Consent Agenda Items

Meeting

of the

Board of Regents

February 5, 2026

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
February 5, 2026
College Station, Texas

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

1. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

1.1 Approval of FY 2027 Operating Budget Guidelines, A&M System

1.2 Approval of Increased Non-Academic Student Service Fees for Fall 2026 Semester, A&M System

1.3 Approval of New, Increased, and Decreased Graduate Program Fees for Fall 2026 Semester, A&M System

1.4 Approval of New and Increased Graduate and Non-Resident Designated Tuition for Fall 2026 Semester, A&M System

2. COMMITTEE ON AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT

3. COMMITTEE ON FACILITIES PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION

3.1 Approval of the Project Scope and Increased Budget, Appropriation for Construction Services, and Approval for Partial Construction for the Texas A&M Semiconductor Institute/Infrastructure/Equipment Project, The Texas A&M University System, Bryan, Texas (Project No. 01-3418), A&M System

3.2 Approval to Amend the FY 2026 – FY 2030 A&M System Capital Plan to Change the Fiscal Year Designation for Project Initiation and Appropriate Funding for Pre-Construction Services for the HEEP Laboratory Building Renovations Project for Texas A&M University (Project No. 02-3452), Texas A&M

3.3 Approval to Amend the FY 2026 – FY 2030 A&M System Capital Plan to Change the Fiscal Year Designation for Project Initiation and Appropriate Funding for Pre-Construction Services for the Underwood Hall Shower Replacements & Fire Alarm System Upgrade Project for Texas A&M University (Project No. 2024-06499), Texas A&M

3.4 Approval to Amend the FY 2026 – FY 2030 A&M System Capital Plan to Add the Cyclotron Institute Expansion Project for Texas A&M University with an FY 2026 Start Date and Appropriate Funding for Pre-Construction Services (Project No. 02-3470), 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.*

3.5 Approval to Amend the FY 2026 – FY 2030 A&M System Capital Plan to Add the Poultry Science Center Project for Texas A&M University with an FY 2026 Start Date and Appropriate Funding for Pre-Construction Services (Project No. 02-3461), Texas A&M

3.6 Approval to Amend the FY 2026 – FY 2030 A&M System Capital Plan to Add the Student Housing Phase I Project for Texas A&M University-Central Texas with an FY 2026 Start Date and Appropriate Funding for Pre-Construction Services (Project No. 24-3445), A&M-Central Texas

3.7 Approval to Amend the FY 2026 – FY 2030 A&M System Capital Plan to Add the Eagle Landing Phase 4 Project for Texas A&M University-Texarkana with an FY 2026 Start Date and Appropriate Funding for Pre-Construction Services (Project No. 22-3482), TAMUT

3.8 Approval to Amend the FY 2026 – FY 2030 A&M System Capital Plan to Add the Athletics Complex Phase II Project for Texas A&M University-Texarkana with an FY 2026 Start Date and Appropriate Funding for Pre-Construction Services (Project No. 22-3483), TAMUT

Informational Report

Report on System Construction Projects Authorized by the Board

4. COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

4.1 Approval of Revisions to System Policy *03.02, Academic Mission Statements and Program Inventory*, A&M System

4.2 Authorization for Member Universities to Establish General Education Review Committees to Comply with System Policy *11.06, Core Curriculum*, and State Law, A&M System

5. COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH

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

6.1 Approval of Revisions to System Policy *29.01, Information Resources*, and the Addition of a New System Policy *29.02, Information Security*, A&M System

6.2 *Approval of Amendments to the Bylaws of the Board of Regents, BOR

6.3 Adoption of a Resolution Honoring the Members of the 2025 Texas A&M University Women's Volleyball Team, Texas A&M

6.4 *Authorization to Negotiate and Execute Two Amended and Restated Ground Leases with Life Tower Owner, LLC for a Mixed-Use Development Project Located Adjacent to the Texas A&M University School of Engineering Medicine at 1020 Holcombe Boulevard, Houston, Harris County, Texas, A&M System

