roles leading engineering, R&D, and product management teams. Mr. Hanks has lead teams and brought to market more than \$3B of new hardware and software product designs. While at Maxim Integrated, he led the Advanced R&D team responsible for low-cost, low-power sensors designs for wearable, automotive, and industrial applications. Maxim is a leading semiconductor supplier of wearable optical heart rate and oxygen sensor modules for phones and smart watches with volumes exceeding 400M units. While at National Instruments, he held positions as vice president of Life Sciences and Healthcare and vice president of Product Management. At National Instruments, Mr. Hanks was a catalyst who brought together teams to start several successful product lines for machine vision, motion control, wireless sensing and data acquisition. As vice president of Life Sciences and Healthcare, Mr. Hanks led teams that developed commercial subsystems, prototypes and manufacturing test systems for optical coherence tomography imaging, ultrasound probes, mass spectrometry, DNA sequencing and molecular diagnostics devices. His efforts contributed to National Instruments being named 12 times to FORTUNE magazine's "100 Best Companies to Work For" list and to delivering consistent, profitable growth from \$40M to \$1.2B. His research interests include screening, diagnostic, and point-of-care medical devices using optical spectroscopy and machine learning.

Dr. Zavareh is an expert electrical engineer with ten years of experience in analog, digital, and mixed signal electronic and signal processing experience. Dr. Zavareh earned his B.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Sharif University of Technology and Texas A&M, respectively. Dr. Zavareh is a serial entrepreneur with three running startup companies, having raised hundreds of thousands of dollars each. Dr. Zavareh is currently a Research Assistant Professor in the Department of

Biomedical Engineering at Texas A&M focusing on designing bioinstrumentation designed to assess the interaction of light with tissue to infer relevant biomedical information.

At Texas A&M, Mr. Hanks and Dr. Zavareh have developed low-cost devices for monitoring tissue for infections and vascular obstructions after skin and tissue transplant surgeries and are working with Texas A&M Innovation to maintain and file new relevant patent applications for the inventions, TAMUS 5834 and TAMUS 6057, to protect the A&M System's intellectual property rights in these technologies.

SageSpectra, Inc. has been formed to commercialize these new medical devices and recently completed NSF I-Corps and filed for SBIR Phase I grants. Mr. Hanks and Dr. Zavareh are requesting approval to work with SageSpectra, Inc. as officers, members of the board of directors, and employees to continue development and refinement of these products. SageSpectra, Inc. proposes to enter into an exclusive license agreement with the A&M System to commercialize these technologies and have the right to make, have made, sell, and use licensed products for further development and commercial purposes.

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 Mr. Hanks and Dr. Zavareh to serve in their individual capacities as officers, members of the board of directors, and employees of SageSpectra, Inc. Any potential conflicts of interest will be evaluated under System Regulation [15.01.03, Financial Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Research](#). Conflict of interest management plans have been developed by Texas Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) and the Texas A&M Division of Research to mitigate potential conflicts of interest that might arise in connection with SageSpectra, Inc. and continued research conducted at TEES and/or Texas A&M relating to the intellectual property to be licensed to SageSpectra, Inc. Mr. Hanks and Dr. Zavareh's requests for permission for faculty consulting and external professional employment under System Regulation [31.05.01, Faculty Consulting and/or External Professional Employment](#) have been approved.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

None.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Approval of this agenda item will advance the A&M System strategic imperative 5 of enabling the A&M System to provide services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and contribute to the state's economy. Approval will enable the A&M System to license intellectual property developed by Mr. Hanks and Dr. Zavareh to SageSpectra, Inc. As a result, these new novel devices will provide early detection of surgical site infections (SSIs) and peripheral arterial disease (PAD) to lower patient morbidity and mortality and reduce economic costs at hospital systems for the state of Texas and the nation.

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research

September 28, 2023

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

Subject: Approval for Mr. John Hanks and Dr. Amir Zavareh, System Employees, to Serve as Officers, Members of the Board of Directors and Employees of SageSpectra, Inc., a Business 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 Mr. John Hanks and Dr. Amir Zavareh, employees of Texas A&M University, to serve, in their individual capacities, as officers, members of the board of directors and employees of SageSpectra, Inc., a business 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, discovered, invented, or developed by Mr. Hanks and Dr. Zavareh.”

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Elabd, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Research

Approval Recommended:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Joe Elabd, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor for Research
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Establishment of the Research and Innovation Security and Competitiveness Institute

Proposed Board Action:

Establish the Research and Innovation Security and Competitiveness Institute (RISC Institute) within The Texas A&M University System (A&M System).

Background Information:

Academia is a magnet for students and researchers worldwide to join forces in solving the nation's most pressing problems and promoting scientific advancement. Unfortunately, countries that do not follow our established open and ethical research collaboration values threaten our economic and scientific competitiveness. These countries are illicitly appropriating intellectual capital, sensitive data and technical expertise at an unprecedented rate. Complicating the issue, federal laws and regulations designed to protect intellectual property or prevent the unlawful transfer of controlled or sensitive information often fail to translate into an academic context. The risks associated with these intelligence and technical acquisitions range from diminishing our economic and scientific leadership to sabotaging critical industrial, commercial and safety operations.

Public and private-sector institutions must employ proactive and resilient research security programs that identify deficiencies and integrate process, policy, training, and technology solutions into their operations. Unfortunately, many institutions cannot detect, deter or neutralize security risks. The proposed RISC Institute will serve as the benchmark for creating and implementing the highest standards in research security. This institute will lead the way in mitigating risks to academic, civilian and government research enterprises while protecting the characteristics that make the United States (U.S.) higher education system the most productive and prolific worldwide research generator.

The mission of the RISC Institute is to serve as the leading resource for securing the research enterprise. The RISC Institute is dedicated to protecting the strength of our academic and industrial research communities while promoting forward-thinking and innovative approaches to research security.

The RISC Institute will immediately leverage existing research security program leadership, investigative knowledge, external partner capabilities, and compliance tools to focus on:

1. **Education and Training** – ensure A&M System students continue to have relevant skills and are ready to make a positive impact upon graduation; train a new generation of research

security professionals from across the U.S. and around the world, and provide continuing education for those already working in research security.

1. **Service** – assist institutions currently lacking the capability and resources to create effective due-diligence programs and provide a continual source of expertise to the research security workforce.
2. **Outreach** – build deeper affiliations to ensure relevancy, enhance research outcomes and broaden the impact of the A&M System to strengthen our reputation as a leader in research security.
3. **Research** – review current processes and analyze changing risk factors to reduce the likelihood and impact of information theft and misappropriation.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The A&M System will fund the initial start-up of the RISC Institute, including, but not limited to, salaries, equipment and general operations. Opportunities for additional support will come from potential state and federal grants, funds from academic and government agency partnerships, offered courses and training, and philanthropic gifts.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The RISC Institute will advance several A&M System strategic imperatives by developing educational experiences and service opportunities for our students' post-graduation success and safeguarding our robust, cross-institution and targeted research portfolio (imperatives 3 and 4). In addition, the RISC Institute will advance imperatives 5 and 7 by contributing to and protecting the strength of our state and national economies by pursuing pioneering avenues to address national and global challenges.

Agenda Item No.

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research

August 17, 2023

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

Subject: Establishment of the Research and Innovation Security and Competitiveness Institute

I recommend the adoption of the following minute order:

“The Research and Innovation Security and Competitiveness Institute is hereby established as an organizational unit of The Texas A&M University System.”

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Elabd, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Research

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

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Research and Innovation Security and Competitiveness Institute

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Rationale for the Creation of the RISC Institute

The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) proposes the establishment of the Research and Innovation Security and Competitiveness Institute (RISC Institute) as an organizational unit of the A&M System to develop partnerships with other higher education institutions and organizations outside the academic community. It will diversify the scope of innovative solutions to the complex and ever-changing challenge of securing our research and maintaining our creative lead. The RISC Institute will enhance A&M System members' response to new state and federal research security requirements and initiatives and serve as a collaborative hub for academic, industry and government research security expertise.

According to a 2022 report released by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, titled *Protecting U.S. Technological Advantage*, "The historical approach to risk and protection of technologies taken by the U.S. has been predicated on an assumption of economic and technological dominance, largely by focusing those approaches on restricting access to or use of the outputs of technology development. The increasing globalization of science and technology, new ways of developing technology applications and the advent of powerful technology platforms have made many current methods of protecting technologies obsolete, and in many instances counterproductive."

During a March 2, 2023, U.S. House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology hearing, Klon Kitchen, Senior Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, reminded committee members that the U.S. must seriously confront technological theft because "... emerging technologies will decisively shape tomorrow's societies, economies, and battlefields...."

Already the acknowledged leader in securing the academic research enterprise, the A&M System is committed to innovating and driving research security forward by providing a forum for "researching research security." Continually prioritizing, refocusing, and expanding the capacity of academic and private sector security of intellectual capital is vital to the safety and economic well-being of our state and nation. The RISC Institute will offer valuable insight to government, academic and corporate stakeholders by recognizing and analyzing the impediments of current multi-sector assessment and aid in developing stream-lined and consistent policy for secure multiorganizational and multinational collaboration.

2. General Description of the RISC Institute and Its Mission and Goals

The RISC Institute will be the leading national and international resource for securing the research enterprise. It will be dedicated to protecting the strengths of our academic and industrial research communities while promoting forward-thinking, innovative and secure approaches to international collaboration.

Specifically, the RISC Institute's mission objectives are:

- Develop awareness, training and educational programs necessary to build a workforce with technical expertise and experience to integrate security into every aspect of business and academic culture.
- Serve the nation as the technical resource for establishing, managing and assessing research security programs and policies fundamental to maintaining national security, innovation and economic competitiveness.
- Lead the national and international community in outreach necessary for securing the academic and industrial research enterprise.
- Develop a consortium of like-minded public/private organizations engaged in securing the research enterprise to ensure the timely exchange of information.
- Analyze and assess the research security implications of critical and emerging technologies.

3. Potential Faculty, System and Other Institution Collaborations

The RISC Institute will facilitate the engagement of A&M System faculty and professional staff with experts from the U.S. national security agencies, accredited research/science and academic organizations, other esteemed universities, national laboratories, industry, and government leaders to establish best practices, develop education and training platforms and hold conferences and symposia focused on securing the research enterprise.

Current Collaborators:

A&M System Faculty:

Kevin Gamache, Ph.D., Assoc. Vice Chancellor and Chief Research Security Officer

Ivett Leyva, Ph.D., Professor, Aerospace Engineering

William Norris, Ph.D., Assoc. Professor, International Affairs

James Olson, J.D., Professor, International Affairs

Gerald Parker, DVM, Ph.D., Assoc. Dean of Global One Health

Lori Taylor, Ph.D., Department Head and Professor, Public Service and Administration

Kay Wijekumar, Ph.D., Professor, Teaching, Learning and Culture

Industry:

Optiv, Inc.

MITRE Corporation

Government:

National Science Foundation

U.S. Department of State

U.S. Department of Justice/Federal Bureau of Investigation

4. Potential Activities

The RISC Institute will focus on four overlapping principles:

- A. Education And Training:** The RISC Institute will educate and train a new generation of research security professionals and provide continuing education in research security operations, policy, technology protection and program management. The RISC Institute will ensure A&M System students continue to have relevant skills and are ready to make a positive impact upon graduation, train a new generation of research security professionals from across the U.S. and around the world, and provide continuing education for those already working in research security.

In collaboration with the Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) Bush School of Government and Public Service (Bush School), the RISC Institute will create a Graduate Certificate Program in Research Security during Year 1. This certificate program will be offered online as part of the Bush School Distance Education Program.

A Research Security Track will also be developed and offered as part of the Bush School's Executive Master's in Public Service and Administration. This program is open to mid-career professionals, the demographic most needed to lead research security programs in academia and industry. The Bush School Research Security Track will be the first of its kind and will position Texas A&M to lead in providing a new cadre of research security professionals.

Given research security's growing sophistication and technical nature, finding individuals well-qualified to assume Chief Research Security Officer positions at large research universities is problematic. The ideal candidate would have significant experience in government and academia and a solid grounding in conducting research that is best achieved in a Ph.D. program. The RISC Institute will be perfectly aligned to produce these highly specialized academy members when fully operational.

There is also a significant need to develop awareness and training materials specific to the research security arena. The RISC Institute will establish training, such as the mechanics of conducting an effective due diligence program in academia, and research security for executive leaders.

The A&M System Research Security Office (RSO) created a five-module online Research Security Management Certificate Program (RSMCP) in 2021. This certificate program has been well-received and will be updated and rebranded under the RISC Institute. The RSCMP introduces research security to researchers, staff and government officials. It is the only program of its kind currently available.

- B. Service:** The A&M System RSO has earned a national and international reputation for excellence in research security, primarily through national-level service programs that have been in place since 2017. These programs will be moved under the portfolio of the RISC Institute.

The RISC Institute will assist institutions of higher learning and industry members who currently lack resources to create effective, due-diligence programs and provide a source

of expertise to the research security workforce. Some of the notable programs that will be coordinated through the RISC Institute include:

Academic Security and Counter Exploitation Program

The A&M System RSO established the Academic Security and Counter Exploitation (ASCE) Program in 2017 in consultation with federal officials to leverage the expertise of universities that have demonstrated excellence in research security programs to help address the threat posed by foreign adversaries to U.S. academic institutions.

ASCE aims to further the protection of intellectual property, controlled information, key personnel and critical technologies, and mitigate and manage risks from undue foreign influence at U.S. academic institutions researching economic or national security.

To advance its mission, ASCE:

- Provides a focal point within academia for discussions concerning U.S. universities researching economic and national security.
- Works collaboratively with Federal law enforcement, research and development funding agencies and other government organizations to develop new guidance for U.S. universities to counter malign foreign influence.
- Serves as an advocate for the academic community, providing advice and feedback to U.S. agencies and policymakers regarding the scope and importance of open research, free inquiry and international cooperation in the university context to help ensure that federal guidance, policies and requirements affecting academic science are fully informed and optimally tailored to avoid unintended negative consequences.
- Supports U.S. agencies and academic institutions' efforts to develop domestic talent in relevant scientific and engineering fields.
- Serves as a conduit and resource within the academic community for sharing and disseminating information and best practices to help institutions of higher learning educate faculty and staff on the threat and overall risks to the U.S. research enterprise.
- Partners with international universities to share best practices and advance research security initiatives globally.

University Research Security Professionals Association

What began with ASCE has also matured into the University Research Security Professionals Association (URSPA). Still, in its infancy, URSPA has an Executive Committee comprised of research security professionals from ten top U.S. universities. The RISC Institute will be URSPA's administrative home and facilitate the association's professional certification program.

Research Security Professional Certification

The field of research security is relatively new. Requirements from a federal policy such as the *National Security Presidential Memorandum (NSPM) 33* and the *Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) and Science Act of 2022*, established research security requirements for Tier 1 Research Universities. There is a need for the

professionalization of research security to include curriculum development, the definition of experience requirements, education, training, and testing. The RISC Institute will be ideally positioned to lead the research security professionalization effort.

Critical and Emerging Technology Protection Program (CETPP)

As The Texas A&M University System increases its portfolio of centers and institutes with a focus on critical and emerging technologies, it will be increasingly important to ensure that the security of that technology is considered from program/device inception. The RISC Institute will provide the expertise and mission to work with A&M System research organizations to protect their developing technology from those who want to gain illicit access. This service will also be available outside the A&M System to other universities and industries.

Open-Source Media Summary

The A&M System RSO has published a weekly open-source media summary (OSMS) electronic newsletter since 2017. This provides universities with overviews of threat information specifically focused on academia. The OSMS currently reaches over 4000 university, government and industry personnel.

Research Security and Integrity Information Sharing Analysis Organization (RSI-ISAO)

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is currently seeking to establish an independent RSI-ISAO to empower the U.S. research community, non-profit research institutions and small and medium-sized for-profit organizations to address foreign government interference, support security-informed decision-making and serve as a conduit that connects research community stakeholders and with U.S. Government agencies via NSF.

This will be a five-year, \$10 million per year effort. The A&M System already has a strong portfolio in this area, making it an ideal candidate. The proposal is due October 31, 2023, and the A&M System is currently preparing our response. The RSI-ISAO would be an anchor function for the RISC Institute.

- C. Outreach:** The RISC Institute will continue to build deeper relationships with federal agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Department of State and the Department of Defense. FBI Director Christopher Wray has said that the A&M System's working relationship with the FBI is the "Gold Standard" for universities across the U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Gonzalo Suarez, said, "The Texas A&M University System has done more to advance research security than any other university in the country." The RISC Institute will adequately position the A&M System to continue to be the Gold Standard for research security.

The opportunity exists for using the A&M System research security program model for other Texas universities. Additionally, many programs could be established through the Texas Workforce Commission and the Texas Veteran's Commission to train Texas veterans to perform critical research security-related roles within Texas universities and businesses.

D. Research: The term "research security" has become more common in recent years but is not always well-understood in the research community. There is no clear distinction between research security and integrity in the U.S. and internationally. The NSF needs to understand better the differences between these two concepts and how they overlap and depend on the scientific discipline. This understanding will help NSF, its federal partners and the research community develop controls to protect research from undue foreign influence without adversely impacting international collaboration. Sufficient data on research security issues' type and frequency does not exist. As a result, federal agencies rely on individual cases or potentially biased measures in decision-making. The RISC Institute will make research security research one of its foundational efforts to help solve this problem.

5. Impact on Education and Training of Students

The research security enterprise within academic institutions, private sector industry and government agencies desperately needs a talented workforce trained to identify and strengthen program vulnerabilities. In addition to the research security and integrity curricula listed previously, access to the latest security risks and the opportunity for hands-on experience through holistic and specialized training, capstone courses and workshops with multi-sector security experts will ensure students across multiple disciplines are taught to integrate security into a wide range of professional vocations.

6. Resource Requirements

The RISC Institute will require funds for salaries for a director and a small, experienced support staff. Resources to purchase some computer and workstation equipment will be needed; however, at this time, computer data system management and storage space will be handled by the specialized Information Technology staff in the A&M System Research Security Office.

Initially, the RISC Institute will be housed in the Donald L. Houston Building on the Texas A&M campus near the Research Security Office and in a secure environment.

7. Sources and Future Expectations of Financial Support

The RISC Institute anticipates federal funds and grants as we facilitate programs for and with government agencies such as the NSF and the U.S. Department of State Office of Science and Technology.

External Advisory Council membership dues and revenue from conference and training course fees should ensure the RISC Institute is financially independent after three years. Additionally, philanthropic donations from former students and partnering corporate subject matter experts are possible.

8. Governance and Advisory Structure

The RISC Institute will be structured under A&M System Policy *11.02, Creation of Centers and Institutes*. The RISC Institute will be led by a director reporting to the Vice Chancellor for Research.

Immediate staffing required:

Director

Associate Director - Security/Counterintelligence

Program Director

Manager – Operations

Executive Assistant

9. Mechanisms for Periodic Review

The RISC Institute director will provide an annual report to the Vice Chancellor for Research. Per A&M System Policy *11.02, Creation of Centers and Institutes*, an in-depth review will be performed every five years with performance guidelines established by the Vice Chancellor for Research and the Chancellor.

Agenda Item No.

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

September 1, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, November 2023,
Tarleton State 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 Tarleton State University as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 24-01.”

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. James Hurley
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

**TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY
BACKGROUND OF FACULTY
RECOMMENDED FOR ACADEMIC TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 24-01**

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present Rank</u> <u>Department</u>	<u>Yrs. Towards</u> <u>Tenure*</u>		<u>Effective Date</u> <u>Tenure</u>
		<u>Univ.</u>	<u>Other Inst.</u>	
Dr. Kevin Johnson	Professor Biology	0	6	Upon Approval By the Board and Faculty Arrival
Ph.D. (1998)	University of Oregon			
Fa 2017 – Su 2023	Florida Tech	Professor		

Dr. Kevin Johnson is an expert in the area of oceanography and environmental science. His research specifically addresses the topic of water quality and biological monitoring. He was previously a program chair at Florida Tech University, holding the rank of professor of Oceanography and Environmental Science. Across his career, Dr. Johnson has authored or co-authored over thirty publications, including peer-reviewed articles in journals such as the Journal of Marine Science and Engineering, Journal of Shellfish Research, and Ecology, among many others. Additionally, he has presented at over 45 conferences since 2010, including at state, regional and national professional conferences. He has been awarded over \$3.3 million in external contracts and grants from, among others, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Department of Education and the St. Johns River Water Management District, and he has received \$854,000 in Ship-Time Grants and donations in-kind. Dr. Johnson has been recognized for the quality of his teaching, being granted the Walter Munn, Jr. Award for Teaching Excellence from the College of Engineering at Florida Tech in 2009. He has also been recognized for his service, receiving the Andrew W. Revay, Jr. Award for Service Excellence at Florida Tech in 2013. He has served on committees as institutionally important as the Academic Program Assessment Committee, the College of Engineering Leadership Council, Faculty Senate, the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, and the Florida Tech Title IX Committee. He has also participated in disciplinary committees such as the Florida Institute of Oceanography (FIO), the STEM Advisory Committee for FIO Ships and Marine Labs and the International Maritime Organization. He has been a good university citizen, he values quality teaching and he makes positive contributions to his discipline.

Dr. Kevin Johnson's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy 12.01, Section 4.3."

- * 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: Dr. James Hurley, President
Tarleton State University

Subject: Approval of a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences and Bachelor of Science with a Major in Leadership and Strategic Studies, 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 Arts, Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences, and Bachelor of Science with a major in Leadership and Strategic Studies (B.A., B.A.A.S., and B.S. in LDSS) programs and 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 Leadership and Strategic Studies within the Leadership and Military College requests the establishment of a program to fulfill the needs of students who want to gain practical experience to enter the military and related occupational fields.

The B.A., B.A.A.S., and B.S. in LDSS will prepare students for commissioned service in the United States military, primarily Army and Air Force, as well as traditional and non-traditional students looking to acquire skills to enter related occupational fields. The B.A. in LDSS focuses on foreign languages, which equips officers to navigate language and culture at a time when the U.S. military finds itself in persistent conflict and powerful cooperation with friendly and adversarial nations. The B.A.A.S. in LDSS is an applied degree that serves to cater to a niche of non-traditional students who have prior service and college credits earned but lack a viable pathway toward degree completion. Finally, the B.S. in LDSS maintains a focus on cybersecurity in order to develop the capability for cadets to operate effectively in multi-domain operations.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The proposed B.A., B.A.A.S., and B.S. in LDSS will not require new faculty or support staff. All faculty salaries will be reallocated. New costs are estimated at \$25,000 for supplies and materials and facility costs of \$100,000 during year two of the program. There will be no additional costs for this program.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed B.A., B.A.A.S., and B.S. in LDSS align with The Texas A&M University System strategic plan imperative 3, by preparing students for long-term careers in a fast-growing field. This program brings students to the leading edge of academic excellence by nurturing graduates' abilities to network and succeed as a team and as a leader, by elevating each student's academic and research profile and by promoting student success and dedication to innovation.

Agenda Item No.

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

August 16, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences and Bachelor of Science with a Major in Leadership and Strategic Studies, 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 Arts, Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences and Bachelor of Science in Leadership and Strategic Studies.

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 Arts,
Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences
Bachelor of Science,
with a Major in Leadership and Strategic Studies
(CIP 30.9999.22)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Leadership and Strategic Studies within the Leadership and Military College.

Tarleton State University (Tarleton) seeks to deliver a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences and Bachelor of Science with a major in Leadership and Strategic Studies degrees which will prepare students for commissioned service in the United States military, primarily Army and Air Force, as well as traditional and non-traditional students looking to acquire skills to enter related occupational fields. The Bachelor of Arts focuses on foreign languages, which equips officers to navigate language and culture at a time when the U.S. military finds itself in persistent conflict and powerful cooperation with friendly and adversarial nations. The Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences is an applied degree that serves to cater to a niche of non-traditional students who have prior service and college credits earned but lack a viable pathway toward degree completion. Finally, the Bachelor of Science maintains a focus on cybersecurity in order to develop the capability for cadets to operate effectively in multi-domain operations.

The proposed curriculum within this new program is designed to meet the following student learning outcomes:

1. Develop a foundation in the principles of leadership, foundational statistics and methods.
2. Develop well-developed written and oral communication skills.
3. Convey complex information and communicate effectively and persuasively to any audience.
4. Evaluate the nature, concepts and components of strategic leadership and apply them to highly complex security and strategic issues.
5. Apply critical thinking skills to synthesize, analyze and evaluate information.
6. Think strategically and skillfully to develop strategies to achieve objectives related to the national security ecosystem.
7. Become engaged citizens with the ability to exercise moral judgments that promote the values and ethics of a civilized society.
8. Have a broad conceptual understanding of geopolitics and its impact on national security and strategy.