6.5 *Authorization to Purchase Approximately 61.157 Acres of Land Located on FM 1098 in Prairie View, Waller County, Texas, PVAMU

6.6 *Authorization for the President to Negotiate and Execute a Clinical Affiliation Agreement and Other Ancillary Agreements and Related Documents with Bexar County Hospital District, d/b/a University Health, Texas A&M

6.7 *Authorization to Negotiate and Execute a Sublease of Space in Winfield Place Located at 210 E. 8th Street, Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas, Texas A&M

6.8 *Authorization to Negotiate and Execute a Lease of Space in the Blackboard Building, Located at 4501 Roy J Smith Drive, Killeen, Bell County, Texas, A&M-Central Texas

6.9 *Authorization for the Disposition of Approximately 195.872 Acres of Land Located in Morris County, Texas, TFS

6.10 *Authorization to Negotiate and Execute a Lease of Space in One Castle Hills Located at 1100 NW Loop 410, Castle Hills, Bexar County, Texas, TTI

6.11 Appointment of Associate Vice Provost for Transformative Learning and Dean of the Honors College of East Texas A&M University, ETAMU

6.12 Appointment of Assistant Vice Provost for Global Engagement and Partnerships of Prairie View A&M University, PVAMU

6.13 Appointment of Assistant Vice Provost of Institutional Effectiveness of Prairie View A&M University, PVAMU

6.14 Appointment of Assistant Vice Provost for Academic Affairs of Prairie View A&M University, PVAMU

6.15 *Authorization for the President to Amend and Extend the Employment Contract for the Head Football Coach, Tarleton

7. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The Texas A&M University System/Board of Regents

7.1 Approval of Minutes, BOR & A&M System

7.2 *Approval of Appointments to the Board of Regents Standing Committee on Medical and Health Affairs, BOR

7.3 *Formation of a Special Committee of the Board of Regents on Strategic Planning for The Texas A&M University System, BOR

**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.*

7.4 Confirmation of New and Amended Field Trip and Study Abroad Fees for The Texas A&M University System, A&M System

7.5 *Authorization to Administer Government Classified Contracts, A&M System

7.6 Granting of the Title of Emeritus, February 2026, The Texas A&M University System, A&M System

7.7 Confirmation of Appointment and Commissioning of Peace Officers, A&M System

7.8 Approval for Dr. Giridhar Athrey, System Employee, to Serve as an Employee, Officer, and Member of the Board of Managers of Perspicax, LLC, a Business Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System, A&M System

7.9 Approval for Dr. Arun Srinivasa and Dr. Krishna Narayanan, System Employees, to Serve as Employees, Officers, and Members of the Board of Directors of Encando.AI, Inc., a Business Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System, A&M System

7.10 Approval for Aaron Thibault, System Employee, to Serve as an Employee, Officer, and Member of the Board of Directors of Gamebridge, Inc., a Business Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System, A&M System

7.11 Approval for Dr. Swaminathan Gopalswamy, System Employee, to Serve as an Employee, Officer, and Member of the Board of Directors of Engineered Mechatronics, Inc., a Business Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System, A&M System

East Texas A&M University

7.12 Approval of Academic Tenure, February 2026, ETAMU

7.13 Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Applied Sport Analytics, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, ETAMU

7.14 Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Mechanical Engineering and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, ETAMU

7.15 Approval of a New Master of Public Health Program with a Major in Epidemiology and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, ETAMU

7.16 Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Engineering and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, ETAMU

**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.*

7.17 Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Sports Science and Data Analytics and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, ETAMU

7.18 Approval of a New Master of Public Administration Degree Program, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, ETAMU

7.19 *Naming of the Assistive Technology Lab, ETAMU

7.20 *Naming of the East Texas A&M University Event Center, ETAMU

Prairie View A&M University

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

7.22 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, PVAMU

7.23 Approval of a New Master of Public Policy Degree Program and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, PVAMU