These 120-hour programs are comprised of courses in leadership studies. Coursework includes topics such as leadership, strategic studies, military sciences, aerospace sciences, and political science. The programs emphasize a shared common leadership foundation with topic courses associated with national security and strategy.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2024.

Tarleton 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 projects a force structure is needed that is sufficient to deter, fight and overcome various threats or conflicts in multiple regions and domains at the same time. If history is a predictor, emerging conflicts and global events will lead to a change in the size of the military branches. As of March 2022, the force structure for commissioned officers stands at 215,789. The active component end-strength, defined as the maximum number of members authorized to serve in the armed forces, declined by 1.4% between Fiscal Year 2022 and Fiscal Year 2023. However, unlike private industry where markets can impair its survival, the United States will always require a national defense ecosystem equipped with resources, systems and infrastructure.

In addition, the degree will prepare students to serve in the broad array of manager positions captured in the Bureau of Labor Statistics under the category Administrative Services and Facilities Managers. In 2021, the BLS data shows there were 348,100 jobs nationally in this category. The Bureau of Labor projects a 7% job growth in this occupational category between 2021 and 2031 with an overall increase of 23,600 jobs providing an additional significant source of job opportunities for graduates of the proposed program.

B. Projected Enrollment

It is projected that the program will begin year one with 10 students and progress to 35 in year two and 70 in year three. The program anticipates progressing to 85 students by year four and to 110 students by year five.

C. Existing State Programs

There is one Texas public university that offers a B.A. in Strategic Defense and Leadership at the University of Texas at San Antonio. There are no universities with a similar program within 100 miles of Tarleton.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

The proposed program has three core faculty and one support faculty assigned to the program. There will be no additional faculty or support staff hired for this program.

B. Program Administration

The program will be administered by the Department of Leadership and Strategic Studies within the Leadership and Military College. No new administrative costs are anticipated.

C. Other Personnel

No additional personnel will be requested within the first five years of the program.

D. Supplies, Materials

Supplies and materials are requested in the amount of \$25,000 for the first five years of the program.

E. Library

The current library resources will be sufficient for this program, so there will be no additional costs.

F. Equipment, Facilities

There will be a facility cost of \$100,000 to renovate a classroom/conference room during year two of the program.

G. Accreditation

The proposed program does not require specialized accreditation beyond what is required by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS		SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	\$1,520,430	Formula Income	\$53,470
Program Administration		Statutory Tuition	\$349,400
Graduate Assistants		Reallocation	\$1,520,430
Clerical/Staff			
Supplies & Materials	\$25,000	Designated Tuition	\$1,047,641
Library & IT Resources		Other Funding:	
Equipment, Facilities	\$100,000	Board Authorized Tuition	\$349,400
Accreditation			
Estimated 5-Year Costs	\$1,645,430	Estimated 5-Year Revenues	\$3,320,341

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

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

Subject: Approval of a Bachelor of Science with a Major in Zoo Animal Care and 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 Tarleton State University (Tarleton) leading to a Bachelor of Science with a major in Zoo Animal Care and Management (B.S. in ZAMG) program, 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 Wildlife and Natural Resources in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources requests the establishment of the program to fulfill the needs of students who want to gain practical experience to work in wildlife and conservation fields.

The B.S. in ZAMG is designed to provide graduates prepared for employment in animal welfare, conservation efforts and public awareness of wildlife issues areas. Graduates will also obtain a thorough understanding of the whole-animal biology of wild vertebrates, knowledge of the science of conservation of wild species in confinement, including the preparation of animals for release into the wild, and knowledge of the role of zoos and other confined wild-animal facilities in wildlife conservation.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The proposed B.S. in ZAMG has six core faculty and their salaries will be reallocated. One faculty line will be hired before the implementation of the program at \$85,800. There will be seven support faculty who are also current faculty members. The program will not require additional support staff. New costs are estimated at \$25,000 for supplies and materials. There will be no additional costs for this program.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) This Item Advances:

The proposed B.S. in ZAMG aligns with The Texas A&M University System strategic plan imperative 3, by preparing students for long-term careers in a fast-growing field. This program brings students to the leading edge of academic excellence by nurturing graduates' abilities to network and succeed as a team and as a leader, by elevating each student's academic and research profile, and by promoting student success and dedication to innovation.

Agenda Item No.

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

August 16, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of a Bachelor of Science with a Major in Zoo Animal Care and 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 Tarleton State University
leading to a Bachelor of Science in Zoo Animal Care and Management.**

**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 Zoo Animal Care and Management
(CIP 26.0701.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Wildlife and Natural Resources in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Tarleton State University (Tarleton) seeks to deliver a Bachelor of Science with a major in Zoo Animal Care and Management (ZAMG) degree which will prepare graduates for employment in animal welfare, conservation and public awareness of wildlife issues areas. Graduates will also obtain a thorough understanding of the whole-animal biology of wild vertebrates, knowledge of the science of conservation of wild species in confinement, including the preparation of animals for release into the wild, and knowledge of the role of zoos and other confined wild-animal facilities in wildlife conservation.

The proposed curriculum within this new program is designed to meet the following student learning outcomes:

1. Understanding of the implications of new information for both current and future problem-solving and decision-making in the management of animals in the zoo field.
2. Display logic and reasoning to identify strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions and/or approaches to problems.
3. Practice scientific rules and methods to solve problems.
4. Communicate effectively in writing as appropriate for the needs of the audience.
5. Social perceptiveness in awareness of others' reactions and understanding why they react the way they do.
6. Judgement and decision-making when considering the relative costs and benefits of potential actions to choose the most appropriate one.

This 120-semester credit hour program is comprised of courses in zoo animal care and management. Coursework includes topics such as wildlife conservation, animal care and zoo management, vertebrate biology and conservation management, and veterinary medicine. The proposed program will be unique in that its focus is on the biology and specific management challenges of conserving and caring for wild animals in confinement.

The proposed implementation date is Fall 2024.

Tarleton certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the [19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 5.45](#) regarding 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

A May 2023 review of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums job board showed there are currently a total of 408 advertised positions. Of those, there are 24 positions open in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, 29 additional positions in Texas beyond the Dallas/Fort Worth area and 355 additional positions nationwide. After a basic determination of job titles, 129 of these positions were classified as entry-level requiring a related degree and 122 were advanced level requiring some years of experience in the field. A review of the Texas Workforce Commission data showed that from July 2022 to July 2023 there were 5,889 vacancies for animal caretakers, 4,103 for natural science managers, 590 for conservation scientists, and 166 for zoologists and wildlife biologists. In addition, the proposed degree would prepare pre-veterinarian students for entry into graduate veterinarian degree programs.

B. Projected Enrollment

It is projected that the program will begin year one with 47 students and progress to 92 in year two and 147 in year three. The program anticipates progressing to 205 students by year four and to 252 students by year five.

C. Existing State Programs

Tarleton's proposed B.S. in ZAMG would be one of two such programs in Texas. Texas A&M University offers a similar B.S. degree in Zoology with the same CIP code of 26.0701.00. Located centrally within Texas, the program will be the only one of its kind within a geographic radius of over 100 miles, as Stephenville is 180 miles from Texas A&M University.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

The program has six core faculty who are current faculty members at the university. All of their salaries will be reallocated. One faculty line will be hired before the implementation of the program at \$85,800. There will be seven support faculty who are also current faculty members of the university. The program will not require additional support staff.

B. Program Administration

The program will be administered by the Department of Wildlife and Natural Resources in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. No new administrative costs are anticipated.

C. Other Personnel

No additional personnel will be requested within the first five years of the program.

D. Supplies, Materials

Supplies and materials are requested in the amount of \$25,000 for the first five years of the program.

E. Library

The current library resources are sufficient to support the proposed program, so no additional costs will be incurred.

F. Equipment, Facilities

The existing equipment and facilities are sufficient to support the proposed program, so no additional costs will be incurred.

G. Accreditation

There is no accrediting body for this program.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS		SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	\$2,336,880	Formula Income	\$223,430
Program Administration		Statutory Tuition	\$423,500
Graduate Assistants		Reallocation	\$2,336,880
Clerical/Staff			
Supplies & Materials	\$25,000	Designated Tuition	\$1,394,671
Library & IT Resources		Other Funding:	
Equipment, Facilities		Board Authorized Tuition	\$423,500
Accreditation			
Estimated 5-Year Costs	\$2,361,880	Estimated 5-Year Revenues	\$4,801,981

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

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

Subject: Approval of a Master of Science with a Major in Marketing, 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 Master of Science with a major in Marketing (M.S. in Marketing) program and 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 Marketing and Computer Information Systems within the College of Business requests the establishment of the program to fulfill the needs of students who want to gain practical experience to work in the marketing field.

The M.S. in Marketing is designed to prepare graduates for employment in marketing, sales, advertising, and management. Graduates will also obtain skills in market research analysis, digital marketing and leadership. The proposed completely online program emphasizes strategic marketing management, marketing analytics, product and branding strategies, and written communications.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Tarleton currently has three core, and four support faculty supporting the existing concentration in Marketing. These faculty would be reassigned to the new program and their current salaries would be reallocated. New costs are estimated at \$25,000 for supplies and materials. There will also be a recruitment cost of \$5,000 per year, which will total \$25,000. The total estimated five-year costs will be \$2,130,135.

The program plans to receive funding from the reallocation of existing faculty salaries for a total of \$2,080,135 during the first five years of the program. The total tuition expected for statutory tuition is \$210,000, designated tuition is \$706,104, and board authorized tuition is \$210,000. The total formula income will be \$230,390. This will provide the program with an estimated five-year revenue of \$3,436,629.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed M.S. in Marketing aligns with The Texas A&M University System strategic plan imperative 3 by preparing students for long-term careers in a fast-growing field. This program brings students to the leading edge of academic excellence by nurturing graduates' abilities to network and succeed as a team and as a leader, by elevating each student's academic and research profile, and by promoting student success and dedication to innovation.

Agenda Item No.

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

August 16, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of a Master of Science with a Major in Marketing, 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 Master of Science in Marketing.

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

Master of Science
with a Major in Marketing
(CIP 52.1401.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Marketing and Computer Information Systems within the College of Business.

Tarleton State University (Tarleton) seeks to deliver a Master of Science with a major in Marketing (M.S. in Marketing) degree which will prepare graduates for employment in marketing, sales, advertising, and management. Graduates will also obtain skills in market research analysis, digital marketing and leadership in the marketing field.

The proposed curriculum within this new program is designed to meet the following student learning outcomes:

1. Identify complex problems and review related information to develop and evaluate options and implement solutions.
2. Generate or adapt equipment and technology to serve user needs.
3. Create strategic schedules for major projects to manage time and resources.
4. Communicate effectively in writing as appropriate for the needs of the audience in marketing fields.
5. Analyze needs and product requirements to create a design and devise creative methods for promoting and distributing products.

This 30-semester credit hour program is comprised of courses in marketing. Coursework includes topics such as foundations of marketing principles, marketing research, advertising, digital marketing, and new product management. The program emphasizes strategic marketing management, marketing analytics, product and branding strategies, and written communications. The coursework is designed to meet the standards outlined for marketing education while aligning with students' career goals.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2024.

Tarleton certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the [19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 5.45](#) regarding 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

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects a growth of 22% for market research analysts, 10% for advertising and marketing managers, and 7% for sales managers within the next ten years (2020-2030).

B. Projected Enrollment

It is projected that the program will begin year one with seven students and progress to 25 in year two and 47 in year three. The program anticipates progressing to 76 students by year four and to 112 students by year five.

C. Existing State Programs

There are five Texas public universities that offer an M.S. in Marketing program. These universities are Texas A&M University, Texas A&M University-Commerce, The University of Texas at Dallas (UT-Dallas), University of Houston, and West Texas A&M University. One private institution, Southern Methodist University (SMU) also offers this program.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

The proposed program will have three core faculty and four support faculty who are current faculty members at the university. Their salaries will be reallocated to the new program. There will be no additional faculty or support staff hired for this program.

B. Program Administration

The program will be administered by the Department of Marketing and Computer Information Systems within the College of Business. No new administrative costs are anticipated.

C. Other Personnel

No additional personnel will be requested within the first five years of the program.

D. Supplies, Materials

Supplies and materials are requested in the amount of \$25,000 for the first five years of the program. There will also be a recruitment cost of \$5,000 per year, which will total \$25,000.

E. Library

The current library resources will be sufficient for this program, so no additional costs will be incurred.

F. Equipment, Facilities

The existing equipment and facilities are sufficient to support the proposed program, so no additional costs will be incurred.

G. Accreditation

The College of Business is currently accredited with the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. There will be no additional accreditation cost for this program.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS		SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	\$2,080,135	Formula Income	\$230,390
Program Administration		Statutory Tuition	\$210,000
Graduate Assistants		Reallocation	\$2,080,135
Clerical/Staff			
Supplies & Materials	\$25,000	Designated Tuition	\$706,104
Library & IT Resources		Other Funding:	
Equipment, Facilities		Board Authorized Tuition	\$210,000
Recruitment Costs	\$25,000		
Accreditation			
Estimated 5-Year Costs	\$2,130,135	Estimated 5-Year Revenues	\$3,436,629

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

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

Subject: Approval of a New Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program with a Major in Experimental Psychology with an Embedded Master of Science in Experimental Psychology, 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 Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree with a major in Experimental Psychology (EXPS) with an embedded Master of Science (M.S.) in Experimental Psychology, 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 Psychological Sciences within the School of Behavioral Sciences within the College of Education requests the establishment of a Ph.D. in EXPS with an embedded M.S. in EXPS degree program which will provide intensive training and a robust experience base in experimental and quantitative research to develop knowledge and skills related to the science of human behavior in a multidisciplinary context. The proposed program is designed to provide students with the skills necessary to work in fields related to experimental psychology within academia and the private sector.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The program has eight core faculty and will hire one additional faculty in fall 2024 to fill a budgeted vacated position. Two new faculty lines will be requested in the first year of the program. The program also has four support faculty and will offer assistantships to provide funding support for several students. Several students will receive teaching assistantships to support their education at a cost of \$28,000 per student each year. Research assistantships and endowed fellowships will be funded by grants. The program plans to receive funding from the reallocation of existing faculty, graduate assistant and adjunct professor salaries for a total of \$3,413,190 during the first five years of the program. Renovations to the facilities are estimated at \$35,000 in year one. Supplies and materials will cost \$5,000 annually for the first five years of the program.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) This Item Advances:

The proposed Ph.D. with an embedded M.S. in EXPS aligns with the Texas A&M University System strategic plan imperative 3 by preparing students for long-term careers in a fast-growing field. This program brings students to the leading edge of academic excellence by nurturing graduates' abilities to network and succeed as a team and as a leader, by elevating each student's academic and research profile, and by promoting student success and dedication to innovation.

Agenda Item No.

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

August 16, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of a New Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program with a Major in Experimental Psychology with an Embedded Master in Experimental Psychology, 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 Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program with a Major in Experimental Psychology with an embedded Master in Experimental Psychology.

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

Doctor of Philosophy
with a major in Experimental Psychology
with an embedded Master in Experimental Psychology
(CIP 42.2704.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Psychological Sciences within the School of Behavioral Sciences within the College of Education.

Tarleton State University (Tarleton) seeks to deliver a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) with an embedded Master of Science (M.S.) in Experimental Psychology, which will provide graduates with intensive training and robust experience base in experimental and quantitative research to develop the knowledge and skills related to the science of human behavior. This program will prepare students for successful careers in the public or private sector, with enhanced opportunities for increased salary and career advancement.

The proposed curriculum is designed to meet the following student learning outcomes:

1. Effectively demonstrate fundamental discipline knowledge in the field of experimental psychology.
2. Demonstrate proficient use of technology appropriate for the context of experimental psychology.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in technical writing, showing evidence of clear and concise written communication.
4. Demonstrate proficiency in oral presentation, showing evidence of the ability to communicate scientific information.
5. Effectively demonstrate ethical behavior in the field of experimental psychology.

The 66-semester credit hour program is comprised of courses in psychology, research methods and statistical methods. Coursework includes topics such as statistical modeling for experimental psychology, research, quantitative methods and experimental design, and applied experimental psychology.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2025.

Tarleton certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the [19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 5.45](#) in regard to need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards, and costs. New costs during the first five years are estimated to be just under \$3 million and total costs are estimated at just under \$5.6 million. The estimated funding will exceed the estimated cost of implementing the program over the first five years.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

Graduates of the program could seek employment as data scientists, statisticians and market research analysts. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment opportunities for data scientists (including behavioral data scientists) are expected to grow much faster than average, with a projected growth rate of 36% nationally from 2021 to 2031. Career opportunities for statisticians are expected to grow 31% nationally from 2021 to 2031, with 4,100 job openings per year. Employment of market research analysts is expected to grow 19% nationally from 2021 to 2031, with 99,800 job openings per year for market research analysts. Even among this small sample of careers for experimental psychologists, the employment outlook is strong for the next decade, especially in Texas.

B. Projected Enrollment

It is projected that the program will begin year one with eight students, increasing to 15 in year two and 18 in year three. The program anticipates having a steady state of 20 students by years four and five.

C. Existing State Programs

Tarleton's proposed Ph.D. and embedded M.S. in Experimental Psychology would be the eighth program in Texas, and only the second in the Texas A&M University System. Four of the programs reside in the University of Texas System (UT-Austin, UT-Arlington, UT-Dallas, and UT-San Antonio), and the other three are at Texas A&M University, University of North Texas and Texas Tech University. Located centrally within Texas, the proposed program will be the only one of its kind within a geographic radius of almost 100 miles.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

The program has eight core faculty and plans to hire one additional faculty by fall 2024. The new faculty member will fill an existing assistant professor faculty line. Two additional new faculty lines will be requested in the first year of the program with new costs of \$41,140 each. The program also has four support faculty who are currently employed at Tarleton. The program will also offer several teaching and research assistantships. Teaching assistantships will cost \$28,000 per student each year. There will be six total assistantships in year one, ten total in year two, eight total in year three, ten total in year four, and eight total in year five. Research assistantships and endowed fellowships will be funded by grants. The program plans to receive funding from the reallocation of existing faculty, graduate assistant and adjunct professor salaries for a total of \$3,413,190 during the first five years of the program.

B. Program Administration

The program will be administered by the Department of Psychological Sciences within the School of Behavioral Sciences within the College of Education. No new administrative costs are anticipated.

C. Other Personnel

It is not anticipated that additional support staff will be required to support the program.

D. Supplies, Materials

Supplies and materials will cost \$5,000 annually, for the first five years of the program.

E. Library

The current library resources will be sufficient to support this program so no new costs will be incurred.

F. Equipment, Facilities

New equipment is not anticipated at this time. Renovations to the facilities are estimated at \$35,000 in year one.

G. Accreditation

The program will seek accreditation for the proposed program from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and follow their assessment guidelines. There is no discipline-specific accrediting body for Ph.D. programs in experimental psychology.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS		SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	\$3,204,590	Formula Income	\$589,567
Program Administration		Statutory Tuition	\$88,650
Graduate Assistants	\$2,303,000	Reallocation	\$3,413,190
Supplies & Materials	\$25,000	Designated Tuition	\$260,649
Library & IT Resources		Other Funding:	\$1,127,000
Equipment, Facilities	\$35,000	Board Authorized Tuition	\$88,650
Estimated 5-Year Costs	\$5,567,590	Estimated 5-Year Revenues	\$5,567,706

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

August 28, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, November 2023,
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 member at Texas A&M International University as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 24-01.”

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
BACKGROUND OF FACULTY
RECOMMENDED FOR ACADEMIC TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 24-01**

ITEM
EXHIBIT

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present Rank</u>	<u>Yrs. Towards Tenure*</u>		<u>Effective Date</u>
	<u>Department</u>	<u>Univ.</u>	<u>Other Inst.</u>	<u>Tenure</u>
Dr. Seungmug Lee	Associate Professor Social Sciences	0	14	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
Ph.D. (2008)	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey			
Fa 2009 – Sp 2015	Western Illinois University	Associate Professor		
Fa 2015 – Sp 2017	Western Illinois University	Associate Professor (Tenured)		
Fa 2017 – Su 2023	The University of Texas at Arlington	Associate Professor		
Fa 2023 - Present	Texas A&M International University	Associate Professor		

Dr. Lee is an accomplished scholar in criminal justice in the areas of security, security operations management, target-hardening effects of security measures and crime prevention, mass shootings in diverse settings (e.g., workplaces, K-12 schools, college campuses, commercial, domestic, houses of worship, and felony-related), burglar alarm systems, women burglars, police ethics, cybercrime/cybersecurity, international crime and police, and church-based private prison and recidivism. He has given numerous scholarly presentations at academic conferences and been an invited speaker at U.N. Congress and professional conferences (e.g., International Association of Chiefs of Police, American Society of Industrial Security (ASIS) International, and Institute for Law Enforcement Administration). Dr. Lee has 28 journal publications, most as first-author, one book publication with Elsevier, several monographs for ASIS International Foundation and Alarm Industry Research & Educational Foundation, several handbook and encyclopedia entries, and funded grants. The latest publications include the co-authored 4th edition of *Security Operations Management (2023)* with Dr. Robert D. McCrie at John Jay College, six refereed articles and three entries to handbooks. In addition, three manuscripts are now in Revised and Resubmitted or under review status, and several more manuscripts and book proposals are either in progress or near completion for submission.

Dr. Lee's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy 12.01, Section 4.3

- * 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

September 6, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, November 2023,
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. 24-01.”

Respectfully submitted,

Mark A. Welsh III
Interim 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
BACKGROUND OF FACULTY
RECOMMENDED FOR ACADEMIC TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 24-01**

ITEM
EXHIBIT

BUSH SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC SERVICE

	Present Rank	Yrs. Towards Tenure*		Effective Date
<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Univ.</u>	<u>Other Inst.</u>	<u>Tenure</u>
Dr. Scott Clifford	Associate Professor Political Science	0	9	Upon Approval by the Board
Ph.D. (2013)	Florida State University			
Fa 2014 – Su 2018 Fa 2018 – Su 2023 Su 2023 – Present	University of Houston University of Houston Texas A&M University	Assistant Professor Associate Professor (Tenured 2018) Associate Professor		

Dr. Scott Clifford is an expert on public opinion, political psychology and survey and experimental methods. His research focuses on topics such as what causes someone to view politics in moral terms, how moral values affect public opinion and how politicians appeal to or manipulate the public's moral views. He has published more than 37 peer-reviewed journal articles, including publications in the *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science* and the *Journal of Politics*. He currently serves as the co-editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Experimental Political Science* and as an editorial board member at the *American Political Science Review*. Dr. Clifford teaches courses on political psychology, morality and politics, and research methods.

Dr. Clifford's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy 12.01, Section 4.3.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES

	Present Rank	Yrs. Towards Tenure*		Effective Date
<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Univ.</u>	<u>Other Inst.</u>	<u>Tenure</u>
Dr. Clay P. Mathis	Professor Animal Science	0	>15	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
Ph.D. (1998)	Kansas State University			
Fa 1998 – Sp 2004 Fa 2004 – Su 2007 Fa 2007 – Su 2010 Su 2010 – Fa 2023 Fa 2023	New Mexico State University New Mexico State University New Mexico State University Texas A&M University, Kingsville Texas A&M University	Assistant Professor Associate Professor (Tenured 2004) Professor Professor (Tenured 2010) Professor		

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES (Continued)

Dr. Clay P. Mathis (continued)

Dr. Clay Mathis received B.S. and M.S. degrees from Texas A&M University. In 1998, he earned a Ph.D. at Kansas State University in Ruminant Nutrition. He was an Extension Livestock Specialist at New Mexico State University from 1998 to 2010 and maintained an Extension and research program focused on improving calf health. He was a tenured professor and Endowed Director of the King Ranch® Institute for Ranch Management (KRIRM) at Texas A&M University-Kingsville from 2010 to 2023. As Director, he led faculty and staff, and managed all teaching, research and outreach efforts of the institute. He engaged in collaborative research, led an extensive international outreach program, taught graduate courses, and graduated 39 M.S. students (Chair of 18) who manage 100,000 cows on 7.5 million acres. He secured over \$38 million in support of scholarships, two endowed chair positions, research, and outreach. He led the completion of over 120 agriculture technical service projects providing experiential learning for students and science-based management solutions to real-world challenges on over 50 partnering ranches across North America. He expanded the KRIRM mission to include research, hired the Institute's first research scientist and established a KRIRM doctoral training program focused on livestock production systems.

Dr. Mathis' file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy 12.01, Section 4.3.

Dr. Simon Somogyi	Professor Agricultural Economics	0	>15	Upon Approval by the Board
Ph.D. (2012)	University of Adelaide, Adelaide, South Australia			
Fa 2009 – Su 2011	School of Management & Marketing, University of Southern Queensland, Australia	Lecturer (Tenure Track)		
Su 2011 – Fa 2014	School of Agriculture & Food Sciences, University of Queensland, Australia	Lecturer (Tenure Track)		
Fa 2014 – Su 2018	Dalhousie University, Canada	Associate Professor (Tenured 2016)		
Su 2018 – Su 2020	University of Guelph, Canada	Associate Professor (Tenured 2018)		
Su 2020 – Su 2023	University of Guelph, Canada	Professor		
Su 2023 – Present	Texas A&M University	Professor		

Dr. Simon Somogyi earned his Ph.D. from University of Adelaide in 2012. Prior to joining Texas A&M, he served as professor & Arrell Chair in the Business of Food at University of Guelph, Canada. Dr. Somogyi also holds the title of Honorary Senior Fellow in Agribusiness at the University of Queensland, Australia. For more than a decade he has led and contributed to research and development agri-food value chain and distribution projects in Australasia, East and South Asia, Africa and North America, with more than \$2 million in research grant income from national and regional funding bodies. He has supervised 15 master's students, seven Ph.D. students and four post-doctoral research fellows. He has also published, or has in press, 40 international peer reviewed journal papers and over 30 conference papers and professional presentations in the area of agri-food business management and food consumer behaviour. Dr. Somogyi has taught a variety of agri-food sales and distribution management courses and has also been involved in teaching scholarship. He has published opinion editorials in *The Globe & Mail* and *The Hill Times* TV publications and featured in media outlets such as the BBC, Bloomberg, CBC and The Financial Post.

Dr. Somogyi's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy 12.01, Section 4.3.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

	Present Rank	Yrs. Towards Tenure*		Effective Date
<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Univ.</u>	<u>Other Inst.</u>	<u>Tenure</u>
Dr. Jessi J. Halligan	Associate Professor Anthropology	0	10	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
Ph.D. (2012)	Texas A&M University			
Su 2013 – Fa 2015	University of Wisconsin, La Crosse	Assistant Professor		
Sp 2016 – Sp 2023	Florida State University	Assistant Professor		
Fa 2023 – Present	Florida State University	Associate Professor (Tenured 2023)		
Sp 2024	Texas A&M University	Associate Professor		

Dr. Jessi Halligan earned a Ph.D. in Anthropology from Texas A&M University in 2012. She is an expert in the archaeology of the initial peopling of the Americas during the last Ice Age with a research program investigating drowned, formerly-terrestrial sites in Florida. She is co-author of one textbook published by Oxford University Press and has 23 peer-reviewed publications, 21 technical reports, 11 keynote/plenary addresses, 38 conference papers, and 34 public lectures. Dr. Halligan has been awarded more than \$670,000 in research funding, including a \$244,640 National Science Foundation Senior Archaeology Award. In 2022, she received the Rising Scholar award from the Southeastern Archaeological Conference. She has more than three decades of field and lab experience in North American archaeology and teaches courses on the peopling of the Americas, archaeological method and theory, geoarchaeology, stone tool analysis, underwater archaeology, and the anthropology of hunters and gatherers. Her students consistently rate her above average and she received a university graduate teaching award in 2023. She has served as chair of 19 master's and five Honors in the Major committees. All graduated students are employed in archaeology or are in funded graduate programs. Her excellence in service is documented by her engagement with department and university committees and her service to the Society for American Archaeology.

Dr. Halligan's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy *12.01*, Section 4.3.

Dr. Nadia Y. Kim	Professor Sociology	0	>15	Upon Approval by the Board
Ph.D. (2003)	University of Michigan-Ann Arbor			
Fa 2004 – Sp 2007	Brandeis University	Assistant Professor		
Su 2007 – Su 2011	Loyola Marymount University	Assistant Professor		
Fa 2011 – Su 2017	Loyola Marymount University	Associate Professor (Tenured 2011)		
Fa 2017 – Su 2023	Loyola Marymount University	Professor		
Su 2023 – Present	Texas A&M University	Professor		

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES (Continued)

Dr. Nadia Y. Kim (continued)

Dr. Nadia Kim earned a Ph.D. in Sociology from University of Michigan Ann-Arbor in 2003. Her research focuses on U.S. race and citizenship hierarchies concerning Korean/Asian Americans and South Koreans, race and nativist racism in Los Angeles, environmental (in)justice, immigrant women, and comparative racialization of Latinxs, Asian Americans, Black Americans, and race theory. Dr. Kim's approach centers (neo)imperialism, transnationality and the intersectionality of race, gender, class, and citizenship and intersects with her social justice work, organizing on such issues as affirmative action, immigration, feminism, and environmental justice. She is the author of two multi-award-winning books *Refusing Death: Immigrant Women and the Fight for Environmental Justice in LA* (Stanford University Press) and *Imperial Citizens: Koreans and Race from Seoul to LA*, as well as a co-edited book, *Disciplinary Futures: Sociology in Conversation with American, Ethnic, and Indigenous Studies*. Dr. Kim has published articles in top academic journals such as *Social Forces*, *Social Problems*, *International Migration Review*, and *The Du Bois Review*, and has won awards for her articles on race attitudes and assimilation/whiteness. Her work has been featured (inter)nationally on Red Table Talk, National Public Radio, Radio Korea, *The Washington Post*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, (MS)NBC News, *The Boston Globe*, and *The Korea Times*. Dr. Kim is a person of national and international repute, and her scholarship will enhance the reputation and visibility of Texas A&M University.

Dr. Kim's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy 12.01, Section 4.3.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

	Present Rank	Yrs. Towards Tenure*		Effective Date
Name	Department	Univ.	Other Inst.	Tenure
Dr. D. Nathan Meehan	Professor Petroleum Engineering	0	>15	Upon Approval by the Board
Ph.D. (1989)	Stanford University			
1989 – 1996 1994 – 1997	Stanford University Stanford University	Sr. Scientist and Petrotech Fellow Consulting Professor of Petroleum Engineering		
2000 – 2001 2002 – 2008	Occidental Oil & Gas, Houston, TX CMG Petroleum Consulting, Ltd.	Vice President, Engineering Petroleum Engineering Consultant and Principal		
2008 – 2017	Baker Hughes Incorporated Gaffney-Cline & Associates	Senior Vice President Managing Director		
2017 – 2020	Baker Hughes Incorporated Gaffney-Cline & Associates	Vice President President		
2020 – 2023 Sp 2023 – Present	CMG Petroleum Consulting, Ltd. Texas A&M University	Consultant and Principal Professor		

Dr. Meehan is a petroleum engineering and energy industry consultant and member of the National Academy of Engineering. He is a technology leader with broad business experience in field development and optimization, energy transition issues, reservoir simulation, drilling and completions, horizontal wells, hydraulic fracturing, enhanced oil recovery and waterflooding. His current research interests include energy transition and the role of fossil fuels, carbon capture and storage, quantitative measurements and reporting of

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Continued)**Dr. D. Nathan Meehan (continued)**

greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, decreasing carbon intensity of oil and gas production along with using machine learning in GHG emissions reductions. His experience includes worldwide leadership of reservoir, well construction, high-consequence engineering systems, and facilities engineering teams and developing applied research programs. He has served on Boards of Directors of public and closely held oil producers, software and oilfield services companies, and professional organizations. His expertise includes collaborations with government regulators, managing technology development and interdisciplinary projects in reservoir characterization and technology development, horizontal well applications, thermal and compositional reservoir simulation, waterflooding, applications of digital industrial approaches to improve economic and technical capabilities in field development and management, big data analytics, use of nanomaterials for lowering costs and increasing capabilities, energy transition issues, and hydraulic fracturing.

Dr. Meehan's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy 12.01, Section 4.3.

Dr. Ashok Mishra	Professor Civil & Environmental Engineering	0	10	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
Ph.D. (2007)	Indian Institute of Technology - Kharagpur			
Fa 2013 – Su 2018 Fa 2018 – Su 2022 Fa 2022 – Present Sp 2024	Clemson University Clemson University Clemson University Texas A&M University	Assistant Professor Associate Professor (Tenured 2018) Professor Professor		

Dr. Ashok Mishra's long-term teaching and research goals are to solve societal problems related to water and climate extremes and improve water security and environmental sustainability. His areas of research interest include, but are not limited to, drought, flood and precipitation extremes, hydroclimatic modeling and forecasting, climate change impact on water resources, hydrometric network design, stochastic hydrology and the water-food-energy-climate nexus. Dr. Mishra is exceptionally knowledgeable on the topic of water resources and hydrology. He typically teaches the following four courses: Applied Hydraulics and Hydrology, Hydrologic Analysis and Design, Stochastic Hydrology, and Water Resources Planning and Management. Dr. Mishra received the Board of Trustees Award for Excellence in 2019. His work has been widely published.

Dr. Mishra's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy 12.01, Section 4.3.

Dr. Elaheh Rahbar	Associate Professor Biomedical Engineering	0	8	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
Ph.D. (2011)	Texas A&M University			
Fa 2015 – Su 2022 Fa 2022 – Present Sp 2024	Wake Forest University Wake Forest University Associate Professor	Assistant Professor Associate Professor (Tenured 2022) Texas A&M University		

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Continued)

Dr. Elaheh Rahbar (continued)

Dr. Elaheh Rahbar received her Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering (BME) from Texas A&M University in 2011. She completed her postdoctoral training at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and joined the faculty in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at Wake Forest University as an assistant professor in 2015. Dr. Rahbar teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in quantitative organ system physiology, injury biomechanics and biofluid mechanics. As the Curriculum and Qualifying Exam Chair in BME, she has made significant contributions to the coursework and evaluation of student learning within the department. Dr. Rahbar's research focuses on understanding the acute physiologic responses to traumatic injuries and engineering personalized solutions for trauma care. She has received over \$12.5 million in external research funding from the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation (NSF) and Department of Defense. She also leads the NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates summer program. She is an associate editor of a top-tier journal and currently serves as the Cardiovascular Engineering Track Chair for the Annual Biomedical Engineering Society meeting. Dr. Rahbar has published 44 peer-reviewed journal articles, three book chapters and has been invited to speak at several national/international meetings. Dr. Rahbar has chaired three doctoral committees, two master's committees and served on five others. She is currently advising six doctoral students.

Dr. Rahbar's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy *12.01*, Section 4.3.

Dr. Sandip Roy	Professor Electrical & Computer Engineering	0	>15	Upon Approval by the Board
Ph.D. (2003)	Massachusetts Institute of Technology			
Su 2003 – Su 2009	Washington State University	Assistant Professor		
Su 2009 – Fa 2015	Washington State University	Associate Professor (Tenured 2009)		
Fa 2015 – Su 2023	Washington State University	Professor		
Su 2023 – Present	Texas A&M University	Professor		

Dr. Sandip Roy is a tenured associate professor in the Electrical Engineering program at Washington State University (WSU), located in Pullman WA, and serves as an affiliate faculty member in the School of Global Animal Health. He is responsible for teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in Systems & Control Engineering and also directs the Network Controls Group at WSU. His group's research is centered on developing techniques for network control and applying these techniques to improve control of large-scale infrastructures (e.g., air transportation, electric power and disease management systems). This research has been supported by a mixture of federal grants and industry contacts and is leading to deployed software technologies in infrastructure control centers. Research outcomes are described in numerous journal articles, conference-proceedings papers, book chapters, and technical reports. He is also involved in a number of professional service activities, which include editorial work for journals and conferences, organization of a multi-contributor book on cyber-physical systems and membership in professional societies.

Dr. Roy's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy *12.01*, Section 4.3.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Continued)

Dr. Chenglin Wu	Associate Professor Civil & Environmental Engineering	0	6	Upon Approval by the Board
Ph.D. (2012) Ph.D. (2016)	Missouri University of Science and Technology University of Texas at Austin			
Sp 2017 – Su 2023	Missouri University of Science and Technology	Assistant Professor		
Su 2023 – Present	Texas A&M University	Associate Professor		

Dr. Chenglin Wu's research interests focus on nanomaterials, mechanics and advanced manufacturing with a particular emphasis on materials and structures at different dimensions (from macro to nano scales) and having multi-physics-related problems. His research is motivated by practical applications in civil, mechanical, geo-mechanical, microelectronics, micro-electromechanical systems, emerging nano- and biotechnologies and robotics. He was awarded the National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER Award in 2021 among other awards over the years. Dr. Wu is credited with over two million dollars in research awards including 14 projects on which he has served as principal investigator. His research sponsors include such prestigious sources as the Office of Naval Research, the National Institute of Health, the Army Office of Scientific Research, and the NSF. Dr. Wu has published 47 journal publications in a wide variety of prestigious journals. He has delivered 35 technical presentations. His service includes being a member of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology committee for the department, a faculty representative for a university committee on increasing the enrollment of international students, reviewer for several top peer-reviewed journals, member of the organizational committee for national and international conferences, and participating on two NSF panels, among others.

Dr. Wu's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy *12.01*, Section 4.3.

Dr. Minghui Zheng	Associate Professor Mechanical Engineering	0	6	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
Ph.D. (2017)	University of California, Berkeley, CA			
Fa 2017 – Su 2023	University at Buffalo	Assistant Professor		
Fa 2023 – Present	University at Buffalo	Associate Professor (Tenured 2023)		
Sp 2024	Texas A&M University	Associate Professor		

Dr. Minghui Zheng's primary area is control and robotics. One of her research directions is task sequence and robotic motion planning in a human-robot collaborative environment. She is particularly interested in such developments to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the disassembly, recycling and remanufacturing of end-of-use products such as e-wastes. Another research direction is learning-based control to enable learning among heterogeneous drones toward their mass customization and application. Her research interests also include collaborative estimation using connected vehicles and iterative learning control for high-precision systems. Dr. Zheng's research has been supported by part of an approximate \$6.5M total funding of which she is the principal investigator (PI) or university PI. So far, her share of the research funding is more than \$2M.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Continued)**Dr. Minghui Zeng (continued)**

She has been working on six National Science Foundation grants as the PI. Dr. Zheng has authored/co-authored 34 journal articles. She has published papers in major journals in her field, such as *IEEE Transactions on Systems, Man, and Cybernetics: Systems* and *IEEE/ASME Transactions on Mechatronics*. These publications documented discoveries and insights into learning, planning and control algorithms for collaborative robots, drones, high-precision data, energy storage systems, etc.

Dr. Zheng's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy 12.01, Section 4.3.

MAYS BUSINESS SCHOOL

	Present Rank	Yrs. Towards Tenure*		Effective Date
<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Univ.</u>	<u>Other Inst.</u>	<u>Tenure</u>
Dr. Xuying Zhao	Associate Professor Information & Operations Management	0	>15	Upon Approval by the Board
Ph.D. (2007)	University of Texas at Dallas			
Su 2007 – Su 2015 Fa 2015 – Su 2023 Su 2023 – Present	University of Notre Dame University of Notre Dame Texas A&M University	Assistant Professor Associate Professor (Tenured 2015) Associate Professor		

Dr. Xuying Zhao conducts research on supply chain management and interface between operations management and marketing, especially for platform economy, video game and retail industries. In recent papers, she has investigated theoretical models of video game design and pricing, social media content length and variety control, advance selling strategy, and inventory management with machine learning. Dr. Zhao has published many papers in journals such as *Manufacturing & Service Operations Management*, *Production and Operations Management (POM)*, *Decision Science*, and *Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers*. In 2009 she won eBusiness Best Paper Award from The Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS). Dr. Zhao is an editorial review board member and a senior editor for *POM*. She has been a track chair or cluster chair of the interface between Operations Management and Marketing for numerous INFORMS and Production and Operations Management Society annual conferences. After gaining a B.A. in Computer Science from ZheJiang University in China, she worked for Microsoft. She subsequently earned an M.S. and Ph.D. in Management Science from the University of Texas at Dallas. Before joining Texas A&M University, she worked at the University of Notre Dame. She has designed and taught four well-received MBA courses: Process Analytics, Supply Chain Analytics, Digital Supply Chain Innovations, and International Operations.

Dr. Zhao's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy 12.01, Section 4.3.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

	Present Rank	Yrs. Towards Tenure*		Effective Date
<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Univ.</u>	<u>Other Inst.</u>	<u>Tenure</u>
Dr. Ramona T. Pittman	Associate Professor Teaching, Learning, & Culture	0	>15	Upon Approval by the Board
Ph.D. (2007)	Texas A&M University			
Su 2007 – Sp 2011	Florida State University	Assistant Professor		
Sp 2011 – Fa 2014	Texas A&M University-San Antonio	Assistant Professor		
Fa 2014 – Fa 2019	Texas A&M University-San Antonio	Associate Professor (Tenured 2014)		
Fa 2019 – Su 2022	Texas A&M University-San Antonio	Professor		
Fa 2022 – Present	Texas A&M University	Associate Professor		

Dr. Ramona Pittman earned her B.S. in Elementary Education at the University of Southern Mississippi, her M.E. in Elementary Education at William Carey University and her Ph.D. in Reading and Language Arts Education at Texas A&M University. Prior to joining Texas A&M University in College Station, she served as a professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. She is an experienced associate professor with a demonstrated history of working in the higher education industry, skilled in public speaking, research, adult education, distance learning, and grant writing. She is a strong education professional with a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) focused on Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Literacy from Texas A&M University.

Dr. Pittman's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy 12.01, Section 4.3.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AT GALVESTON

	Present Rank	Yrs. Towards Tenure*		Effective Date
<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Univ.</u>	<u>Other Inst.</u>	<u>Tenure</u>
Dr. Jean-Paul Rodrigue	Professor Maritime Business Administration	0	>15	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
Ph.D. (1994)	Université de Montréal, Montréal Québec			
Fa 1999 – Su 2006	Hofstra University	Assistant Professor		
Fa 2006 – Su 2011	Hofstra University	Associate Professor (Tenured 2006)		
Fa 2011 – Present	Hofstra University	Professor		
Fa 2024	Texas A&M University	Professor		

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AT GALVESTON (Continued)

Dr. Jean-Paul Rodrigue (continued)

Dr. Jean-Paul Rodrigue earned his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Geography at the University of Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Prior to joining Texas A&M University, he served as a professor at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York. He is a leading maritime economist specializing in maritime shipping and ports, and how they shape global supply chains. He currently has 19,236 citations with an h-index of 49 and an i10-index of 123, ranking among the world's most impactful scholars. He published two high-impact textbooks; *The Geography of Transport Systems* (2020; 5th ed.) and *Port Economics, Management and Policy* (2022). In 2013, Dr. Rodrigue was appointed by the Secretary of Transportation to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy Advisory Board, a position he held until 2018. Between 2011 and 2016, he sat on the Council on the Future of Manufacturing at the World Economic Forum. In 2019, he was the recipient of the Edward L. Ullman Award for outstanding contribution to transport geography by the American Association of Geographers. In 2022, he was appointed as a Distinguished Fellow, Hagler Institute for Advanced Study at Texas A&M University and was selected to hold the Jerry and Kay Cox – Heep Distinguished Faculty chair; the highest honors bestowed upon a Hagler Fellow by the Texas A&M System. Dr. Rodrigue is also an internationally known speaker delivering keynote speeches on transportation matters.

Dr. Rodrigue's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy 12.01, Section 4.3.

- * 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 A. Welsh III, Interim President
Texas A&M University

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Fine Arts Degree Program with a Major in Dance 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 Fine Arts in Dance (M.F.A. DANC), 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.F.A. DANC is a terminal degree focusing on individual and collaboration in movement practice, choreography, dance research, and teaching. Building on the strengths of Texas A&M in the areas of science, education and the arts, the proposed M.F.A. DANC is designed to explore the relationships between dance and technology and inform how dancers should be trained for performance through research. The proposed M.F.A. DANC focuses on choreography and performance with a specialization in technology including motion tracking, projection and other technological advances. With the unique connections within the School of Performance, Visualization & Fine Arts, students can examine the role of the performer and choreographer within dance technology for the stage as well as connect the performer to virtual and augmented realities. The proposed program also has a unique focus on dance wellness and pedagogy. Students can pursue passions related to dance wellness in areas such as dance psychology, injury prevention, Pilates, and conditioning, among other areas. The proposed 60-semester credit hour program will be offered on the College Station campus through both face-to-face and online instruction for a portion of the curriculum.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

To offer the proposed M.F.A. DANC program, four new faculty members will be needed in addition to a reallocation of existing faculty. The anticipated total cost over the first five years of the program is \$2,091,700, including \$1,153,000 of new costs. Total anticipated funding is \$2,242,822, including new revenue generated over the first five years of \$1,304,122.

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 1 and 3. Specifically, all qualified students will have an array of pathways to pursue their ambitions and interests and students will leave the A&M System as responsible and engaged citizens prepared for successful careers in a global economy.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

August 17, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Fine Arts Degree Program with a Major in Dance 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 Fine Arts in Dance.

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,

Mark A. Welsh III
Interim 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 Fine Arts
with a major in Dance
(CIP 50.0301.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: School of Performance, Visualization & Fine Arts

The proposed Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) in Dance (DANC) will be a 60-semester credit hour degree designed to focus on individual and collaboration in movement practice, choreography, dance research, and teaching. The proposed M.F.A. DANC focuses on choreography and performance with a specialization in technology including motion tracking, projection and other technological advances. With the unique connections within the School of Performance, Visualization & Fine Arts (PVFA), students can investigate the role of the performer and choreographer within dance technology for the stage as well as connect the performer to virtual and augmented realities. The program also has a unique focus on dance wellness and pedagogy. Students can pursue passions related to dance wellness in areas such as dance psychology, injury prevention, Pilates, and conditioning, among other areas of interest.

The proposed M.F.A. DANC program will prepare students to:

1. apply dance knowledge and skills in a range of contexts;
2. develop critical thinking skills through analyzing and evaluating dance;
3. apply subject matter knowledge in a range of contexts to solve problems and make decisions;
4. communicate dance concepts effectively;
5. use technology in dance;
6. engage in research within dance; and
7. justify an ethical course of action in dance research.

The proposed M.F.A. DANC includes 33 required major course credits and 27 prescribed elective credits.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2024.

Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under [19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 5.45](#) in regard to need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards, and costs.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

Texas A&M is in a unique position to prepare future choreographers and dancers to connect choreography, the moving body and technology. With connections between dance and the visualization program within PVFA, students can explore these technologies, gain

experience working as part of a team to build their work and experiment with its connection to dance movement and choreography. Current faculty within the school have produced work that has been performed at regional and national conferences/festivals including wearable technology, motion tracking with kinetics and WiFi devices, and works incorporating virtual reality. Additional collaborations include movement for gaming, holo-lens, and screendance. With this level of collaboration already in existence at Texas A&M, PVFA is well-positioned to support the proposed M.F.A. DANC and provide a rich and unique experience for students.

The proposed M.F.A. DANC will also prepare graduates for teaching at the university level. The graduates from the proposed M.F.A. DANC will be better prepared to teach courses in both technique/choreography and wellness for dancers. Graduates from the proposed M.F.A. DANC will be qualified to pursue teaching positions for K–12 as well, particularly in middle schools and high schools. The proposed M.F.A. DANC will focus on training dance teachers in the public and private sectors to emphasize the correct use of the body, implement injury prevention programs and be more aware of the mental health and well-being of the dancer.

Finally, students in the proposed M.F.A. DANC program will gain knowledge in anatomy, injury prevention, physical assessments, and conditioning methods including Pilates, plyometrics and other training methods providing them the knowledge and skills to gain employment as fitness and exercise trainers, potentially making an impact on a national health concern.

B. Projected Enrollment

The table below shows the estimated cumulative headcount for the first five years of the program.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Total New Students	3	5	10	13	15
Attrition	0	0	0	1	1
Cumulative Headcount	3	8	15	22	26
Graduates	0	3	5	10	12

C. Existing State Programs

Currently, there are five universities in Texas authorized to offer graduate degrees in dance (with the 50.0301 CIP Code): Texas Tech University, Texas Women’s University, The University of Texas at Austin, Southern Methodist University, and Sam Houston State University, with three currently offering an M.F.A. in dance: Sam Houston State University, The University of Texas at Austin and Texas Women’s University. However, these programs focus on choreography and performance with limited courses in teaching and no courses on conditioning, anatomy, dance screening assessments, or mental health/wellness which are essential elements of the proposed M.F.A. DANC.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

The proposed M.F.A. DANC will require 12 faculty assigned to the program varying from 10 to 100% allocated effort by its third year of operations, representing four new faculty in addition to the eight existing faculty who will contribute to this program. The new faculty will add expertise in dance science, dance technology, dance performance, choreography, and other related fields. By the third year of the program, there will be a total of 5.4 FTEs dedicated to supporting the proposed M.F.A. DANC.

B. Program Administration

Ms. Carisa Armstrong currently serves as the Academic Program Director for the dance program at Texas A&M. She is a tenure-track Associate Professor who oversees the recently approved B.S. in Dance Science, the minors in dance performance and choreography and will serve as the director for the proposed M.F.A. DANC.

C. Other Personnel

Reallocated staff will be necessary to support the increased teaching and performance production load the program will require. The existing staff will have 10% time reallocated to the proposed program, including an advising staff member, and academic support staff in year one and a stage manager and costume manager in year two. No new staff will be needed.

D. Supplies, Materials

The proposed M.F.A. DANC program will include an annual public performance season of student work that will also require an annual budget of \$3,000 for costume materials.

E. Library

The proposed program will be adequately supported by the Texas A&M University Libraries. This program will not require additional library resources as current library holdings include all the required materials needed to support the program.

F. Equipment, Facilities

Additional facilities are not required to support the program. However, the expected facilities in the new Visualization, Fine and Performing Arts Building, added to the A&M System Capital Plan in May 2022 and currently under development, will include spaces designated for the dance program. These proposed facilities will expand the current facilities, including a fully equipped Dance Science Research Lab, expanded Athletic Training facility, two additional movement studios, two small teacher preparation rooms, additional faculty offices, and a white box space that can be used to explore the use of technology into virtual reality applications for dance technology.

G. Accreditation

The accrediting body for dance is the National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD). Although the curriculum for the proposed M.F.A. DANC was designed to meet the requirements of the NASD, accreditation will not be sought. Dance in the United States does not require licensure or a specific certification for employment, therefore accreditation is not required for academic programs.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

Texas A&M is committed to enhancing the arts at the university and building an integrated approach to technology and the digital world. As such, we recognize that it will require new strategies and approaches to funding these initiatives, including philanthropy and performance-based revenues. Given the commitment to broadening the exposure of all students to the arts in new ways, the university will reallocate existing resources in support of the initial costs of this program over the first five years and beyond, if necessary, to ensure that the program can be successful and thrive for the benefit of all students.

NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS		SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	\$1,138,000	Formula Income	\$245,377
Program Administration	\$0	Statutory Tuition	\$88,800
Graduate Assistants	\$0	Designated Tuition	\$331,917
Supplies & Materials	\$15,000	Student Fees	\$549,228
Library & IT Resources	\$0	Board Authorized Tuition	\$88,800
Equipment, Facilities	\$0		
Staff	\$0		
Other	\$0		
Estimated 5-Year Costs	\$1,153,000	Estimated 5-Year Revenues	\$1,304,122

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Mark A. Welsh III, Interim President
Texas A&M University

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree Program with a Major in Theatre 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 Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre (B.F.A. THEA), 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 120-semester credit hour B.F.A. THEA will prepare individuals to manage the planning, design, preparation, and production of theatrical programs. This proposed degree will include instruction in performance and directing, design and production, arts administration and entrepreneurship, and civic dramaturgy and community engagement. The proposed B.F.A. THEA will train artists in the range of skills necessary to stage new and original theatrical works and will train performers to be creative and independent agents. Those who complete the proposed degree will be flexible and innovative creators, who can communicate across cultures and media, and who thrive in highly varied and ever-changing milieus. Performing artists working in theatre hone their empathy, active listening skills and critical inquiry abilities through collaborative performance-making.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Texas A&M is committed to enhancing the arts at the university and building an integrated approach to technology and the digital world. To offer the proposed B.F.A. THEA program, 11 new faculty members will be needed in addition to a reallocation of existing faculty. The anticipated total new costs over the first five years of the program are estimated at \$4,721,200. Total anticipated new funding generated over the first five years is estimated at \$5,019,692.

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 1 and 3. Specifically, all qualified students will have an array of pathways to pursue their ambitions and interests and students would leave the A&M System as responsible and engaged citizens prepared for successful careers in a global economy.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

August 17, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree Program with a Major in Theatre 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 Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre.

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,

Mark A. Welsh III
Interim 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

Bachelor of Fine Arts
with a major in Theatre
(CIP 50.0507.03)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: School of Performance, Visualization & Fine Arts

The proposed Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre (B.F.A. THEA) is a 120-semester credit hour degree that will prepare individuals to manage the planning, design, preparation, and production of theatrical programs. This proposed degree will include instruction in performance and directing, design and production, arts administration and entrepreneurship, and civic dramaturgy and community engagement. The proposed B.F.A. THEA will train artists in the range of skills necessary to stage new and original theatrical works and will train performers to be creative and independent agents. Those who complete the proposed degree will be flexible and innovative creators, who can communicate across cultures and media and thrive in highly varied and ever-changing milieus. Moreover, these emerging performing artists in theatre will have honed their empathy, active listening skills and critical inquiry abilities through collaborative performance-making.

The proposed B.F.A. THEA program will prepare students to:

1. identify and apply foundational knowledge and skills in theatrical performance, design and production;
2. implement principles of sensitivity and care in working with theatrical collaborators;
3. distinguish between varied approaches to making theatre and evaluate their utility in different contexts;
4. appraise aesthetic choices in performance, design, dramaturgy, and directing;
5. analyze social and cultural contexts in the development of original theatrical works;
6. stage original theatrical works for public presentation; and
7. collaborate with others as a member and leader of a creative team.

The proposed B.F.A. THEA includes 42 university required core curriculum credits; 36 required major course credits; 24 prescribed elective credits; and 18 elective credits.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2024.

Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under [19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 5.45](#) in regard to need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards, and costs.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

The proposed B.F.A. THEA curriculum is structured around foundational competencies and three core areas: *Performance, Design and Production* and *Arts Administration and*

Community Engagement. The goal is to graduate well-rounded and informed professionals who can be flexible and competitive in today's job market. Students will develop applicable skills preparing them to work across multiple production roles. Graduates of the program will also be able to work in organizations that promote the arts, offer grants to artists, report on the arts, and organize professional conferences, like the Theatre Communications Group (TCG), which publishes the American Theatre Magazine.

B. Projected Enrollment

The table below shows the estimated headcount for the first five years of the program.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Total New Students	25	30	36	36	36
Attrition	0	2	2	4	4
Cumulative Headcount	25	53	87	119	128
Graduates	0	0	0	23	28

In addition to the new students to the university presented in the table above, the proposed program anticipates approximately 10 students already enrolled at Texas A&M transitioning into the program in its first year, with an additional five transitioning into the program during its second year. The intended cumulative headcount of new students to the university by the fifth year of the proposed B.F.A. THEA is approximately 128 students. The projected number of graduates in years four and five reflects those students who were new to the university and not additional graduates who transitioned from other programs.

C. Existing State Programs

Texas Christian University is the only Texas institution currently authorized to offer a program (B.F.A. in Theatre Production) with the 50.0507 CIP Code designation (Directing and Theatrical Production). While there are a number of institutions across the state offering theatre or acting-related programs that use a variety of CIP Codes (50.0501, Theatre Arts, General; 50.0509, Musical Theatre; 50.0512, Theatre and Dance; and 50.0506, Acting), these programs narrowly focus students on specific areas of performance, design, production, and/or technology. The proposed program is unique in its broad training in varied approaches to creating works of theatre, its emphasis on the development of new and original works, and its comprehensive training in both directing and production. The unique and comprehensive nature of the proposed program will make its graduates particularly competitive for a wide range of positions, from careers both on stage and backstage to positions in arts administration, community engagement and education.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

Over the first five years of the program, 11 new faculty will be needed, in addition to 15 current faculty in the School of Performance, Visualization & Performing Arts who will have a portion of their time reallocated to the proposed B.F.A. THEA. Four new faculty will be required in year one and additional new faculty will be added as the program grows. By the

fifth year of the new program, a projected 16.75 full-time equivalent faculty will be dedicated to supporting the proposed B.F.A. THEA.

B. Program Administration

Dr. James Ball, III, Associate Professor, will serve as the program administrator for the proposed B.F.A. THEA. Costs for program administration are reallocated from the salary of the assigned program administrator.

C. Other Personnel

Additional staff will be necessary to support the increased teaching and performance production load the program will require, including a stage manager, a technical director and a sound and light technologist. In addition, a program coordinator will be hired to support the new program. The annual public performance season of faculty and student work in the proposed B.F.A. THEA will also require additional student workers to support performance production and the costume and scene shops. Estimated new costs over the first five years for staff are \$1,087,500, along with operational costs of \$37,500 related to the required public performances for students in the proposed program.

D. Supplies, Materials

The program's annual public performance season of faculty and student work will require supplies and materials in both the scene and costume shops. In addition, routine maintenance of theatrical supplies and materials (including some equipment and technology) will be necessary given the anticipated levels of wear and tear. The estimated five-year costs for supplies and materials are \$330,000.

E. Library

The proposed program will be adequately supported by the Texas A&M University Libraries. This program will not require additional library resources as current library holdings include all the required materials needed to support the program.

F. Equipment, Facilities

The facilities presently available to the School of Performance, Visualization & Fine Arts will be sufficient for the first three years of the proposed B.F.A. THEA program at which point additional spaces in the new Visualization, Fine and Performing Arts Building currently under development will be available.

Several important equipment upgrades in the Liberal Arts and Humanities Building Black Box Theatre will be necessary in the first year of the program, including replacing and upgrading the floor, lighting, projector and screen, and camera equipment. Costs for these upgrades are estimated to be \$74,400.

G. Accreditation

The accrediting body for institutions conferring degrees in theatre is the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST). However, given that accreditation is neither widespread among national peers or existing programs in Texas nor required for licensure, accreditation will not be pursued for the proposed B.F.A. THEA initially.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

The university recognizes that it will require new strategies and approaches to funding this program, including philanthropy and performance-based revenues. However, given the commitment to broadening the exposure of all students to the arts in new ways, the university will reallocate existing resources in support of the initial costs of this program over the first five years and beyond, if necessary, to ensure that the program succeeds for the benefit of all students.

NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS		SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	\$3,191,800	Formula Income	\$211,982
Program Administration	\$0	Statutory Tuition	\$618,000
Graduate Assistants	\$0	Designated Tuition	\$2,554,070
Supplies & Materials	\$330,000	Student Fees:	\$1,635,640
Library & IT Resources	\$0		
Equipment, Facilities	\$74,400		
Staff	\$1,087,500		
Operational Costs	\$37,500		
Estimated 5-Year Costs	\$4,721,200	Estimated 5-Year Revenues	\$5,019,692

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Mark A. Welsh III, Interim President
Texas A&M University

Subject: Establishment of the Texas A&M University Institute for Healthcare Access

Proposed Board Action:

Establish the Texas A&M University Institute for Healthcare Access within the Texas A&M University Health Science Center (TAMHSC) at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M).

Background Information:

Texas A&M and the TAMHSC propose the establishment of the ***Texas A&M University Institute for Healthcare Access (TAMU HAI or HAI)***, based in Fort Worth, to develop and lead interdisciplinary programs at Texas A&M to expand access to health and healthcare in Texas and throughout the nation. TAMU HAI will be created and operated within the TAMHSC and represent a partnership between the School of Medicine and the School of Law. The institute will also work closely with other schools within the TAMHSC, the Bush School of Government & Public Service, and other academic units at Texas A&M to connect people and advance programs that further access to healthcare and improvement of individual and community health through research, education and service.

The goal of TAMU HAI is to make a difference in health and healthcare across Texas, with applicability to other states and the nation as a whole. “Access” to health and healthcare means providing more services and support to more people in more communities and doing so in many cases at lower individual and aggregate costs. Better access means more efficient care and better health, which over time correlates with improved education, greater economic opportunity and longer lives.

TAMU HAI will expand and anchor Texas A&M’s capacity to assist the state and educate and serve its citizens in making informed public policy decisions about health and healthcare. HAI will target opportunities for research, education, outreach, and community service benefiting individual and population health. It will engage these opportunities in collaboration with other Texas A&M colleges and schools, including (but not limited to) Medicine, Law, Nursing, Public Health, Government & Public Service, Engineering, Business, Education & Human Development, Pharmacy, and Dentistry. HAI will work closely with existing TAMHSC programs and initiatives, including those connecting bioscientific discovery with clinical care delivery, targeting rural and underserved communities, and working “upstream” to promote wellness and prevent disease. HAI’s work will be purposefully interprofessional and interdisciplinary, match the broad geographic distribution of Texas A&M across the state, and connect conventional clinical services and health insurance coverage to underlying social and environmental conditions that can have strong preventive and curative effects.

Agenda Item No.
Agenda Item Briefing

TAMU HAI will have a mission to “Establish the preeminent forum to challenge conventional thinking, inspire decision-makers, engage stakeholders, and generate breakthrough advances in access to healthcare and health. Change conversations at the community, state, and national levels to shed more light, generate less heat, and bring people together in pursuit of the common good. Gather the best ideas and the most effective individuals and groups to devise, promote, and implement innovation in healthcare operations, professional education and training, financing, and public policy that helps narrow the gap between health needs and available, affordable services. Focus and amplify the impact of Texas A&M’s faculty and partners in promoting healthcare access through research, teaching, and service, including in rural Texas.”

TAMU HAI will pursue four primary organizational functions: (1) place-based clinical and community service, (2) collaborative research, (3) interdisciplinary and interprofessional education, and (4) convening and communication.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Support from the TAMHSC through the Chancellor’s Research Initiative (CRI) in the amount of \$6 million will be provided in the first five years of the institute to support physical facilities, additional personnel, and costs associated with institute activities. The HAI is expected to generate revenue for the life of the institute to offset its costs of staffing and core operations, primarily through grants, contracts and educational activities.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

TAMU HAI will advance The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) strategic imperatives 1 through 5 through its research, educational, outreach, and service activities. HAI’s interdisciplinary educational and training initiatives will expand the range and diversity of affordable pathways available to students to gain instruction and experiences that will prepare them for new roles and successful careers in a large, dynamic sector of the economy (imperatives 1, 2, and 3). HAI will also support and enhance Texas A&M’s research portfolio in biomedical innovation, health and environment (imperative 4), and develop and assist services that address the health and healthcare needs of the people of Texas and help build its economy (imperative 5).

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

August 8, 2023

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

Subject: Establishment of the Texas A&M University Institute for Healthcare Access

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The Texas A&M University Institute for Healthcare Access is hereby established as an organizational unit of the Texas A&M University Health Science Center at Texas A&M University.”

Respectfully submitted,

Mark A. Welsh III
Interim President

Submission Recommended:

Indra Reddy, Ph.D.
Interim Chief Operating Officer and Vice President
Texas A&M University Health Science Center

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
Texas A&M University Institute for Healthcare Access
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. *Rationale for the Creation of the Institute*

Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) proposes establishment of the Texas A&M University Institute for Healthcare Access (TAMU HAI or HAI), to be located in Fort Worth, as an organizational unit of the Texas A&M University Health Science Center (TAMHSC), to lead interdisciplinary health policy research, advance interdisciplinary education, and innovate clinical/community partnerships across colleges and schools at Texas A&M, in order to expand access to health and healthcare in Texas and nationally.

“Access” to health and healthcare means providing more services and support to more people in more communities and doing so, in many cases, at lower individual and aggregate costs. Better access means better health, which over time correlates with improved education, greater economic opportunity and longer lives. Inefficiency in healthcare structures and processes retards access, as does injustice. Impediments to healthcare access include lack of availability, lack of affordability, and lack of acceptability – each of which may reflect problems with information, innovation, workforce, geographic distribution, private resources, or public investments. Market competition, governance, professionalism, public trust, and accountability all require creative engagement from multiple perspectives for healthcare access to meaningfully improve. The HAI will approach healthcare access pragmatically, seeking opportunities for public benefit across a portfolio of potential issues, recruiting and assisting educational leaders and scientific innovators throughout Texas A&M, and building momentum for change by introducing existing stakeholders to new participants and perspectives.

A visible commitment to healthcare access through the HAI will honor Texas A&M’s and the TAMHSC’s original vision of educating health professionals to serve rural communities challenged by limited human resources and physical infrastructure. The HAI will expand and anchor Texas A&M’s capacity to assist the state in making informed public policy decisions about health and healthcare and in educating and serving its citizens.

2. *General Description of the Institute and its Mission and Goals*

HAI will target opportunities for research, education, outreach, and community service benefiting individual and population health. It will be created and operated within the TAMHSC, represent a partnership between the School of Medicine and the School of Law, and work closely with the other schools within the TAMHSC (Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Public Health), the School of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, and the Bush School of Government & Public Service. It will also collaborate with other Texas A&M colleges and schools, including (but not limited to) Engineering, Business, and Education & Human Development. HAI will work closely with existing TAMHSC programs and initiatives, including those connecting bioscientific discovery with clinical care delivery, those targeting rural and underserved communities, and those working “upstream” to promote wellness and prevent disease. Because of the centrality of clinical operations (i.e., patient care) to strategic planning and performance for academic health centers, HAI will align and integrate its research and policy initiatives with TAMHSC’s evolving clinical enterprise. HAI’s work will be purposefully interprofessional and interdisciplinary, incorporate the voices and perspectives of new generations of health professionals and the people they serve,

match the broad geographic distribution of Texas A&M across the state, and connect conventional clinical services and health insurance coverage to underlying social and environmental conditions that can have strong preventive and curative effects.

2.1 Texas A&M University Institute for Healthcare Access Vision and Mission

VISION: National prominence in framing and advancing solutions to the most significant problems that hinder access to timely, effective, affordable healthcare for individuals and communities.

MISSION: Establish the preeminent forum to challenge conventional thinking, inspire decision-makers, engage stakeholders, and generate breakthrough advances in access to healthcare and health. Change conversations at the community, state, and national levels to shed more light, generate less heat, and bring people together in pursuit of the common good. Gather the best ideas and the most effective individuals and groups to devise, promote, and implement innovation in healthcare operations, professional education and training, financing, and public policy that helps narrow the gap between health needs and available, affordable services. Focus and amplify the impact of Texas A&M's faculty and partners in promoting healthcare access through research, teaching, and service, including in rural Texas.

2.2 Relationship to Existing Texas A&M Programs

HAI will identify and work closely with existing educational, research and service programs, at TAMHSC and elsewhere within Texas A&M, that touch on healthcare access and the improvement of individual and population health. These include (but are not limited to) the Rural and Community Health Institute, the Telehealth Institute, the Digital Health Initiative, Engineering Medicine (EnMed), the Institute of Data Science, Global One Health, the Center for Genomic and Precision Medicine, and the Office of Interprofessional Education and Research. Through its Faculty Fellows (see Section 3.2), its convening and outreach activities, and its research and educational collaborations, HAI will build a visible network of individuals and groups that highlights synergies among them and inspires collaboration, creativity and innovation. Where HAI's participation helps attract attention and resources, HAI will assist researchers and educators in existing programs, as well as their sponsoring colleges, schools and departments.

3. *Faculty and Staff Associated with the Institute*

3.1 Core Faculty and Staff

William Sage, MD, JD will be the Faculty Director of TAMU HAI. A national authority on health law and policy, Dr. Sage is a tenured professor in Texas A&M's medical and law schools, a professor by courtesy in the Bush School of Government & Public Service at Texas A&M, an associate vice president in TAMHSC, and a Permanent Fellow of the Hagler Institute for Advanced Study.

From 2006-2022, Dr. Sage held professorships in law and medicine at the University of Texas at Austin, where he also served as vice provost for health affairs. He was a tenured professor at Columbia Law School and has been a visiting professor at Yale, Harvard and NYU. Dr. Sage is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine, for which he recently completed terms of service on the Board on Health Care Services and the Committee on the Future of Nursing 2020-2030. Dr. Sage also is an elected member of the American Law Institute.

Dr. Sage serves on a Healthcare System and Value Research study section for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, is a Fellow of the Hastings Center on bioethics, and is an editorial board member of *Health Affairs*. He has written over 200 articles and has authored or edited four books, including the Oxford Handbook of U.S. Health Law (2016). He holds an undergraduate degree in biochemical sciences from Harvard College, medical and law degrees with honors from Stanford University, and an honorary doctorate from Universite Paris Descartes.

Keegan Warren, JD, LLM joined the TAMHSC in 2023 and will serve as the Executive Director of HAI. She brings lived experience and a civil justice lens to bear on health and wellness, specializing in non-medical cost drivers and health equity. An attorney and Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) director with nearly two decades of senior management experience spanning health and human services, she is a national expert on integrating medical and social services through medical-legal partnership, a care delivery model that leverages legal expertise to advance individual and population health.

Ms. Warren's research and writing apply an epidemiological perspective to legal interventions as a concrete means for addressing social determinants of health and reducing health disparities. She has worked with community health centers and medical clinics to refine their approach to non-medical drivers of health and to identify institutional policies that may be inadvertently worsening disparities and raising costs. She has experience helping various stakeholders navigate professional values around confidentiality and privacy to facilitate patient-centered data-sharing across sectors. Her expertise includes policy surveillance on targeted access issues, ranging from treating opioid use disorder in carceral settings to securing favorable 340B prescription drug pricing, to improving county-level hospital districting and regional professional competitive dynamics.

Ms. Warren is a veteran of the Army National Guard and a member of the Order of St. Joan of Arc, the highest civilian award given by the Army Armor and Cavalry Associations. She served on the National Academy of Medicine's (NAM) Committee on Integrating Social Care, recently completed service as an NAM Emerging Leader in Health and Medicine Scholar, and began a three-year term on the NAM Board on Health Care Services. She is a former adjunct professor at the University of Texas at Austin School of Law and McCombs School of Business and a lecturer at its School of Design and Creative Technologies. Ms. Warren earned her Master of Laws in Health Law and Policy from Southern Illinois University, her Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Texas at Austin, and her Bachelor of Arts in Spanish, International Relations, and Latin American studies from the University of Arkansas.

Susan Rudd Bailey, MD, special assistant for strategic projects to the Dean of the Texas A&M University School of Medicine, will be part of the HAI's leadership team. A past president of the American Medical Association (AMA), Dr. Bailey has paved the way for many Aggie physicians, particularly women. Her medical school graduation class of 1981 was the charter class at the then College of Medicine, and Dr. Bailey was the first woman accepted to the college. She completed her residency in general pediatrics and her fellowship in allergy/immunology at Minnesota's Mayo Graduate School of Medicine. Along with her academic appointment, she continues the private practice of pediatric allergy/immunology in Fort Worth.

In 1999, Dr. Bailey was appointed to the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents by Governor George W. Bush, marking the first time a female former student had held the position. Before rising to the AMA presidency, she was the president of the Tarrant County Medical Society and the 145th president of the Texas Medical Association (TMA). She previously served as

speaker and vice speaker of the TMA's House of Delegates and chaired the TMA Council on Communication and the TMA and AMA Medical Student sections.

Bryn S. Esplin, JD, Instructional Associate Professor of Humanities in Medicine in the School of Medicine, will be core faculty of the HAI. Professor Esplin recently rejoined Texas A&M from the University of North Texas Health Science Center, where she directed the Medical Ethics and Professional Identity curriculum and oversaw interprofessional activities within the health science center, including in the College of Pharmacy and the Physician Assistant Studies program, as well as with the University of Texas at Arlington's School of Social Work. She also serves as an Advance Care Planning Consultant for the Cleveland Clinic, where she completed her Advanced Bioethics Fellowship.

Professor Esplin's scholarly and research interests are centered around clinical ethics, patient safety and health law, and her pedagogy emphasizes the social, legal and ethical aspects of medical decision-making, ensuring trainees are exposed to and embrace all stakeholder perspectives to maximize patient safety, health outcomes and access. She is a frequent speaker at both national and international conferences in Bioethics, Health Law, and Medical Humanities, and her scholarship has appeared in numerous peer-reviewed journals, including Harvard's Health and Human Rights Journal, the Psychiatric Times, the American Journal of Bioethics, and Neuroscience. Professor Esplin earned a bachelor's degree with honors in Rhetoric from the University of California, Berkeley, and a law degree from the William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas.

3.2 Faculty Fellows

HAI will recruit Faculty Fellows to build visibility and engagement with a range of schools and departments at Texas A&M relevant to the institute's mission and success. Faculty Fellows will have demonstrated prior commitment to research, education and service involving healthcare access and will confirm their interest in collaborations consistent with HAI's vision. Designation as a Faculty Fellow will provide faculty with collaborative opportunities, technical assistance, and a voice in HAI strategic planning. Drawing on its start-up funds, HAI will make seed funding for promising projects available to Faculty Fellows on a competitive basis annually, with award decisions made by the Internal Steering Committee (see Section 8) following advisory peer review. An initial class of 20 Faculty Fellows has been identified by the proposed HAI leadership team in consultation with relevant academic leaders and other subject matter experts at Texas A&M.

4. Core Activities

HAI will approach healthcare access pragmatically, building a flexible portfolio of issues and activities that offer the potential for transformative impact. A central premise of HAI engagement is that most of the challenges to healthcare access are neither new nor unsolvable. Rather, the conversations around them – among policymakers, stakeholder groups, and the broader public – have become stuck.

Consider access issues involving the healthcare workforce. A persistent shortage of primary care, for example, has largely been discussed as a maldistribution of physician specialists rather than a challenge of empowering health professionals of many sorts to perform primary care functions under varying demographic circumstances. Similarly, nurse staffing challenges for hospitals have been discussed in terms of shortage and retention from the institution's perspective, rather than in terms of attractive working conditions and professional opportunities from the nurse's perspective.

Through its activities, HAI will reframe and reposition questions with the goal of restarting and reinvigorating those conversations, increasing the probability of meaningful progress.

Intergenerational thinking about multi-generational workplaces is a potential conversation-changer for many issues involving healthcare access. Five identifiable generations currently coexist in a typical workplace for the first time in history. Millennials comprise the majority, with Gen Z growing quickly in the future workforce. This complex and changing demographic landscape is not well understood by health professionals, healthcare organizations, educational institutions, and policymakers. How to adapt workplaces, train the next generation of physicians and other health professionals, and ensure access to safe, high-quality care for patients – who also represent multiple, mixed and changing generations – are urgent concerns.

American healthcare is often inattentive to generational change because of its seniority-based professional hierarchies, traditional deference to physician control by governmental policymakers, and heavily lobbied public funding of technology and other sources of supply through established interest groups. Healthcare workforce policy discussions, for example, do not routinely incorporate insights regarding generational aspects of career initiation, mobility, duration, satisfaction, and individual and organizational performance. HAI will elicit and examine generational differences in the provision and receipt of care and in the maintenance and improvement of health (see section 4.2).

TAMU HAI will pursue four primary organizational functions: place-based clinical and community service; collaborative research; interdisciplinary and interprofessional education; and convening and communication. The framing and potential activities of each function are described in the following.

4.1 Place-Based Clinical and Community Service

HAI will have the capacity and expertise to engage healthcare access directly through both existing sites of clinical care delivery and broader community partnerships. These activities will target geographic areas with limited availability of services or identifiable care-related or health-related needs that remain unmet. Because of the centrality of clinical operations (i.e., patient care) to strategic planning and performance for academic health centers, HAI will align and integrate its service, research and educational initiatives with TAMHSC's evolving clinical enterprise. HAI will be well-positioned to assist the TAMHSC with developing or enhancing clinical partnerships between Texas A&M's health professional schools and hospitals, clinics and health systems. Collaborations with these clinical care organizations, and with health insurance payers and health innovation companies, will take both the institute's mission and TAMHSC's goals into account (e.g., in rural health and military medicine).

Integrating "social care" with clinical services will be an initial focus of the institute, including through the medical-legal partnership (MLP) model. MLP incorporates lawyers' expertise into healthcare settings to help clinicians, case managers and social workers address structural problems at the root of many health inequities and, thereby, advance individual and population health. MLP has been endorsed or treated fully favorably by the American Bar Association, the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Hospital Association, the National Academy of Medicine, and the Academy of Arts & Sciences.

Over 500 clinics and hospitals in the United States have attorneys, paralegals and legal assistants as part of their healthcare team. Almost half of all MLPs are in hospitals, including approximately three dozen children's hospitals. Four of every ten MLPs are in community health clinics that treat

the medically underserved. Other MLPs are in veterans' clinics or academic healthcare settings. Every state except South Dakota has at least one MLP, and Texas is tied with Florida for the fifth most MLPs.

MLPs have been shown to have a significant impact on access to care, including reducing hospital admissions for persons with chronic illnesses and avoiding unnecessary healthcare expenditures. MLPs follow a national I-HELP™ model of concrete interventions that can remediate unmet legal needs known to be health-harming as an integrated aspect of delivering health care. I-HELP encompasses the following five domains: Income and Insurance; Housing and Utilities; Education and Employment; Legal Status; and Personal and Familial Stability.

HAI will help to expand the scope, scale and policy impact of an existing academic medical-legal partnership involving the Law School, which serves Cook Children's Hospital in Fort Worth and will work to replicate similar service collaborations elsewhere in Texas. As the institute's MLP work progresses, HAI will seek to anchor a consortium of all Texas MLPs and connect that consortium to the institute's research, education and outreach activities.

4.2 Collaborative Research

HAI will expand and support Texas A&M's prominence in health policy research, health services research, health informatics research, and other areas relevant to the institute's mission and vision. The institute's start-up funds (see Section 6) will help support its initial research activities. HAI will also perform and assist with instructional research (see Section 4.3) related to the institute's innovations in interdisciplinary and interprofessional education, which will be externally funded through grants and contracts.

A central research commitment for HAI, based on the expertise and experience of its leadership team and its strong relationships with data scientists at Texas A&M, is to create and curate novel data sets connecting medical, social and legal services that are targeted on identifying and testing strategies for access improvement. Start-up funding for this work is available (see Section 6), which will enable HAI to obtain extramural research support for large, continuing projects. One of the institute's longer-term goals is to attract and secure ambitious, center-level external funding for what HAI intends to be the nation's leading research group on access to integrated clinical and social care through medical-legal partnerships.

HAI researchers will look for gaps in information that limit options and will attempt to fill those gaps with data reflecting fresh perspectives. Intergenerational health access is an area of focus for HAI's initial research portfolio, to be supported by the institute's start-up funds. For example, research already underway in collaboration with qualitative researchers from the School of Education & Human Development examines the impact of generational change on healthcare education and care delivery practice – from the perspectives, experiences, and career plans of physicians and nurses of different generations – through focus groups with practicing and supervising health professionals, plus key informant interviews with known experts.

The project aims to achieve four objectives: understanding physicians' and nurses' current perceptions of their personal experiences of learning professional practice from their seniors; exploring physicians' and nurses' experiences working with younger generations of health professionals and professional trainees; exploring physicians' and nurses' experiences of providing healthcare to patients of different generations; and identifying significant events and trends that affected each generation's professional identity and care practices over time. A pilot study will

conduct six to eight focus groups with physician alumni of Texas A&M's medical school, with each focus group including physicians in a specific age range.

HAI's research activities will assist TAMHSC and Texas A&M components, as they pursue goals of developing promising health policy researchers and recruiting established researchers, including members of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine. HAI is well-positioned to support these efforts at several Texas A&M campuses and locations, including in Dallas/Fort Worth and Washington, DC. HAI's leadership team will help current research leaders at TAMHSC, many of whom have limited experience outside basic science research, in creating or improving pathways for appointment, promotion, and funding for health policy researchers.

4.3 Interdisciplinary and Interprofessional Education

HAI will develop and implement a curricular platform for interdisciplinary and interprofessional education to advance the HAI's mission and benefit Texas A&M schools and departments that incorporate healthcare policy into their educational programming. The platform will be broadly inclusive of Texas A&M's educationally diverse, geographically distributed students and the faculty teaching them, and will take advantage of the proximity of Texas A&M's Washington, DC facility to national health policy experts and policymakers. Professor Esplin will lead HAI's educational activities under the supervision of the Faculty Director and the Executive Director.

Consistent with Texas A&M's rules and processes, HAI will promote and support cross-listed course offerings taught jointly by the institute's core faculty and its Faculty Fellows. Initial interdisciplinary bridging efforts across Texas A&M include (but are not limited to) a health law and policy class offered jointly by the Law School and the Bush School; a medical advocacy class offered jointly by the Law School and the School of Medicine; a biomedical innovation and healthcare access class jointly offered by the Law School and the EnMed program; a legal epidemiology class offered jointly by the Law School and the School of Public Health; and a forensic law class offered jointly by the Law School and the School of Nursing.

HAI will develop and partner certificate programs and continuing education activities in various disciplines and areas related to healthcare access. Some certificate programs and continuing education activities will contribute to the financial sustainability of HAI's educational initiatives (see section 7) through fees. HAI will seek external training grants, where appropriate, and engage in instructional research on its innovative interdisciplinary and interprofessional teaching methods and outcomes to be funded by external grants and contracts.

4.4 Convening and Communication

Outreach and communication are core activities of HAI, furthering its mission to introduce new and different perspectives to public conversations about healthcare access that have become entrenched or otherwise not productive. As part of its research portfolio (section 4.2) and in less formal ways, HAI will engage individuals and communities through focus groups and similar techniques to elicit facts and opinions and surface examples of both challenges and solutions. HAI will also seek to collaborate with local healthcare professionals and community leaders, and clarify and document potential best practices, including by connecting community-based work on access with the work of researchers. HAI will use multiple channels to convey ideas and information to the public, highlighting insights from its portfolio of collaborative projects. HAI will sponsor conferences on health policy issues, offer internal training sessions for collaborating Texas A&M colleges, schools and departments, provide training for TAMHSC clinical affiliates and community partners, and host interdisciplinary workshops to showcase the work of Faculty

Fellows (section 3.2). The HAI leadership will meet regularly to discuss strategy and staffing regarding convening and communication activities.

4.5 Institute Operations

The operations of the institute, including budgeting and facilities, will be led by the Executive Director. HAI will be housed initially in the A&M System's Burnett Plaza location in downtown Fort Worth and remain there until space assigned to the HAI at the Texas A&M-Fort Worth campus becomes available. Core faculty and staff will be co-located, with adequate provision for conferences and workspace for visiting faculty members from across Texas A&M, researchers under consideration by Texas A&M for recruitment, and other collaborators.

5. *Impact on Education and Training of Students*

TAMU HAI is committed to educating Texas A&M students and health professions trainees across disciplines, working with multiple geographic sites, and applying principles of interdisciplinary and interprofessional education. As described in Section 4.3, Professor Esplin will oversee the development of a collaborative curriculum and an instructional platform for working with academic programs training health professionals (e.g., Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health, Dentistry, Psychology, Nutrition) and other fields relating to healthcare access (e.g., Law, Government & Public Service, Engineering, Computer Science, Business).

6. *Resource Requirements*

Support from the TAMHSC through the Chancellor's Research Initiative (CRI) in the amount of \$6 million will be provided in the first five years to support physical facilities, additional personnel, and costs associated with institute activities described in Section 4. The HAI is expected to generate revenue for the institute's life to offset its costs of staffing and core operations, primarily through grants, contracts and educational activities.

7. *Sources and Future Expectations of Financial Support*

Start-up support to be provided by the TAMHSC and revenue generation are described in Section 6. TAMHSC clinical affiliates (e.g., community hospitals) are expected to provide continuing support from patient care revenues for medical-legal partnerships and similar community health activities. Federal (e.g., Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality), state and private foundation grants or contracts are expected to provide continuing support for HAI research and conferences/educational activities. HAI will also pursue philanthropic funding from donors and foundations, with the support of the Texas A&M Foundation.

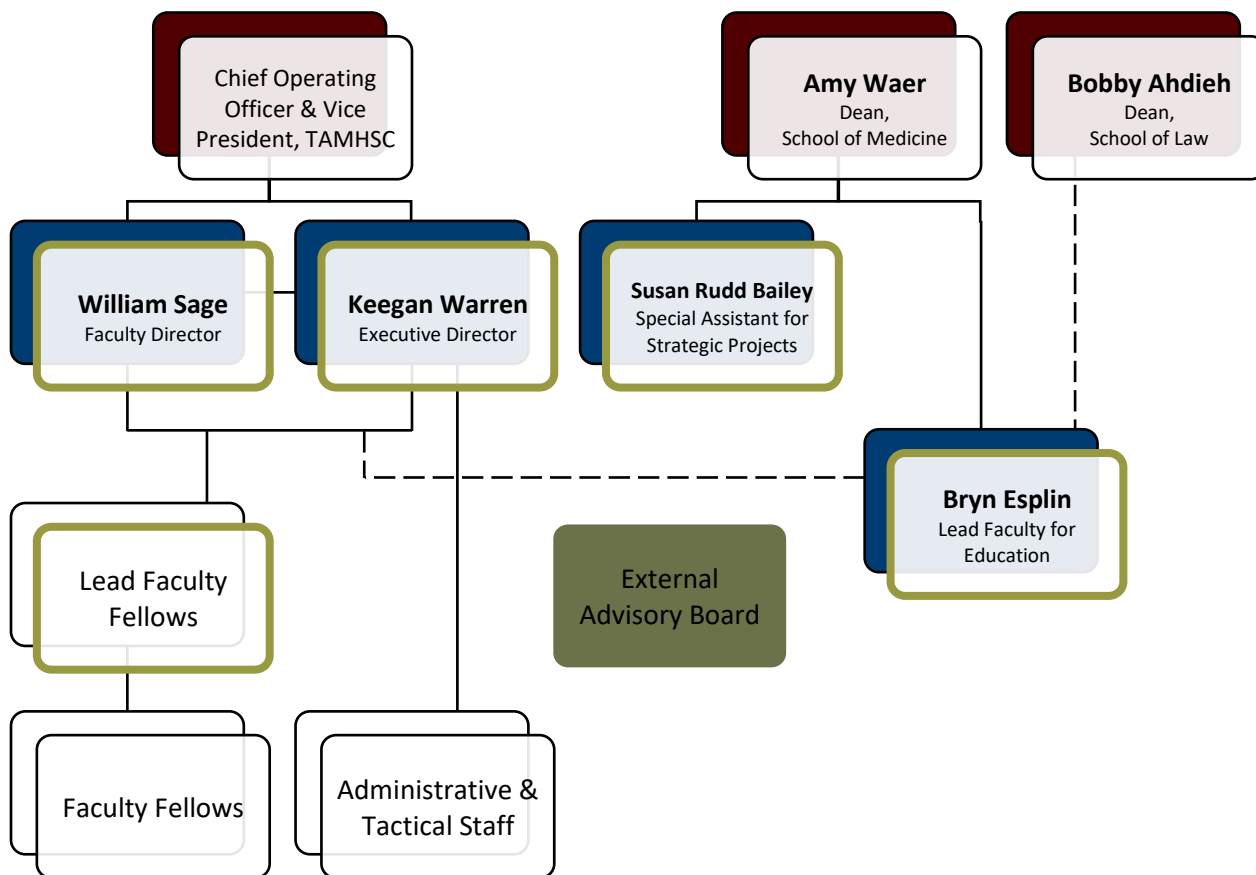
8. *Governance and Advisory Structure*

The Faculty Director will report to the TAMHSC Chief Operating Officer and Vice President. The Executive Director will report to the Faculty Director. The Faculty Director and the Executive Director's primary responsibility will be to oversee the administration and strategic planning of TAMU HAI and the principal initiatives of the institute. The Faculty Director and the Executive Director will direct the overall operations of TAMU HAI to ensure consistency with both the mission and values of the institute and the priorities and policies of Texas A&M, including with respect to fundraising, research support and community engagement.

Within TAMU HAI, there will be a leadership team consisting of the Faculty Director, the Executive Director, the special assistant for strategic projects to the Dean of the School of

Medicine (Dr. Bailey), and the lead faculty member for education (Professor Esplin). Additional staff overseeing event planning and basic administration will report to the Executive Director. An Internal Steering Committee will be created, composed of the HAI leadership team and selected HAI Faculty Fellows (see Section 3.2) distributed across relevant TAMHSC and Texas A&M academic components, following A&M System and Texas A&M requirements. Additionally, an External Advisory Board will be created, following A&M System and Texas A&M requirements. External Advisory Board members may be individuals with proven careers in education, legislation, regulation, ethics, business, healthcare, technology, community-based organizations or research relevant to healthcare access. Both the Steering Committee and the External Advisory Board will meet regularly.

8.1 Organizational Chart



LEGEND



9. Mechanisms for Periodic Review

The TAMU HAI will be reviewed in accordance with policies established for institutes and centers (i.e., A&M System Policy [11.02, Creation of Centers and Institutes](#), A&M System Regulation [11.02.01 Management and Evaluation of Centers and Institutes](#), and Texas A&M Standard Administrative Procedure [11.02.99.M0.01, Centers and Institutes](#)). An Administrative Council consisting of the TAMHSC Chief Operating Officer and Vice President and Deans of the Schools of Medicine and Law will formally meet annually to review the overall conduct of the TAMU HAI

and to ensure the Faculty Director and the Executive Director are carrying out their responsibilities to meet institute goals and comply with A&M System and Texas A&M requirements for reviewing centers and institutes. The Internal Steering Committee will conduct internal reviews annually, following the Administrative Council review. A summary of each Administrative Council review and subsequent reports from internal reviews will be shared with the Texas A&M Vice President for Research, who may provide comments and/or recommendations as to improvements or other actions that may be indicated.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Mark A. Welsh III, Interim President
Texas A&M University

Subject: Establishment of the Insurance Institute for Construction Safety and Research

Proposed Board Action:

Establish the Insurance Institute for Construction Safety and Research (IICSR) at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M).

Background Information:

Texas A&M's School of Architecture proposes to create a transdisciplinary and interdisciplinary research organization to advance construction safety and the built environment in partnership with other academic units across the university. This institute would be known as the Insurance Institute for Construction Safety and Research (IICSR). As envisioned, IICSR would be the first of its kind anywhere in the world. IICSR's primary mission is to eliminate personal injury and property damage claims associated with the construction and operation of facilities in the built environment. Future plans include establishing industry partnerships for creating a new physical home for the IICSR that would provide a location for interdisciplinary research in state-of-the-art laboratories.

Faculty researchers across Texas A&M and The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) from departments, colleges and schools as diverse as Architecture; Construction Science; Engineering; Performance, Visualization & Fine Arts; Geology and Geophysics; Business; Government & Public Service; Psychological and Brain Sciences; and Law would collaborate to create the innovations necessary to revolutionize the safe delivery and operation of constructed buildings and facilities. Initial research activities of the IICSR will include redefining safety, sustainability, quality, and risk management in constructed facilities for the global architecture-engineering-construction industry and its many stakeholders.

IICSR will be successful because of the strong partnerships that exist amongst its researchers, visionary individuals and leading companies in the U.S. and around the world. In particular, insurance and reinsurance companies possess amongst the best visibility and leverage to transform safety performance in the built environment. IICSR and its affiliated research sponsors will forever impact not just the facilities that comprise our modern world, but the lives of everyone working to construct them as well.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The IICSR will initially be supported by current faculty and staff, with additional operations expanded only as additional funding from gifts is provided by individual and corporate donors. To date, fundraising has been successful, with \$1,225,000 in received and committed gifts which will support the initial costs of establishing IICSR. Once established, IICSR will be self-supporting through sponsored research, continuing education and training, industry consortia, and

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demonstration projects in the built environment. Ongoing fundraising activity will be leveraged to support the future expansion and growth of IICSR. For example, a \$4,000,000 cash gift, a \$6,500,000 in-kind gift of machinery and a gift of a modular construction building are currently being finalized.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Establishing IICSR will advance A&M System strategic imperatives 4, 5, and 7. IICSR will increase the prominence of the A&M System's research portfolio by directly impacting infrastructure development nationally and globally in support of strategic imperative 4. The design and construction industry improves peoples' standards of living through the stewardship it provides for the built environment. Consistent with strategic imperative 5, innovations created through the applied research efforts at IICSR can be licensed and deployed to provide increasingly safe, productive, resilient, and economically viable solutions for the built environment in Texas and beyond.

From energy and education to healthcare and transportation, any improvement in society's way of life usually requires an addition to, or modernization of, the built environment. Consequently, IICSR will create numerous partnerships and novel programs with industry and government to address challenging problems in the built environment such as safety, ecological impact, and affordability. As the largest academic program in construction in the U.S., Texas A&M is well-positioned to reinforce its leadership by pursuing pioneering and progressive concepts at IICSR that improve our world in support of strategic imperative 7.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

August 15, 2023

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

Subject: Establishment of the Insurance Institute for Construction Safety and Research

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The Insurance Institute for Construction Safety and Research is hereby established as an organizational unit of Texas A&M University.”

Respectfully submitted,

Mark A. Welsh III
Interim 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

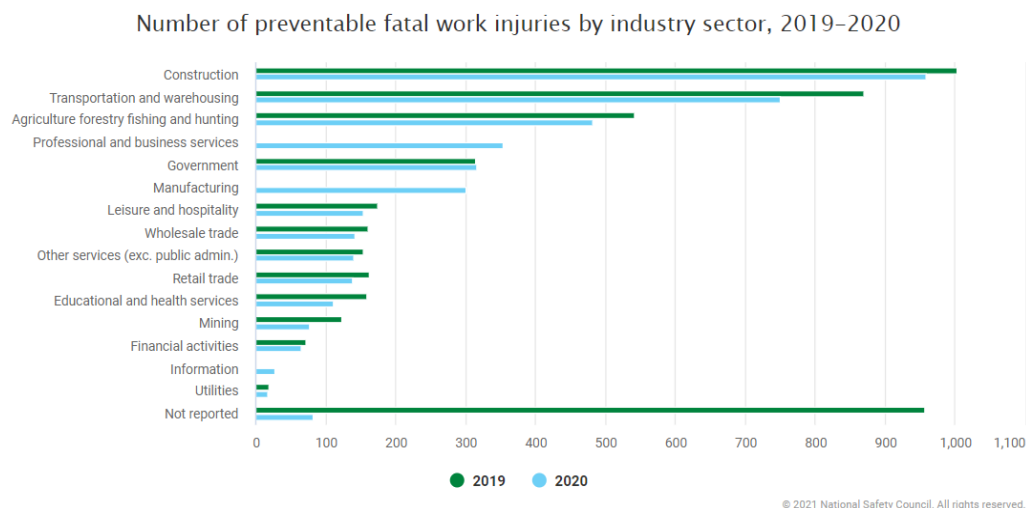
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Insurance Institute for Construction Safety and Research

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Rationale for the Creation of the Institute

The problems and limitations inherent to the built environment are rooted in an inefficient commercial environment that prevents technological advances from taking hold. Instead of researching the symptoms of this dysfunction, the Insurance Institute for Construction Safety and Research (IICSR) will address the commercial and technical domains of design and construction holistically. As a result, IICSR will go to work with integrated teams with deep domain expertise in law, finance, supply chain, public policy, ecology, sociology, actuarial statistics, and industrial safety in addition to customary management, engineering, architecture, and construction disciplines. The institute will benefit from the financial capability of the previously neglected insurance and reinsurance industry which has suffered sizeable losses and become acutely aware of the need for new advancements amongst built environment stakeholders. They have also demonstrated a willingness to fund research at IICSR.

The time is right for IICSR. Current advances in technology (telematics, visualization, simulation, robotics, etc.) are creating new avenues of research and derivative products capable of eliminating accidents in construction. Although safety performance in the industry has plateaued in the past 15 years, the increase in “nuclear verdicts” stemming from jury awards in personal injury cases has skyrocketed. IICSR will reverse these trends by helping eliminate construction and transportation accidents and the majority of personal injury claims. In addition, IICSR will improve the resiliency of built environment facilities to eliminate latent defects that, over time, will greatly reduce property damage claims related to interior air quality, mold, water intrusion, and structural failure.



Between 2015 and 2019, the average verdict in National Law Journal’s Top 100 Verdicts more than tripled from \$64 million to over \$214 million. This trend is notable in transportation where a 1,000% increase in large verdicts involving truck crashes (from \$2.3 million to \$22.3 million) has occurred over the past nine years. Construction is a major user of trucking and is therefore impacted by this trend. These verdicts are part of a larger trend that includes increases in class

action suits and “litigation funding” in which third-party investors such as hedge funds and private equity firms are assuming all or part of the cost of a lawsuit in exchange for an agreed-upon percentage of the settlement. According to Bloomberg, “litigation funding” is now a \$39 billion global industry. IICSR is therefore a critical component in the effort to combat these trends by establishing a different trajectory for the built environment.

Most importantly, research done at IICSR will save lives. For decades, the construction industry has had the highest number of fatal injuries of any industry. This is unacceptable, especially when construction injuries and fatalities are preventable. For companies involved in creating and maintaining the built environment, safety is also good business. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has estimated that construction companies save \$4 to \$6 for every \$1 invested in safety programs and research. The combination of technology, revitalized delivery practices, training, and behavioral science at IICSR will forever change what constitutes safety in the world’s largest industry.

As a land-, sea- and space-grant university, Texas A&M is committed to its tradition of strong research, education and extension programs. The creation of IICSR bolsters the capabilities of The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) to directly and meaningfully expand its impact and reach participants in the built environment with new findings, products and services. Given the global footprint of the insurance industry, IICSR’s outreach will be truly global in scale.

2. Mission, Vision and Goals

IICSR will reside in Texas A&M’s School of Architecture under the direction of its Department of Construction Science, but its network will be broad and far-reaching. Besides having the largest and most respected construction program in the nation, the A&M System possesses a world-class research environment at its RELIS campus. With nearly \$1 billion of infrastructure investment in the past five years, RELIS is an ideal place to locate IICSR’s 12 labs and 20 research spaces after sufficient funds are raised for capital projects. Importantly, IICSR can leverage intellectual capital now before any capital expenditures. In the future, high-bay buildings and testing facilities on the RELIS campus will fit in with the innovation and speed-to-market tech transfer mindset at other entities located at the RELIS campus like the Center for Infrastructure Renewal (CIR) and the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI), amongst others.

The ***mission*** of IICSR is to build on the collective expertise of Texas A&M to revitalize the commercial ecosystem for design and construction. In doing so, IICSR will create a more responsible and sustainable industry capable of eliminating the personal injury and property damage claims currently associated with facilities in the built environment.

The ***vision*** of IICSR is to be the standout world leader in research innovations capable of redefining safety, resilience, quality, affordability, and risk management for constructed facilities. IICSR will lead the effort to provide the design and construction industry with the research infrastructure and educational programs needed to create breakthrough outcomes for the built environment.

The ***goal*** of IICSR is to plan and execute projects in the built environment with utmost ecological responsibility using 50% less capital in 50% less time. Indeed, this has been an unrealized industry theme since the Business Roundtable published its landmark study “More Construction for the Money” over 40 years ago. IICSR will succeed where previous efforts have not precisely because of IICSR’s new focus and the widespread collaborations across Texas A&M.

3. Faculty Associated with IICSR

IICSR will have the financial resources to enable widespread collaborations with many existing centers and institutes across the A&M System and several system members. The nature of IICSR research, deployment and educational activities necessitates the involvement of faculty, staff and students engaged in the following entities:

- 1) Center for Infrastructure Renewal (CIR)
- 2) Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)
- 3) Texas A&M Institute for Data Science (TAMIDS)
- 4) Center for High Performance Computing
- 5) Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI)
- 6) The Real Estate Research Center (at the Mays Business School)
- 7) Texas A&M AgriLife Research
- 8) Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
- 9) Texas A&M Forest Service
- 10) Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM)
- 11) Center for Housing and Urban Development (CHUD)
- 12) Institute for Sustainable Communities
- 13) Texas A&M University Center for Hazard Reduction and Recovery

Interdisciplinary and collaborative research will be the hallmark of innovations created at IICSR. In this regard, the institute will feature research projects with faculty and students from the following colleges, schools and departments at (and affiliated with) Texas A&M:

- 1) School of Architecture [Departments of Construction Science, Architecture and Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning (LAUP)]
- 2) Mays Business School
- 3) School of Law
- 4) Bush School of Government & Public Service
- 5) College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
- 6) College of Arts & Sciences (Departments of Mathematics, Psychological and Brain Sciences, Geology and Geophysics, and Geography)
- 7) School of Public Health (Department of Environmental and Occupational Health)
- 8) School of Performance, Visualization & Fine Arts
- 9) College of Engineering
- 10) Texas A&M University Higher Education Center at McAllen (Construction Science)
- 11) Blinn College (Construction Management and Science)

4. Transformational Impact and Activities: Education, Research, and Outreach

IICSR will lead the way in redefining research and education that benefits stakeholders and participants in the creation, modernization and operation of the built environment.

IICSR will facilitate an environment where industry can access the innovative technologies and talent required in the future. Each of the institute's 12 labs (detailed in section 7) will be supported by industry consortia that will fund various research projects, educational courses and training

efforts. Much of this activity will be done in collaboration with existing extension capabilities across the A&M System.

5. Broader Societal Impacts

Nearly one-third of Americans recently polled by Gallup indicated that they have very little or no confidence in big business, continuing a downward trend in the public perception of corporations over the past four decades. Changing cultural attitudes toward companies combined with increasingly aggressive plaintiff attorneys and “litigation funding” are driving unprecedented growth in liability verdicts. Even the cost of adjusting and managing claims in construction has jumped nearly 20% in the last year according to a recent American Property Casualty Insurance Association report. Today, the best response to these major trends remains the drastic reduction or elimination of claims related to personal injury and property damage. The need for IICSR at Texas A&M has never been greater to improve safety in construction. Several key facts and figures illuminate this need:

- 1) Total workplace injury costs in construction exceed \$170 billion each year.
- 2) 20% of worker deaths in the U.S. are in construction, although construction workers make up only 6% of the U.S. labor force. This disparity emphasizes the need for a continued push to improve safety on the job for those working in construction.
- 3) Falls, struck by an object, electrocution or caught in (or in between) an object account for over 60% of all construction-related deaths, all of which are preventable.
- 4) Workers’ compensation claims for nonfatal falls account for \$2.5 billion annually.
- 5) Insurance companies underwriting policies in the U.S. paid more than \$62 billion in workers' compensation claims in 2020.

It is a well-known issue that higher education globally has suffered from a lack of attention paid to the issue of industrial safety. With over 1,300 students, Texas A&M’s Construction Science program is the largest in the nation and is expected to grow to 2,500 students by 2027. The university’s ability to educate and inform a large number of future leaders in the built environment is compelling. Thus, IICSR provides an avenue for Texas A&M to not just create a leading position in construction safety, but further reinforce its impressive credentials in industrial safety research, education, and training overall.

6. Resource Requirements

The initial establishment of IICSR will not require additional financial resources to be provided by the A&M System. The IICSR will initially be supported by current faculty and staff, with additional operations expanded only as additional funding from gifts is provided by individual and corporate donors. To date, fundraising has been successful with \$1,225,000 in received and committed gifts which will support the initial costs of establishing IICSR. Ongoing fundraising activity will be leveraged to support the future expansion and growth of IICSR. For example, a \$4,000,000 cash gift, \$6,500,000 in-kind gift of machinery, and a gift of a modular construction building being finalized.

Once established, IICRS will continue fundraising to support the construction of new facilities, which will be the subject of future requests for Board of Regents approval once funding is available. In addition to the funds for IICSR’s new facilities, IICSR will raise funding sufficient to purchase needed research equipment as well as create endowments to help attract leading faculty

to Texas A&M to lead as many as seven of the planned IICSR laboratories. In particular, the Department of Construction Science is anticipating hiring up to 37 new faculty at all ranks over the next few years to accommodate its anticipated growth. Aside from facility and faculty endowments that will be received over time, each of IICSR's planned 12 laboratories will be funded by a consortium of industry companies with a specific interest in the work of each lab. This funding source will sustain the initial years of each IICSR lab.

Due to the commercialization potential of research done at IICSR's 12 laboratories, the institute is a unique case where the direct financial benefit to corporate donors greatly exceeds the capital contribution. IICSR will provide new licensing opportunities to the A&M System, especially as companies commercialize new technologies and financial products. Faculty in the School of Architecture have met with individuals in Texas A&M Innovation regarding licensing and commercialization opportunities. Indeed, the A&M System's posture on intellectual property is the main reason why U.S. and global insurance and reinsurance companies will comprise the largest group of donors to IICSR as they develop and bring to market new financial products. This is also why the companies who donate to IICSR intend to be highly supportive of the activities of the institute.

7. Sources and Future Expectations of Financial Support

IICSR is positioned to be the premier research facility that will provide the innovations and breakthroughs needed to eliminate personal injuries and property damage claims currently inherent in construction. It is envisioned that advancements at IICSR will be made through the research of 12 laboratories, each supported in the longer term primarily through a combination of industry consortia funding and research grants from government agencies. The first-of-a-kind facilities that will be constructed over time will provide a tremendous competitive advantage for Texas A&M researchers pursuing state and federal research grants.

The lack of an integrated research facility purposely constructed to improve the performance of built environment facilities has been a major deterrent to the faculty's ability to generate significant research funding. IICSR is designed to remedy this deficiency both in its collaborative research model and through its shared space concepts. Collectively, the IICSR labs will work to ensure the transition from research to commercially viable products and financial services. Each currently planned IICSR laboratory is described below:

1) Trimble Technology Lab

An existing lab supported by Trimble Corporation, Trimble Technology Lab opens avenues for positioning research such as locating potential work-related hazards in the virtual and real worlds. Geospatial technologies elevate safety interfaces among workers.

2) Architecture Research Laboratory

The lab will focus on advanced design to reduce onsite assembly and exposure to hazards. Evaluation of new building materials and systems will promote reduced facility enclosure problems and claims.

3) Construction Data Actuarial Studies Laboratory

Through this lab, Texas A&M can collect data and provide impartial and compelling underwriting information.

4) Housing Innovations Laboratory

The lab's focus will be to eliminate accidents in residential construction and build high-quality homes with materials and practices that promote resiliency and post-disaster repair and recovery.

5) Sustainable Materials and Circular Economy Laboratory

Research in the lab will center on evaluating sustainable and safe materials and methods of construction. Long-term building performance through advanced fabrication techniques will also be examined.

6) Laboratory for Accelerated Capital Project Formation

The lab's objective will be to reduce rampant transactional costs that comprise 41% of overall costs through new forms of risk allocation, smart contracts and blockchain.

7) Trucking and Heavy Equipment Operations Laboratory

The world's largest industry requires extensive logistics and the operation of trucks and heavy machinery. The lab will be focused on eliminating accidents through technology and training.

8) Advanced Fabrication and Assembly Technologies Laboratory

Perfect safety is the byproduct of dedicated planning, design, fabrication, and assembly in the digital twin and real worlds. Eliminating variance in the field will eliminate accidents and promote quality.

9) Construction Simulation and Robotics Laboratory

The lab will examine robots to replace human workers on tasks with large safety risk profiles.

10) Built Environment Resilience and Hazards Laboratory

Long-term performance monitoring of facilities will aid improvements and lower claims.

11) Built Environment Urban Analytics Laboratory

Holistic planning for improvements in populated areas will improve safety and quality.

12) Crane Safety Research Laboratory

The lab will be poised to make crane safety breakthroughs using telematics and advanced computation. Full-motion simulators and crew resource management innovations will reduce crane accidents.

Once established, IICSR will be self-supporting through sponsored research conducted in the above labs, continuing education and training across the industry, industry consortia, and demonstration projects in the built environment. Each lab will establish an industry consortium, with each member paying base annual dues that will provide financial support for the operations and research in the lab. Demonstration projects will be done in partnership with developers and corporations in Texas, the U.S. and beyond. This may often take the form of economic development assistance where a region's infrastructure improvement is a prerequisite for business and industry growth. Recently, many of these forms of economic assistance require the inclusion of a leading research university. Companies and regional governments continue to show willingness to work with members and components of the A&M System on these significant grants and development projects. IICSR will be ideally positioned to assist with these types of opportunities to improve the built environment.

8. Governance and Advisory Structure

IICSR will be led by a director and an operations coordinator. Dr. Stephen Mulva will serve as the founding director of IICSR. Dr. Mulva was a strategic hire for the School of Architecture in August 2022, having previously directed the Construction Industry Institute (CII) at the University

of Texas at Austin since 2015. Dr. Mulva will report quarterly to the dean of the School of Architecture to highlight IICSR successes and potential improvements. In addition to responsibility for management and oversight of the IICSR, the director will lead the outreach effort with sponsoring companies and individuals to ensure the overall relevance and fiscal sustainability of the institute. Reporting to the director, the operations coordinator will work with the 12 laboratory directors to maintain progress toward the IICSR vision and mission, with responsibility for ensuring fiscal discipline and reporting, ensuring compliance and coordinating service delivery (e.g., educational and outreach programs) across the 12 laboratories.

The proposed IICSR Advisory Board will include seven people. Meetings will be held twice each year. Advisory Board members will serve staggered three-year terms. The composition of the initial IICSR Advisory Board is proposed as follows:

1) IICSR Director (serves as Chair)	Dr. Stephen Mulva
2) Texas A&M Administration Member (at large)	TBD
3) Texas A&M School of Architecture Dean	Dr. Patrick Suermann
4) Texas A&M Dean or Department Head	TBD
5) IICSR Industry Affiliate Position 1	TBD
6) IICSR Industry Affiliate Position 2	TBD
7) IICSR Industry Affiliate Position 3	TBD

9. Mechanisms for Periodic Review

IICSR will be reviewed at least once every three years in accordance with policies established for institutes and centers (i.e., A&M System Policy [11.02, Creation of Centers and Institutes, A&M System Regulation 11.02.01 Management and Evaluation of Center and Institutes](#), and Texas A&M Standard Administrative Procedure [11.02.99.M0.01, Centers and Institutes](#)). This review will provide feedback to the dean of the School of Architecture and the department head of the Department of Construction Science regarding the institute's effectiveness in meeting its mission.

A Review Committee will be established in accordance with the guidelines of the School of Architecture in effect at the time of each periodic review. The Review Committee will be comprised of at least three people, two of whom will be current members of the IICSR Advisory Board. The Review Committee will provide recommendations to the dean, the department head of Construction Science and the IICSR director about IICSR's performance. These findings will be made available to the donors and to the Texas A&M Foundation. The review report will also be submitted to the vice president for research along with a memorandum in which the results of the review are summarized and recommendations about the continued effective operation (continuation, revision or dissolution) of the institute are made in consultation with all relevant parties (IICSR director, department head, dean, and vice president for research or their designees).

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Mark A. Welsh III, Interim President
Texas A&M University

Subject: Establishment of the Texas A&M Drug Discovery Center

Proposed Board Action:

Establish the Texas A&M Drug Discovery Center (TAMDDC) within the College of Arts & Sciences at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M).

Background Information:

Although many researchers at Texas A&M have produced high-quality research in the life sciences, translation of these studies into effective therapeutics has been hindered by poor accessibility to drug discovery services that are focused on the identification of small molecule drug candidates that can become effective therapeutics and demonstrating their preclinical efficacy, such as in animal disease models. Texas A&M, together with the legacy College of Science and the Department of Chemistry, initially addressed this issue by supporting the creation of the Texas A&M Drug Discovery Laboratory in 2019 which was directed by Dr. Wenshe Ray Liu, Professor of Chemistry. Initial funds allowed for the acquisition of several different instruments to advance drug discovery research and these were essential in the identification of a variety SARS-CoV-2 antivirals that are currently undergoing preclinical assessments for the treatment of COVID-19. However, the current abilities and resources of the Texas A&M Drug Discovery Laboratory have limited the opportunities for collaboration across the university and with external partners. Thus, Texas A&M proposes to elevate and expand the laboratory by establishing the TAMDDC within the College of Arts & Sciences in order to allow for the expanded resources to support and translate basic research discoveries at Texas A&M and to facilitate drug discovery campaigns. The center's mission is to consolidate and expand existing resources in the College of Arts & Sciences and School of Medicine to create a comprehensive and integrated platform for early-stage drug discovery and development. The TAMDDC will provide a dedicated infrastructure to foster multidisciplinary research and development that will give researchers and students valuable opportunities to engage in high-impact, hands-on work in therapeutic development.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Current projects from the proposed center are funded through drug screening and synthesis service fees, grants, contracts, and other revenue sources. To support the center, the College of Arts & Sciences and the Department of Chemistry have committed to providing \$3.9 million in funds for equipment and personnel over a five-year period. The funds will be allocated as follows: \$1.8 million in year one, \$1.2 million in year two, and \$300,000 in years three through five. It is expected that at the end of year five, the center will be self-sustaining through extramural funding, revenue from service fees and industry sponsorships. To support the transition of the laboratory to a self-sustaining drug screening and discovery center, the College of Arts & Sciences will also

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provide \$375,000 (\$75,000 per year for five years) for a laboratory managerial position to assist in the day-to-day operations of the center.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The establishment of TAMDDC will advance The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) strategic imperative 4 – The A&M System will increase its prominence by building a robust and targeted research portfolio. TAMDDC will create a highly collaborative environment to advance research efforts in drug discovery across multiple disciplines. This will lead to more productive research, and the discoveries will have a greater impact and promote Texas A&M to be a leader in drug discovery research. TAMDDC will also address strategic imperative 5 – The A&M System will provide services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and contribute to the state's economy. TAMDDC will create novel solutions to address prominent diseases affecting our society. Also, the center will inspire collaborations with pharmaceutical companies and encourage the establishment of biotech companies in the Bryan/College Station area.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

August 17, 2023

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

Subject: Establishment of the Texas A&M Drug Discovery Center

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The Texas A&M University Drug Discovery Center is hereby established as an organizational unit of Texas A&M University within the College of Arts & Sciences.”

Respectfully submitted,

Mark A. Welsh III
Interim 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
Texas A&M Drug Discovery Center (TAMDDC)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Rationale for the Creation of the Texas A&M Drug Discovery Center (TAMDDC)

The Texas A&M Drug Discovery Center (TAMDDC) will provide an essential resource for health sciences researchers at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) and in the Brazos Valley, to implement synthetic/medicinal chemistry services to accelerate the translation of basic science research from bench to clinic. Texas A&M is an accomplished institution in the areas of biomedical and life sciences research, with more than 40 principal investigators (PIs) working on the development of novel therapeutics for a broad range of diseases, including COVID-19, tuberculosis (TB), cancer, and parasitic diseases, among others. However, these researchers do not have direct access to adequate amounts of synthetic chemicals for the interrogation of biology and the synthetic capability to translate potential drug targets into therapeutics. TAMDDC will fill this significant gap at Texas A&M by providing expertise and specialized resources in preclinical drug discovery services including drug screening, design and synthesis in active coordination along with core facilities on campus and with external partners. The mission of TAMDDC is to establish a truly comprehensive early-stage drug discovery platform to serve a broad group of researchers across multiple colleges with the goal of accelerating the translation of basic research results from the laboratory into the clinic. TAMDDC will not replace existing drug discovery laboratories in Texas A&M but will coordinate with them to accelerate selected projects for the advancement of drug candidates.

The establishment of TAMDDC will bring together and expand the resources, equipment and expertise in the College of Arts & Sciences and School of Medicine, to significantly expand the capabilities available to Texas A&M faculty researchers for multi-disciplinary drug discovery projects that originate across a wide range of human diseases. With the increasing emphasis from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT) on the impact of healthcare research, the presence of TAMDDC will increase the university's success in acquiring federal, state and private foundation research grants by launching numerous collaborative, cutting-edge and multi-investigator projects, as well as in acquiring major grants to support core facilities. In addition, TAMDDC will promote academia-pharma partnerships for the commercialization of discovered therapeutics and acquiring industrial funding. The presence of TAMDDC will also increase the ability to recruit and retain talented faculty members by providing a resource to translate their basic discoveries into clinical applications, as well as benefit the education of undergraduate and graduate students.

TAMDDC will have short, medium and long-term goals to successfully operate as a state-of-art collaborative platform to support early-stage drug discovery projects and to secure various sources of funding to support its activities beyond the initial start-up support. A three-year goal of TAMDDC is to finalize one small molecule or novel therapy development and maintain two other developments in the pipeline; a five-year goal is to finish the second small molecule or novel therapy development and maintain three other developments in the pipeline. In the long term, TAMDDC will become self-sustainable through the collection of drug screening and synthesis service fees, and federal, state and private foundation grants and awards. TAMDDC will attract a significant amount of extramural funds to College Station and boost the reputation of Texas A&M

in the translational research field. Commercialization of technologies and therapeutics developed in TAMDDC may potentially turn into spin-off companies, contribute to economic growth in the Brazos Valley and turn Texas A&M into a translational research hub in Texas. In conclusion, the overall success of TAMDDC will foster innovation, enhance the economic development of the county and further develop Texas A&M's capabilities to educate and train the next generation of scientists and leaders at multiple levels.

At the Federal Level: Using NIH as an example, our in-state peer institution, the University of Texas at Austin (UT-Austin) with a recently established medical school, School of Nursing and College of Pharmacy has \$117 million in current funding from NIH compared to \$108 million in current overall funding for Texas A&M, Texas A&M University Health Science Center (TAMHSC), Texas A&M AgriLife Research (AgriLife Research) and Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES), a much broader research enterprise. This is partly attributed to an active drug discovery center at UT-Austin. This drug discovery center is currently supported by CPRIT and has been actively engaging research labs at UT-Austin in promoting translational research to secure NIH funding. Given the large size of Texas A&M, TAMHSC, AgriLife Research, and TEES and their strong research portfolio in biomedical and life sciences, a readily accessible drug discovery center such as TAMDDC will undoubtedly generate strong synergistic drug discovery explorations that will significantly boost our funding levels from NIH and other federal funding agencies.

At the State Level: Cancer is a significant public health challenge affecting millions of people and placing a considerable burden on the health care system. Despite the tremendous advances made in cancer research, many types of cancer remain untreatable and there is a continuous and urgent need for new cancer therapeutics. To address this challenge, CPRIT was created as a state funding agency that provides \$300 million annually to support cancer research and prevention. Since its launching in 2009, CPRIT has awarded a total of 1,865 grants, with only 92 of those going to the A&M System. Furthermore, of those 92 grants, only nine were given for the development of therapeutics through translational research. To address the low funding levels from CPRIT, Texas A&M is poised to invest more resources into promoting and incentivizing translational research efforts such as establishing TAMDDC which will enhance the university's reputation as a driving force in the state of Texas for innovation in the development of therapeutics and diagnostics. Additionally, TAMDDC's collaborations with industry partners will help to bridge the gap between basic research and commercialization efforts to translate basic discoveries into the market.

At the University Level: Across Texas A&M, a multitude of esteemed researchers dedicate their expertise to the study of a broad spectrum of diseases. Nevertheless, the journey from pioneering research discoveries to viable disease diagnosis and treatment modalities is fraught with considerable obstacles. One of the most substantial hurdles lies in the limited accessibility to a large chemically diverse library of small molecules for drug screening, and the design and synthetic capability to advance identified drug modalities, resources that are usually exclusively available within the realm of pharmaceutical companies. Most academic drug screening centers, including the UT-Austin Drug Discovery Center, provide screening services over chemical libraries but do not have the design and synthetic capability to advance initial screening discoveries to drug modalities that can be tested as new drugs. This chasm that separates foundational biomedical research and practical drug discovery and synthesis services calls for a solution that leverages the extensive talent pool and resources within Texas A&M. The leadership of the university has long noticed the problem and has been working diligently to bridge the gap between the university's strong basic life science research and weak translational development. To remedy

the disconnection between basic life science research and drug discovery, the university supported the establishment of a state-of-the-art synthesis and characterization facility in the Texas A&M Drug Discovery Laboratory by providing funding to acquire advanced instrumentation for drug discovery and synthesis. With support from the Texas A&M Drug Discovery Laboratory, the university was able to quickly address the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic by assembling a large team to develop SARS-CoV-2 antivirals. The research efforts from this aspect have led to one antiviral candidate being licensed to an industrial partner and three antiviral candidates are currently undergoing testing at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). In addition, the Texas A&M Drug Discovery Laboratory successfully initiated two cancer therapeutic development projects by developing therapeutics for acute myeloid leukemia and more general hematopoietic cancers. Given the success of the model used in the Texas A&M Drug Discovery Laboratory of combining drug screening, innovative design and synthesis, and rapid characterizations, Texas A&M is proposing to elevate and expand the laboratory to develop therapeutic candidates for drug targets identified by investigators across Texas A&M. A drug discovery center that expands the resources available for multiple drug development projects is critical to realizing the full potential of translating basic science research from the bench to the clinic.

Texas A&M possesses a vast and dynamic pool of researchers and scholars, all of whom are eager to contribute to and participate in translational research projects. In fact, in September 2019, a comprehensive survey was conducted across six colleges within Texas A&M to gain deeper insights into the demand for drug discovery initiatives. The findings of this survey were telling - they indicated a high demand, with more than 40 PIs expressing strong support for the establishment of a dedicated drug discovery center. With this demand in mind and with the success of the Texas A&M Drug Discovery Laboratory, we propose the establishment of TAMDDC, a fully operational drug discovery center. TAMDDC will serve as a comprehensive platform designed to significantly boost the pace and breadth of translational research within Texas A&M. To proficiently develop therapeutics, it is necessary that drug discovery efforts are highly collaborative. The center will be structured with a major operation in the College of Arts & Sciences (COAS) and a satellite operation in the Institute of Biosciences and Technology (IBT) to bridge the two campuses. It will have an advisory board with internal and external members from both industry and academia. The internal advisory members will be identified from separate academic units on campus. The center director will also actively engage PIs with broad representation for collaborations. The goal is to create an organized, interdisciplinary administrative unit that will encourage and facilitate collaborative projects. An advisory committee with members representing different university units will be created for this purpose. TAMDDC will pave the way for a new era of drug discovery at Texas A&M, providing the research community with the tools and resources needed to translate innovative ideas into tangible healthcare solutions. TAMDDC will serve as a vital resource for researchers in the A&M System. Its multidisciplinary approach will engage scholars across various fields, such as chemistry, biochemistry, medicine, engineering, and biomedical and life sciences, leveraging the power of synthetic chemistry to transform active compounds into clinical solutions.

2. Mission and Vision

Mission

To consolidate existing drug discovery resources on campus into one center, thus creating a comprehensive platform for early-stage therapeutic development.

Vision

TAMDDC will promote drug discovery research by providing a variety of drug discovery resources to researchers at Texas A&M in order to become a leader in translational research in drug discovery.

This center will provide a dedicated infrastructure for fostering multidisciplinary research and development. It will provide our researchers and students with valuable opportunities to engage in high-impact, hands-on work in areas such as assay development, target identification, drug design, preclinical testing, pharmacology, and more. Besides the above-detailed drug development research impacts, there are additional benefits of TAMDDC including:

1. Enhance education: by providing a practical, real-world setting for drug discovery research, thereby elevating the curriculum and educational experience offered to students.
2. Foster collaboration: TAMDDC will help foster collaborations with other institutions, pharmaceutical companies and government agencies, enhancing the university's reputation as a leading hub for scientific research and innovation.
3. Drive economic growth: new drug discoveries will provide opportunities for commercialization, creating new businesses and stimulating economic growth in our region and potentially turn the Brazos Valley into a new biotechnology hub in the state of Texas and the nation.
4. Serve societal needs: most importantly, by advancing drug discovery, TAMDDC can help address some of the pressing healthcare challenges such as endemics and pandemics facing society today.
5. Coordinate with CPRIT to fulfill its mission in cancer prevention and treatment: CPRIT has funded a large variety of research in the Southeast region of Texas including Houston and its surrounding area. However, the region has no dedicated drug discovery center that can synergize with all CPRIT-supported activities. The proposed TAMDDC will fill this gap.

Description of the Center

The director of TAMDDC will manage a team of research scientists whose responsibilities will encompass a range of tasks to advance drug candidates. They will use advanced chemistry and biology techniques to prime drug candidates for clinical trials. Beyond providing basic drug discovery services to researchers within the university, TAMDDC will take proactive measures to identify viable drug development projects and advance them toward the clinical arena. Furthermore, the center will ambitiously explore novel approaches for the development of therapeutic candidates and thereby broaden its research horizon and set forth a progressive vision to advance therapeutic candidates. In terms of financial sustainability, TAMDDC envisions a model that encompasses service fees, grant-writing efforts targeted at federal, state, and private funding agencies, and extramural research. This strategic approach ensures the center's longevity and financial independence.

3. Faculty Associated with the Texas A&M Drug Discovery Center

Dr. Wenshe Ray Liu will be the Executive Director of TAMDDC. Dr. Liu will be responsible for providing leadership, strategic vision and administrative oversight. Dr. Liu will work closely with the COAS leadership and other leaders at Texas A&M to integrate students and faculty into the operations of TAMDDC. Dr. Liu is currently a joint-appointed faculty member in the Department of Chemistry in the COAS (75%) and the Department of Molecular & Cellular

Medicine in the School of Medicine (25%) and holds a courtesy joint appointment in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics. He is a renowned chemical biologist/medicinal chemist who has been a pioneer in multiple research fields including drug development for COVID-19 and novel technology development for treating cancer.

Dr. Shiqing Xu will be the Associate Director of TAMDDC. Dr. Xu has more than 10 years of experience working on synthetic chemistry/medicinal chemistry. He has made major contributions to synthetic methodology development and drug development for SARS-CoV-2. Dr. Xu is currently a joint-appointed faculty member in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences in the School of Pharmacy (67%) and the Department of Chemistry in the College of Arts & Sciences (33%).

TAMDDC aims to serve as a unique platform catering to diverse researchers across multiple departments and colleges. The primary objective of TAMDDC is to expedite the transition of basic science research from the laboratory to the clinic. Dr. Liu will actively engage Texas A&M PIs for collaborations. Dr. Liu has successfully forged several collaborations with researchers both within and outside of Texas A&M. These collaborations have led to four grants secured from NIH and one grant secured from CPRIT. Dr. Liu will work with the advisory board to select Center Faculty Fellows who will be recruited from across Texas A&M. Faculty fellows will have demonstrated prior commitment to drug discovery research, service or education as evidenced by grant proposals, funded projects, peer-reviewed products, or educational commitment to advancing drug discovery. Potential fellows who have expressed strong support to establish and are eager to collaborate with TAMDDC are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Faculty members who have expressed their support for and potential collaborations with TAMDDC.

Name	Department/Center	College/Institute	Expertise
Sarah Bondos	Molecular and Cellular Medicine	Medicine	Protein function
Kevin Burgess	Chemistry	COAS	Probe development, synthesis
Jiang Chang	Center for Genomic and Precision Medicine	IBT	Cardiovascular diseases
Zhilei Chen	Microbial Pathogenesis and Immunology	Medicine	Protein therapeutics
Roderick H. Dashwood	Center for Epigenetics & Disease Prevention	IBT	Cancer biology
Peter Davies	Center for Translational Cancer Research	IBT	Cancer cell biology, HTS
Shaodong Guo	Nutrition and Food Science	Agriculture	Molecular biology
Magnus Höök	Center for Infectious and Inflammatory Diseases	IBT	Molecular pathogenesis
Wonmuk Hwang	Biomedical Engineering	Engineering	Biomolecular simulation
Kayla Bayless	Molecular and Cellular Medicine	Medicine	Signal transduction
Chendil Damodaran	Pharmaceutical Sciences	Pharmacy	Cancer biology and drug development
Pingwei Li	Biochemistry and Biophysics	Agriculture	Structural biology
Fei Liu	Molecular and Cellular Medicine	Medicine	Cancer biology
Thomas Meek	Biochemistry and Biophysics	Agriculture	Chemical biology
Margie Moczygemba	Center for Infectious and Inflammatory Diseases	IBT	Infectious and inflammatory diseases
Lisa Perez	High Performance Research Computing (HPRC)	Information technology	Molecular simulation

David Powers	Chemistry	COAS	Synthesis
Kenneth S. Ramos	Center for Genomic and Precision Medicine	IBT	Applied genomic medicine, precision medicine
Allison C. Rice-Ficht	Molecular and Cellular Medicine	Medicine	Vaccines, drug delivery
Gonzalo M. Rivera	Veterinary Pathobiology	Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences	Cell Biology, oncology
James Sacchettini	Biochemistry and Biophysics	Agriculture	Structural biology, HTS
Jonathan Sczepanski	Chemistry	COAS	DNA damage studies
Yang Shen	Electrical & Computer Engineering	Engineering	Algorithms for modeling biological molecules
Jianxun (Jim) Song	Microbial Pathogenesis & Immunology	Medicine	Immunotherapy
Clifford Stephan	Center for Translational Cancer Research	IBT	High Throughput Screening (HTS)
Josh Wand	Biochemistry and Biophysics	Agriculture	Protein biophysics, NMR
Hongbin Wang	Biomedical Informatics	Medicine	Biomedical informatics, machine learning
Jun Wang	Neuroscience & Experimental Therapeutics	Medicine	Cellular and circuit neurobiology
Erxi Wu	Pharmaceutical Sciences	Pharmacy	Cancer cell biology
Linglin Xie	Nutrition and Food Science	Agriculture	Heart disease, obesity science
Shiqing Xu	Chemistry	COAS, Pharmacy	Synthetic chemistry, medicinal chemistry
Vladislav V. Yakovlev	Biomedical Engineering	Engineering	Biomedical diagnostics and imaging
Xin Yan	Chemistry	COAS	Mass spectrometry
Byung-Jun Yoon	Electrical & Computer Engineering	Engineering	Bioinformatics, and systems biology
Lanying Zeng	Biochemistry and Biophysics	Agriculture	Cell biology
Xiuren Zhang	Biochemistry and Biophysics	Agriculture	Biochemistry
Yubin Zhou	Center for Translational Cancer Research	IBT	Cancer biology, chemical biology
Sanjukta Chakraborty	Medical Physiology	Medicine	Translational cancer research
Shreya Raghavan	Biomedical Engineering	Engineering	Cancer tissue engineering
Vytas Bankaitis	Cell Biology & Genetics	Medicine	Lipid metabolism
Stephan Safe	Veterinary Physiology & Pharmacology	Veterinary Medicine	Cancer biology
Qing Yi	Institute for Academic Medicine, Houston Methodist Hospital		Tumor immunology and immunotherapy
Xiaobing Shi	Center for Epigenetics, Van Andel Institute		Cancer epigenetics

4. Transformational Impact and Activities

The primary focus of TAMDDC will be guiding drug targets proposed by Texas A&M investigators through the drug discovery process. This includes state-of-the-art techniques to conduct drug screening, synthesis and optimization. The goal is to enhance the capabilities of existing facilities by expanding drug libraries employing novel techniques for synthesis and drug candidate optimization. In addition to providing state-of-the-art drug discovery instrumentation and methodology to Texas A&M researchers, the center will also aim to advance the academic community through several different aspects. First, workshops highlighting drug discovery

techniques and methods will be offered to train those interested in applying their research to drug discovery. Second, to encourage collaborations with researchers outside of Texas A&M, TAMDDC will organize a biannual Texas Chemical Biology Conference that will host researchers in chemical biology and drug discovery from around Texas. This will be a great opportunity to network with pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, as they will be the main sponsors for the conference. These additional activities will further cultivate an environment for productive drug discovery at Texas A&M.

5. Impact on Education and Training of Students

TAMDDC will greatly benefit students through a variety of pathways. First, students performing research will have easy access to a multitude of drug discovery techniques, instruments and training. This will help develop student researchers into leaders in the drug discovery field. In addition to this, TAMDDC will foster collaborations and communications with pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, which will facilitate Texas A&M graduates as they continue their careers in therapeutic development.

6. Resource Requirements

The Texas A&M Drug Discovery Laboratory is already equipped with many different instruments and resources for drug discovery research. It is currently located in the recently renovated laboratory space on the ground floor of the '72 wing of the Chemistry Building and has facilities to perform chemical synthesis, biological experiments (upwards to BSL-2 safety) and in vitro assays for potentially therapeutic compounds. The synthesis lab is well-equipped to conduct the synthesis and storage of chemical compounds. The biological research lab has the equipment and instrumentation required to perform different tasks related to drug candidate characterizations. In addition to laboratory equipment, the laboratory has also established a virtual drug screening core by working with Texas A&M High Performance Research Computing. Because of these investments and acquisitions, the laboratory space is already well-equipped to handle a wide variety of drug discovery needs.

Although the laboratory already has many different resources to facilitate drug discovery, there is still a need to establish high-throughput screening capabilities. It is a critical step in the process of identifying potential drug candidates, as it enables rapid testing of a large number of compounds against a specific target or cancer cell line. Conducting high-throughput screening manually is time-consuming and labor-intensive and can be prone to human error. Automation of this process using an instrument suite is essential for achieving high-throughput screening at scale. An instrument suite will enable the screening of compounds in a short amount of time while maintaining accuracy and reproducibility. To establish this suite, TAMDDC will apply for external funding. On August 16, 2023, Dr. Liu received notification that his proposal to CPRIT requesting \$1 million to purchase a high-throughput screening suite from Beckmann Coulter was funded. The availability of this instrument suite will enable researchers at Texas A&M to conduct high-quality drug discovery research at scale and drive innovation in the field of therapeutics and diagnoses. Other instrument grant applications to the NIH and National Science Foundation will be prepared as well to acquire a similar instrument suite.

7. Sources and Future Expectations of Financial Support

Projects from the proposed center will be funded through collecting fees for drug screening, design and synthesis services to both internal and external users, grants, contracts, and other revenue sources. To support the Center, the COAS and the Department of Chemistry have committed to providing \$3.9 million for equipment and personnel over a five year period. The funds will be allocated as follows: \$1.8 million one, \$1.2 million in year two, and \$300,000 in years three through five. It is expected that at the end of year five, the center will be self-sustaining through extramural funding, revenue from service fees and industry sponsorships. In order to support the transition to a self-sustaining drug screening and discovery center, the COAS will also provide \$375,000 (\$75,000 per year for five years) for a laboratory managerial position to assist in the day-to-day operations of the center.

The sustainability of TAMDDC is critical to consistently providing essential resources needed for advancing scientific research and promoting multidisciplinary approaches to complex issues. With this understanding, the leadership of TAMDDC intends to proactively seek a CPRIT Core Facility Support Award, which would provide \$4, million for five years in funding, providing part of the necessary resources and tools to sustain TAMDDC. Each year, the center will apply for at least three NIH grants at the R01 level to secure funds for TAMDDC's continual growth. In partnership with each research group, TAMDDC will assist Texas A&M researchers in the preparation of grant applications and bring value back to TAMDDC by sharing secured grants for the development of therapeutic candidates. In exchange for scientific consultations, access to instruments and materials, TAMDDC will negotiate an upfront payment with both internal and external users to ensure short-term sustainability. TAMDDC will develop a service center to bill for instrument usage and consumption of materials and chemicals. Collaborative drug discovery efforts will be charged to cover the personnel time necessary for the project.

Drug discovery is a long, costly and high-risk endeavor where 90% of clinical drug development efforts fail despite the implementation of best practices. It is worth noting that the 90% failure rate is for drug candidates that have already advanced to the clinical trial phase and do not include drug candidates in the preclinical stages where the failure rate is higher than 90%. There are several biological reasons, including lack of clinical efficacy and unmanageable toxicity, as well as lack of alignment with commercial needs and poor strategic planning that contribute to the high failure rate. In addition, the timeline from target validation to having an Investigational New Drug (IND) approval, the goal of TAMDDC, can be three to five years. The pre-clinical test phase through phase I-III Food and Drug Administration (FDA) testing for approval to launch can take another ~five to eight or more years. As TAMDDC moves from therapeutic leads to IND approval, it will work with Texas A&M Innovation (TI) to 1) work with industry experts organized by TI to identify projects that address a commercial need and have reasonable potential to achieve IND approval, 2) Develop a strategic plan to work with industrial partners to license discoveries for the clinical phase of drug discovery with the intent of increasing the success rate of TAMDDC drug discovery and commercialization efforts, and 3) to ensure intellectual property (IP) protection for all discoveries. With increased success in the commercialization efforts comes increased potential for royalty returns to TI and demonstrates the value of TAMDDC for re/investment of additional resources to expand TAMDDC operations.

This model is not unprecedented; the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, located in a similarly sized town, successfully followed a similar path. Their drug discovery center opened in 2012 with an initial investment of about \$2 million, along with pre-planned therapeutic projects. Since then,

the center has secured more than \$17 million in federal grants and additional funding support. The TAMDDC team aims to use current collaborations to foster early success and attract interest in TAMDDC in a similar way.

8. Governance and Advisory Structure

The management structure of TAMDDC has been thoughtfully designed to address the scientific, technical and operational requirements of the facility, as depicted in Figure 1. The TAMDDC director will oversee a lead manager and collaborate closely with an advisory board comprised of internal representatives from various colleges across the campus and external representatives from industry. The board, alongside the director, will take on critical responsibilities such as assessing user needs, evaluating the facility's performance and addressing budgetary and technical matters. During the quarterly meetings, and as needed, the board will propose management guidelines, highlight instrument requirements, and instrument purchase decisions and suggest areas of research focus. Board members will serve for a duration of three years, with the possibility of extending for a maximum of two consecutive terms. The director's duties will encompass coordinating multidisciplinary research activities, securing funding, fostering academic and industrial partnerships, hiring personnel, and other crucial tasks as needed. To promote discussion and foster new collaborative initiatives, regularly scheduled meetings will be held involving the director, advisory board and academic and industrial partners.

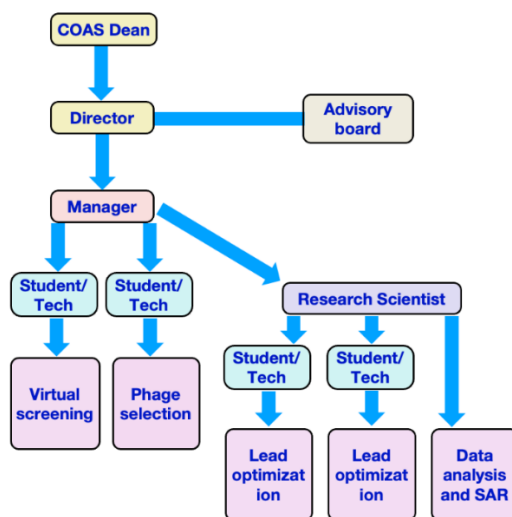


Figure 1. Structure of TAMDDC. College of Arts & Sciences (COAS)

9. Mechanisms for Periodic Review

TAMDDC will be reviewed at least once every three years in accordance with policies established for institutes and centers (i.e., A&M System Policy [11.02, Creation of Centers and Institutes](#), [A&M System Regulation 11.02.0.1 Management and Evaluation of Centers and Institutes](#), and Texas A&M Standard Administrative Procedure [11.02.99.M0.01, Centers and Institutes](#)). This review will provide feedback to the dean of the College of Arts & Sciences regarding the center's effectiveness in meeting its mission. Both the three-year review and annual reports/internal reviews will be shared with Texas A&M Vice President for Research who will review the reports and may provide comments and/or recommendations as to improvements or other actions that may be indicated. The advisory board in coordination with the director will have quarterly meetings to guide the development of the center and ensure productivity so that it can be prepared for external

reviews. As an initial advisory board includes he the following members who bring a diverse set of interests and experiences in drug discovery: Mr. Peter O'Neill, Dr. Peter Davies (IBT), Dr. Thomas Meek (BioBio), Dr. Ken Ramos (IBT), and Dr. Mansoor Khan (Pharmacy). Additional outside members will be identified. These initial mechanisms for periodic review will result in high efficiency and allow for adaptability to produce a center that provides for the needs of the Texas A&M community.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Richard M. Rhodes, Interim President
Texas A&M University-Central Texas

Subject: Authorization for the President to Execute Agreements for Sponsored Instruction and Training and Other Sponsored Activities that are not Research for Fiscal Years 2024, 2025 and 2026

Proposed Board Action:

Authorize the president of Texas A&M University-Central Texas (A&M-Central Texas) to execute agreements for sponsored instruction and training and other sponsored activities that are not research, including any amendments and related documents, for fiscal years 2024, 2025 and 2026. The execution of these documents is subject to review for legal form and sufficiency by the Office of General Counsel and approval by the deputy chancellor and chief financial officer.

Background Information:

A&M-Central Texas has received, and anticipates continued receipt of, non-research awards for sponsored instruction and training and other sponsored activities from domestic and international: federal agencies; states agencies; municipal and county organizations; public and private corporations; non-profit sectors; companies, and partnerships; and foreign entities, including governmental entities and public or private business corporations and companies. Examples of these awards and activities include A&M-Central Texas providing student support services, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education and agreements with the regional governmental entities to provide academic programming and training for workforce development initiatives, sponsored by the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

In accordance with [System Policy 25.07, Contract Administration](#), absent a specific exception, "contracts, grants and agreements to perform educational and/or service activities consistent with a member's mission and involving a total stated or implied consideration of \$500,000 or more", requires approval of the Board of Regents. Many of these non-research awards are multi-year and provide \$500,000 or more in sponsor funding. Once the award is made, the sponsor typically expects acceptance without delay and performance to begin as soon as possible. Delaying the execution of the sponsored agreement while seeking Board of Regents approval is likely to result in forfeiture of the sponsor funding.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The agreements described are incoming revenue agreements. All costs of performing under the agreement will be covered by the terms of the agreement, subject to any agreed cost share by A&M-Central Texas in accordance with [System Regulation 15.01.05, Cost Sharing on Sponsored Agreements](#). Total consideration under any agreement requested under this authorization will not exceed \$5,000,000, and the term for any agreement will not exceed five years.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Approval of this agenda item will advance The Texas A&M University System strategic imperatives 5 and 7. In particular, A&M-Central Texas will be able to respond quickly and efficiently to requests

Agenda Item No.

Agenda Item Briefing

to provide instruction, training, and other sponsored activities, meeting the needs of the people of Texas and the United States. A&M-Central Texas will share its expertise and experience to confront regional and national challenges and contribute to the state's economy.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS

Office of the President

October 5, 2023

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

Subject: Authorization for the President to Execute Agreements for Sponsored Instruction and Training and Other Sponsored Activities that are not Research for Fiscal Years 2024, 2025, and 2026

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

"The president of Texas A&M University-Central Texas is authorized to execute, following a review for legal form and sufficiency by the Office of General Counsel, and following approval by the deputy chancellor and chief financial officer, agreements for sponsored instruction and training and other sponsored activities that are not research, including any amendments and related documents, for fiscal years 2024, 2025, and 2026.

Each agreement must be structured so that the revenue generated by the agreement will cover, at a minimum, all costs incurred by Texas A&M University-Central Texas in performing under the agreement, subject to any agreed cost share by Texas A&M University-Central Texas in accordance with System Regulation 15.01.05, *Cost Sharing on Sponsored Agreements*. Total consideration under any agreement will not exceed \$5,000,000 and the term for any agreement will not exceed five years. For each fiscal year covered by this delegation of authority, Texas A&M University-Central Texas shall submit a report to the Board of Regents that identifies any agreements executed pursuant to this minute order and describes key terms of such agreements."

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Rhodes, Interim President

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp Chancellor
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and Chief
Financial Officer

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

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

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications 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 Master of Science in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications (M.S. ALEC), 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 offer the M.S. ALEC as a fully online program. The proposed program will provide advanced study in the contextual communication processes of leadership, education and more traditional communications outlets. The M.S. ALEC will have a dual program approach that will provide a joint venture for existing agricultural educators to simultaneously prepare for career advancement within their field and provide opportunities to transition into leadership roles.

The proposed program builds on the strong foundation of the existing M.S. degree program in Agricultural Sciences and Technology, which currently offers a concentration in ALEC. Approximately 30 to 45 current students would transition into the proposed M.S. ALEC. The proposed program creates multiple pathways for adult students seeking to obtain a master's degree that accommodates their personal and professional lives. In this way, the M.S. ALEC provides opportunities for students in the A&M System to identify and pursue an educational pathway that supports their ambitions and career interests.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Funding for the M.S. ALEC program will be provided through the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources overhead fund. No additional financial resources will be required from the institution to support this program.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Approval of this agenda item will advance The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) Imperative 1. Specifically, 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.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE

Office of the President

August 28, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications 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 Master of Science in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications.

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

Master of Science
with a major in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications
(CIP 01.0000.05)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources

The proposed Master of Science in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications (M.S. ALEC) is intended to provide advanced study in the contextual communication processes of leadership, education and more traditional communication outlets. The proposed program is an offshoot of an existing concentration in the M.S. in Agricultural Sciences and Technology. The proposed program provides a focused track of coursework aligned for graduates and working professionals in education, communications and leadership fields; and provides a specific track for the M.S. ALEC and fulfills the requirements for graduates to pursue Principal Certification.

The M.S. ALEC will prepare students with the skillsets needed to become educational and industry leaders in the growing and changing field of agriculture and agriculture education. Students will learn a variety of marketable skills to serve them and their future employers, including but not limited to written communication, empirical and quantitative skills and leadership. These skills will be assessed by faculty who are experts in their fields, to better prepare students for graduation and their careers beyond the university.

The proposed program will be available to students to complete a required minimum of 30 semester credit hours (SCH), with a block of 18 SCH in common across the four available emphases. The degree plan for the M.S. ALEC will offer four tracks: Thesis, Non-Thesis, Alternative Certification, and Principal Certification.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2024.

Texas A&M University-Commerce (A&M-Commerce) certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the [19 Texas Administrative Code, Part 1, Subchapter 5, Section 5.45](#) in regard to need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards and costs.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

There has been a shortage of teachers within the field of Agricultural Education every year since 1964 (Kantrovich). Texas has the largest number of school-based agricultural education (SBAE) programs and, accordingly, both the largest number of SBAE teachers and the largest shortfall. The proposed M.S. ALEC with alternative certification provides a focused opportunity to help fill this specific teacher shortage.

The M.S. ALEC, with the thesis or non-thesis options, will provide currently employed agricultural educators' professional development and enhancement and opens opportunities for those in extension education, agriculturally related outreach, or direct communications positions within commodity, species or other similar agriculturally related positions.

B. Projected Enrollment

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Total New Students	30	30	40	40	40
Attrition	10	11	15	15	15
Cumulative Headcount	15	38	48	51	51
FTSE	15	16	22	23	23
Graduates	12	19	25	25	25

C. Existing State Programs

Currently, there are eight Texas institutions offering a master's level degree in general agriculture, including A&M-Commerce with the M.S. in Agricultural Sciences and Technology plan. Of the regional universities with this CIP code the enrollment numbers for fall 2021 are as follows: Angelo State University (8); Sam Houston State University (26); Stephen F. Austin University (2); Sul Ross State University (14); and Texas A&M University-Kingsville (23). The existing programs are geographically distant from Commerce and the proposed program would focus on students from the surrounding region.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

Primarily existing faculty will provide the instruction and oversight for the proposed degree program. One new faculty member will be requested when enrollment reaches capacity, which will likely be in year three or four following the establishment of the program.

B. Program Administration

Dr. Keith Frost will provide administrative oversight for the program. Dr. Frost is an assistant professor in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources and has a terminal degree in Agricultural Communications and Education.

C. Other Personnel

The college and university have sufficient personnel to support offering the degree program. No additional personnel will be required.

D. Supplies, Materials

The program will not require new supplies or materials.

E. Library

The library's collection includes more than 500,000 print books, 55,000 print serials, 100,000 online journals, 700,000 eBooks, and over 270 research databases. The current agricultural, education and communication databases are adequate to support the proposed program.

F. Equipment, Facilities

The proposed program will not require any additional equipment or facilities to implement the program.

G. Accreditation

A&M-Commerce is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees. The proposed program will not seek accreditation from any other accreditation body.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS		SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	\$478,415	Formula Income	\$298,557
Program Administration	\$27,977	Statutory Tuition	\$145,223
Graduate Assistants		Reallocation	\$721,678
Supplies & Materials		Designated Tuition	\$331,258
Library & IT Resources		Other Funding:	
Equipment, Facilities		Graduate Differential Tuition	\$109,344
Other (Benefits)*	\$215,286		
Estimated 5-Year Costs	\$721,678	Estimated 5-Year Revenues	\$1,606,060

*Insurance paid by institution

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

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

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Artificial Intelligence 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 Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence (M.S. AI) and 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 offer M.S. AI as an online program with some in-person courses offered at the A&M-Commerce at Dallas campus. The M.S. AI will provide students with a comprehensive understanding of AI concepts, algorithms and applications, and prepare them for careers in the rapidly growing field of artificial intelligence. Graduates will be equipped to pursue career paths in industries such as technology, healthcare, finance, gaming, and automation.

Although the basis of the program is rooted in Computer Science, the proposed program will be implemented as an interdisciplinary program to ensure that students are prepared in additional areas such as business analytics, adding to the unique nature of this degree. Students may pursue one of three emphases: Computer Science, Business Analytics or a Cross-Disciplinary approach that may include a variety of other disciplines. The proposed M.S. AI is being developed as a cutting-edge program that will provide flexibility for working professionals to advance their educational goals. The proposed program will teach students skills critical to engaging with artificial intelligence and machine learning technology to pursue an educational pathway that supports their ambitions and career interests in an increasingly interconnected world.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Funding for the M.S. AI program will be provided through the College of Science and Engineering, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Business, and College of Education and Human Services. New costs during the first five years of the program are estimated to be \$721,678.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The M.S. AI specifically addresses The Texas A&M University System's (A&M System) Imperative 3. Specifically, all students will leave the A&M System as responsible and engaged citizens prepared for successful careers in an increasingly global economy.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE

Office of the President

August 17, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Artificial Intelligence 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 Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence.

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

Master of Science
with a major in Artificial Intelligence
(CIP 11.0102.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: College of Innovation and Design

The proposed Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence (M.S. AI) is a specialized program designed to provide students with in-depth knowledge and skills in the field of AI. This degree program focuses on advanced algorithms, machine learning techniques, neural networks, data analysis, and computational linguistics. Students pursuing the degree will be exposed to cutting-edge research and industry practices in AI. They will learn how to develop intelligent systems capable of analyzing and interpreting large amounts of data, making predictions and solving complex problems.

The M.S. AI will offer students a comprehensive understanding of AI concepts, algorithms and applications, preparing them for exciting and challenging careers in the rapidly growing field of artificial intelligence. Graduates will be equipped to pursue various career paths in industries such as technology, healthcare, finance, gaming, and automation. They will be prepared to work as AI engineers, data scientists, research scientists, AI consultants, or AI project managers.

Students will learn a variety of marketable skills to serve them and their future employers, including critical thinking and problem-solving, digital technology and empirical and quantitative skills. Students' skill development will be assessed by faculty who are experts in their fields and they will be prepared for challenging careers upon graduation.

The proposed program will require students to complete a minimum of 36 semester credit hours (SCH), with a block of 18 SCH in common across three tracks or emphases. The proposed program will offer both a thesis (36 SCH) and a non-thesis option, which requires completion of 39 SCH. The degree plan tracks for the M.S AI program include a focus on Computer Science, Business Analytics or a Cross-Disciplinary area.

The proposed implementation date is spring 2024.

Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under [19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 5.45](#) regarding need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards, and costs.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

Employment opportunities for individuals with a master's degree in AI are increasing and diverse. The demand for AI professionals continues to grow in various industries, including technology, healthcare, finance, gaming, and automation. Graduates may seek employment as AI engineers, responsible for developing and implementing intelligent systems and algorithms. They can also pursue careers as data scientists, extracting insights from vast data sets using AI techniques. Research scientist roles are open for those interested in advancing the field of AI through innovative research projects. Additionally, AI consultants and AI project managers are sought-after for their expertise in guiding organizations in adopting AI solutions. With the rapid growth of AI positions, individuals with a master's degree in AI will have ample opportunities to contribute to cutting-edge projects and shape the future of technology.

B. Projected Enrollment

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Total New Students	30	30	40	40	40
Attrition	10	11	15	15	15
Cumulative Headcount	15	38	48	51	51
FTSE	15	16	22	23	23
Graduates	12	19	25	25	25

C. Existing State Programs

Master's degree programs in AI are quickly emerging in Texas universities. There are four new master's degree programs in AI offered by the following Texas public universities: University of Texas at Austin, University of Texas at San Antonio, University of North Texas, and University of Houston-Downtown. The existing programs started in the last few years and only the University of North Texas reported graduates.

Master's in AI - Degrees Awarded	2021	2022	Total
University of North Texas	1	35	36

The institutions reported fall enrollments and one program is experiencing rapid growth, while two began enrolling students in 2022.

Master's in AI -- Fall Enrollments	2020	2021	2022	Total
University of Texas at San Antonio			10	10
University of Houston-Downtown			8	8
University of North Texas	41	124	144	309
Total	41	226	162	327

The proposed program would distinguish itself with the inclusion of three focused tracks.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

Existing faculty will provide the instruction for the proposed degree program. The Department of Computer Science currently has an open tenure-track faculty line that they commit to filling with an expert in Artificial Intelligence. One new faculty member will be requested when enrollment reaches capacity or other identified needs, likely during the third or fourth year of the program.

B. Program Administration

Dr. Yvonne Villanueva-Russell will provide administrative oversight for the program. Dr. Villanueva-Russell is the Dean of the College of Innovation and Design and currently oversees interdisciplinary programs.

C. Other Personnel

The university has sufficient personnel to support offering the degree program. No additional personnel will be required.

D. Supplies, Materials

The proposed program will not require new supplies or materials.

E. Library

The library's collection includes over 500,000 print books, 55,000 print serials, 100,000 online journals, 700,000 eBooks, and over 270 research databases. The current databases are adequate to support the proposed M.S. AI degree.

F. Equipment, Facilities

The proposed program does not require any additional equipment or facilities to implement the program.

G. Accreditation

A&M-Commerce is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees. There is no professional accreditor for the proposed M.S. AI program.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS		SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	\$478,415	Formula Income	\$298,557
Program Administration	\$27,977	Statutory Tuition	\$145,223
Graduate Assistants		Reallocation	\$721,678
Supplies & Materials		Designated Tuition	\$331,258
Library & IT Resources		Other Funding:	
Equipment, Facilities		Graduate Differential Tuition	\$109,344
Other (Benefits)*	\$215,286		
Estimated 5-Year Costs	\$721,678	Estimated 5-Year Revenues	\$1,606,060

*Insurance paid by the institution.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE

Office of the President

September 6, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, November 2023,
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. 24-01.”

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Robert Vela
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
BACKGROUND OF FACULTY
RECOMMENDED FOR ACADEMIC TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 24-01

ITEM
EXHIBIT

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

	Present Rank	Yrs. Towards Tenure*		Effective Date
<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Univ.</u>	<u>Other Inst.</u>	<u>Tenure</u>
Dr. James Palmer	Professor English	0	>21	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
Ph.D. (2002)	Purdue University			
Fa 2002 – Su 2008	Prairie View A&M University		Assistant Professor	
Fa 2008 – Su 2022	Prairie View A&M University		Associate Professor (Tenured 2008)	
Fa 2022 – Sp 2023	Prairie View A&M University		Professor	
Su 2023 - Present	Texas A&M University-Kingsville		Professor	

Dr. James Palmer's research expertise is in Medieval and Renaissance Literature and pedagogy. He has extensive teaching experience in the field at both the graduate and undergraduate level. He has published in peer-reviewed journals, edited collections and has been instrumental in securing significant grant funding both as a Principal Investigator and Co-Principal Investigator. Dr. Palmer's professional record demonstrates extensive evidence of both academic and professional service over his career, and he has won several teaching awards at the department college and university levels. He served as the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at Prairie View A&M University, where he was awarded tenure in 2008.

To the best of our knowledge, Dr. Palmer has behaved in a professional manner across his career and has not engaged in behaviors that may lead to dismissal for cause as specified in System Policy *12.01*, Section 4.3.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

	Present Rank	Yrs. Towards Tenure*		Effective Date
<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Univ.</u>	<u>Other Inst.</u>	<u>Tenure</u>
Dr. Lori Kupeczynski	Professor Educational Leadership and Counseling	9	4	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
Ph.D. (2006)	Texas A&M University- Kingsville			
Sp 2010 – Sp 2013	Texas A&M University-Kingsville		Assistant Professor	
Fa 2013 – Sp 2019	Texas A&M University-Kingsville		Associate Professor (Tenured 2013)	
Fa 2019 – Sp 2023	University of St. Augustine		Professor	
Fa 2023 – present	Texas A&M University-Kingsville		Professor	

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (Continued)

Dr. Lori Kupczynski (continued)

Lori Kupczynski, Ed.D. has served 25 years in higher education in the areas of English, Communication, Adult Education, Higher Education and Educational Leadership. She has authored or co-authored over 100 publications in peer-reviewed journals, contributed to five books and has presented at nearly 80 national/international conferences. She was the recipient of the 2012 United States Distance Learning Association's Outstanding Leadership by an Individual in the Field of Distance Learning award as well as the Distinguished Researcher from Texas A&M University-Kingsville the same year. She received the 2017 Outstanding Senior Faculty Award in the College of Education and Human Performance at Texas A&M University-Kingsville. She led her team to win the Effective Practice Award from the Online Learning Consortium at Accelerate 2019. Lastly, she was the recipient of the Board of Directors' 2020 Excellence in Scholarship Award.

Dr. Kupczynski teaches in three programs: Educational Leadership Doctoral Program, Higher Education Administration and Leadership, and the Adult Education Master's program. She serves as the program coordinator of the Adult Education program and the Higher Education program. Her student evaluations are exemplary (4.7 on a 5-point scale). She has chaired over 50 doctoral dissertations and has served on an additional 40 dissertation committees.

To the best of our knowledge, Dr. Kupczynski has behaved in a professional manner across her career and has not engaged in behaviors that may lead to dismissal for cause as specified in System Policy *12.01*, Section 4.3.

- * 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-SAN ANTONIO

Office of the Provost

August 30, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, November 2023,
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 members at Texas A&M University-San Antonio as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 24-01.”

Respectfully submitted,

Mohamed Abdelrahman, Ph.D.
Provost and Senior VP of Academic Affairs

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
BACKGROUND OF FACULTY
RECOMMENDED FOR ACADEMIC TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 24-01**

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

	Present Rank	Yrs. Towards Tenure*		Effective Date
<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Univ.</u>	<u>Other Inst.</u>	<u>Tenure</u>
Dr. Ting Liu	Dean of Graduate Studies	0	14	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
Ph.D. (2006)	The University of Texas at Austin			
Fa 2009 – Sp 2015	Texas State University		Assistant Professor	
Fa 2015 – Sp 2020	Texas State University		Associate Professor (Tenured 2015)	
Fa 2020 – Sp 2023	Texas State University		Professor and Associate Dean for Research and Sponsored Programs	
Fa 2023 – Present	Texas A&M University-San Antonio		Dean of Graduate Studies	

Dr. Liu is an expert in the areas of health, human performance and kinesiology. She has a substantive career spanning 16 years at Texas State University, where she earned tenure, rose to the rank of professor and served as Associate Dean for Research and Sponsored Programs. Dr. Liu demonstrates a high level of scholarly accomplishment. Most notable are her 46 peer-reviewed publications and her 43 presentations. She is the author or co-author of \$472,128 in external awards and \$61,800 in internal awards. She has received numerous rewards recognizing her research excellence. Dr Liu is an accomplished teacher who has taught many courses at the graduate and undergraduate level, recorded supervision of graduate thesis work and developed new courses: ESS 7309, ESS 5328, ESS 5312, ESS 5327, and ESS 5110. She received numerous teaching awards during her time at Texas State University. She has a career of substantive service to her institution and her discipline, including service on the Board of Directors for the American Kinesiology Association, service as a reviewer for high-impact peer-reviewed journals and a sustained commitment to community service associated with a 4-week summer camp for children with autism and their families.

Dr. Liu's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy *12.01*, Section 4.3.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

	Present Rank	Yrs. Towards Tenure*		Effective Date
<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Univ.</u>	<u>Other Inst.</u>	<u>Tenure</u>
Dr. Salvador Hector Ochoa	President Texas A&M University-San Antonio	0	>15	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
Ph.D. (1989)	Texas A&M University			

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (Continued)

Dr. Salvador Hector Ochoa (continued)

Fa 1990 – Sp 1992	University of Texas-Pan American	Assistant Professor
Fa 1992 – Sp 1997	Texas A&M University	Assistant Professor
Fa 1997 – Sp 2005	Texas A&M University	Associate Professor (Tenured 1997)
Fa 2005 – Sp 2007	University of Texas-Pan American	Department Chair and Professor
Su 2007 – Su 2014	University of Texas-Pan American	Dean, College of Education and Professor (Tenured)
Fa 2014 – Su 2019	University of New Mexico	Dean, College of Education and Professor (Tenured)
Fa 2019 – Su 2023	San Diego State University	Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Fa 2023 – Present	Texas A&M University-San Antonio	President

Dr. Ochoa is an expert in special education and bilingual education with an extensive academic career spanning multiple institutions (Texas A&M University, the University of Texas-Pan American, University of New Mexico, San Diego State University) and at multiple levels (professor, department chair, dean, provost) before his appointment at Texas A&M University-San Antonio as university president. He is the author of 20 peer-reviewed publications, two books, eight additional book chapters and 79 national professional presentations. He has been awarded 3.7 million in funded grants from sources such as the Department of Education and private foundations such as the Texas Instruments Foundation. Dr. Ochoa has taught courses at the graduate (TAMU: CPSY 630, SPSY 629, SPSY 657, SPED 620, SPED 689; UTPA: EDPS 6300, EDPS 6372, 6382) and undergraduate level (UTPA: EDCI 4302, ED 4372, ED 3312) and supervision of doctoral dissertations. Dr. Ochoa also received several Teaching awards, including the Association of Former Students of Texas A&M University, Faculty Distinguished Achievement Award In Teaching – University Level, and Texas A&M Center for Teaching Excellence-Teaching Excellence Award. While a faculty member at Texas A&M University, Dr. Ochoa had extensive service in program coordinator roles, including coordinating the Bilingual Special Education Master's program, the Educational Diagnostician Program and the School Psychology Doctoral Program. In service to his profession, he has also held leadership roles in professional organizations such as the American Psychological Association Division 16—School Psychology and the Council of Exceptional Children. He has served as an Associate Editor for the *American Educational Research Journal: Teaching, Learning and Human Development* and on the editorial board for several journals within his field.

Dr. Ochoa's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy 12.01, Section 4.3.

*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-TEXARKANA

Office of the President

September 8, 2023

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

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, November 2023,
Texas A&M University-Texarkana

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-Texarkana as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 24-01.”

Respectfully submitted,

Ross Alexander
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-TEXARKANA
BACKGROUND OF FACULTY
RECOMMENDED FOR ACADEMIC TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 24-01**

COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCES, AND EDUCATION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present Rank</u> <u>Department</u>	<u>Yrs. Towards</u> <u>Tenure*</u>		<u>Effective Date</u> <u>Tenure</u>
		<u>Univ.</u>	<u>Other Inst.</u>	
Dr. James B. Worthen	Professor Psychology	0	>15	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
Ph.D. (1995)	Texas Tech University			
Fa 2002 – Sp 2008	Southeastern Louisiana University	Associate Professor (Tenured 2002)		
Fa 2008 – Sp 2023	Southeastern Louisiana University	Professor (Tenured 2008)		

Dr. James Worthen has spent more than 15 years serving as interim department head of psychology, special assistant to the dean, and assistant dean of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at Southeastern Louisiana University. Dr. Worthen was professor with tenure from 2008-2023 at Southeastern Louisiana University and received the Lola Sue Purcell Endowed Professorship and Psi Chi Outstanding Advisor Award. Dr. Worthen has published in the area of memory in top-tiered, peer-reviewed journals and has published two books. Dr. Worthen has also presented numerous papers at scholarly meetings.

Dr. James Worthen's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy 12.01, Section 4.3.

- * 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: Al Davis, Director
Texas A&M Forest Service

Subject: Confirmation of Appointment and Commissioning of a Peace Officer

Proposed Board Action:

Confirm the appointment and commissioning of Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS) employee, Thomas Connor Murnane, as an additional duty peace officer.

Background Information:

Section 88.103, Texas Education Code, provides that the director may appoint, not to exceed 25 employees of TAMFS, to serve as peace officers in executing the law enforcement duties of that agency.

The assignment of Mr. Murnane will bring the total current number of commissioned peace officers to 20. The remaining positions will be filled over the next several years as full-time equivalents become available.

Mr. Murnane will be an essential addition to law enforcement staffing in the East Texas region of the state. Mr. Murnane's assignment will be as an additional duty law enforcement investigator in Conroe, Texas.

His appointment will enhance TAMFS' 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. Murnane 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. Murnane 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." TAMFS' 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, TAMFS 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

September 27, 2023

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

Subject: Confirmation of Appointment and Commissioning of a 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. Thomas Connor Murnane as a peace officer for the system, subject to taking the oath required of peace officers.”

Respectfully submitted,

Al Davis
Director

Approval Recommended:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Billy Hamilton
Deputy Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

Jeffrey W. Savell, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor and Dean
Agriculture and Life Sciences

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

ATTACHMENT TO ITEM

The Texas A&M University System
Appointed and Commissioned Peace Officers
September 27, 2023

University Officer's Name	Title	Hire Date
TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE		
Thomas Connor Murnane	Peace Officer	07/13/2023

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Al Davis, Director
Texas A&M Forest Service

Subject: Authorization to Execute Federal Non-research Grant Agreements, and any Amendments, Modifications or Extensions

Proposed Board Action:

Authorize the Texas A&M Forest Service director or designee to execute federal, non-research grant agreements, with a value in excess of \$500,000. These grants are funded by the United States Department of Agriculture – Forest Service (USDA).

Program Name	Estimated Award Amount
FY2024 Consolidated Programs Grant	7,033,922
FY2024 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grants	3,429,997

Background Information:

The agency has received the Consolidated Programs Grant for decades. It has allowed the agency to provide technical assistance to citizens of Texas, which resulted in healthy and more productive trees and forests. It has helped the agency develop innovative web-based tools for use by the citizens in determining the wildfire risk of their property and, it has enabled the agency to lead an effort to re-establish Longleaf Pine stands in Texas, which will result in Texans benefiting long-term economically from the stands. These grant funds are specifically intended by the USDA Forest Service to pass through to state forestry agencies like the Texas A&M Forest Service.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, will provide additional grant funds to the agency. The funding is anticipated to be awarded in multiple grants, but that process is still being worked out by the USDA Forest Service. The grants will provide additional funding for existing programs that have been funded under the Consolidated Programs Grant and will aid in the state's Forest Action Plan. In addition, funding will be provided for Community Wildfire Defense. These grant funds are specifically intended by the USDA Forest Service to pass through to state forestry agencies like the Texas A&M Forest Service.

Consolidated Programs Grant (CPG)

The Consolidated grant funds the following programs:

State Fire Assistance (SFA) – Address critical preparedness needs for firefighter safety, increased initial attack capability and training.

National Fire Plan – Preparedness – Promote firefighter safety, capability and capacity through innovation and partnerships.

National Fire Plan – Mitigation – Reduce hazardous fuels and wildfire risk to communities, promote wildfire protection planning (CWPPs, Firewise, etc.), and implement wildfire prevention activities.

Agenda Item No.
Agenda Item Briefing

Forest Stewardship (FS) – Conduct forestry activities, such as: 1) prepare forest stewardship plans, 2) assist landowners in implementing forest management activities, 3) provide seedlings for reforestation and restoration activities, 4) develop genetically improved tree seeds and seedlings, 5) educate landowners about forest management practices and issues, 6) coordinate with cooperators to improve program delivery, 7) provide landowner recognition for exemplary forest stewardship, 8) train state and cooperator staffs on program delivery, and 9) practice sustainable forestry on state-owned lands. The purpose of the FS program is to encourage long-term stewardship of non-federal, non-industrial private forest lands, particularly in priority landscape areas as identified in Statewide Forest Resource Assessments and Strategies.

Urban & Community Forestry (U&CF) – Provide technical assistance through state forestry organizations to support U&CF planning, training and continuing education, demonstration projects, and assistance to local and state governments and non-profit, volunteer organizations in developing viable and continuing U&CF programs.

Cooperative Forest Health (CFH) – Detect, monitor and evaluate forest health conditions on state and private lands.

Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR) – Competitively funded projects that focus on issues and landscapes of national importance and are intended to shape and influence forest land use on a scale and in a way that optimizes public benefits from trees and forests for both current and future generations.

Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) – Address critical fire management needs and develop fire preparedness capabilities to address fire prevention, wildland urban interface, hazardous fuels treatments, firefighter training, and initial attack fire suppression capabilities.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Grants

The grants will provide additional funding for existing programs that have been funded under the Consolidated Programs Grant (see above) and will aid in the state's Forest Action Plan.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Texas A&M Forest Service would receive an estimated \$10,463,919 from the USDA – Forest Service to fund the programs described above. The agency would also complete obligations on prior years' awards for the same grant programs.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

“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 the Texas A&M Forest Service mission of providing outreach to landowners regarding forest stewardship and conservation and provides training and equipment to firefighters for wildfire fighting capacity and preparedness.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE

Office of the Director

September 26, 2023

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

Subject: Authorization to Execute Federal Non-research Grant Agreements, 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 2024 Consolidated Programs Grant and the Fiscal Year 2024 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grants.”

Respectfully submitted,

Al Davis
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

Jeffrey W. Savell, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor and Dean
Agriculture and Life Sciences

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Al Davis, Director
Texas A&M Forest Service

Subject: Authorization for Time Sensitive Awards Signature Authority for FY2024 and FY2025

Proposed Board Action:

Authorize the Texas A&M Forest Service director or designee to execute Time Sensitive Awards.

For purposes of this item, Time Sensitive Awards means federal, non-research grant agreements to deliver public service programs, such agreements requiring execution before the next scheduled Board of Regents (Board) meeting in order for the Texas A&M Forest Service to (a) begin performance; or (b) receive obligation of sponsor funds. “Sponsored” agreements are defined in System Regulation *15.01.01, Sponsored Agreements – Research and Other*.

The Texas A&M Forest Service certifies to the following:

Awards covered under this request cannot be delayed until the next Board meeting as funding can be forfeited due to a delay in acceptance; and the revenue generated by these awards will be managed in accordance with System Regulation *15.01.01 Sponsored Agreements – Research and Other*, Subpart 2.2. Additionally, the revenue generated by these awards will fully cover costs provided that awards may include cost share by Texas A&M Forest Service in accordance with The Texas A&M University System policies and procedures.

Background Information:

The Texas A&M Forest Service has received and anticipates continued receipt of Time Sensitive Award requests from 1) federal agencies; state agencies – Texas and other U.S. states; city and county organizations – Texas and other U.S. states; 2) Public and private corporations, non-profits, companies, and partnerships, commodity groups, domestic or international; and 3) Foreign entities, including governmental entities (state or local) and public or private business corporations, and companies.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Delaying the execution of the Time Sensitive Awards until Board approval will result in a loss of funding to the Texas A&M Forest Service.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

“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 the Texas A&M Forest Service mission of providing outreach to landowners regarding forest stewardship and conservation and provides training and equipment to firefighters for wildfire fighting capacity and preparedness.

Agenda Item No.

TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE

Office of the Director

September 26, 2023

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

Subject: Authorization for Time Sensitive Awards Signature Authority for FY2024 and FY2025

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, and following approval by the deputy chancellor and chief financial officer, Time Sensitive Awards from Federal agencies to deliver public service programs to the citizens of Texas for the Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025.”

Respectfully submitted,

Al Davis
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

Jeffrey W. Savell, Ph.D.
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.**