7.24 Approval of a New Master of Science in Education Degree Program with a Major in Higher Education Administration and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, PVAMU

7.25 Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Kinesiology and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, PVAMU

7.26 Approval of a New Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program in Food-Energy-Water Security and Sustainability and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, PVAMU

Tarleton State University

7.59 Approval of Academic Tenure, February 2026, Tarleton

7.60 Granting of Faculty Development Leave for FY 2027, Tarleton

7.27 Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Nutrition and Dietetics and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Tarleton

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

**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.*

Texas A&M University

7.28 Approval of Academic Tenure, February 2026, Texas A&M

7.29 Granting of Faculty Development Leave for FY 2027, Texas A&M

7.30 Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Maritime Operations and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Texas A&M

7.31 Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Coaching and Teaching in Secondary Education and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Texas A&M

7.32 Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Environmental and Sustainability Studies and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Texas A&M

7.33 Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Cybersecurity and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Texas A&M

7.34 Establishment of the Center for Applied Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Texas A&M

7.35 *Naming of Athletics Facilities and Related Structures, Texas A&M

7.36 *Naming of the Center for Greenhouse Gas Management in Agriculture and Forestry, Texas A&M (also listed under AgriLife Research)

7.37 *Naming of the Analytical Chemistry Lab in the Instructional Laboratory and Innovative Learning Building, Texas A&M

7.38 *Naming of the Poultry Science Teaching, Research, and Extension Center, Texas A&M

7.39 *Naming of Spaces in the Law and Education Building, Texas A&M

7.40 *Authorization to Establish Two Quasi-Endowments in the System Endowment Fund, Texas A&M

7.41 *Authorization for President to Negotiate and Execute Certain Specified Contracts Involving Consideration of $500,000 or More, Texas A&M

7.42 Appointment of Dr. Tim R. Turner and Dr. Glenn Rogers to serve on the Rural Veterinary Incentive Program Committee, 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.*

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

7.43 Withdrawn

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

7.44 Approval of a New Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program with a Major in Data Science and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, A&M-Corpus Christi

7.45 *Naming of Various Areas in the Chaparral Downtown Building, A&M-Corpus Christi

Texas A&M University-Kingsville

7.46 Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Agribusiness and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Texas A&M-Kingsville

7.47 Approval of a New Master of Science in Nursing Degree Program and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Texas A&M-Kingsville

7.48 Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Construction Management and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Texas A&M-Kingsville

7.49 Authorization to Award an Honorary Degree to Mr. Bill C. Colston, Jr., Texas A&M-Kingsville

7.50 *Naming of Various Rooms in the Dr. Steven H. Tallant Music Building, Texas A&M-Kingsville

Texas A&M University-San Antonio
(No consent agenda items)

Texas A&M University-Texarkana

7.51 Approval of Academic Tenure, February 2026, TAMUT

7.52 Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Chemical Engineering and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, TAMUT

7.53 Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Radiologic Technology and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, TAMUT

7.54 Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Information Technology and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, TAMUT

**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.*

7.55 *Naming of the Future Athletic Center, TAMUT

Texas A&M University-Victoria
(No consent agenda items)

West Texas A&M University

7.56 *Establishment and Naming of the High Plains Christian Ministries Health Institute on the Campus of West Texas A&M University, WTAMU

7.57 *Change of Naming of the Wilder Spaces at West Texas A&M University, WTAMU

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

Texas A&M AgriLife Research

7.36 *Naming of the Center for Greenhouse Gas Management in Agriculture and Forestry, AgriLife Research (also listed under Texas A&M)

Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station

7.58 Removal of Building Name and Named Rooms and Spaces within the Mike and Beverly Rowlett Industrial Distribution Building at The Texas A&M University System RELLIS Campus, TEES

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

Texas A&M Forest 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-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
ETAMU .....East Texas A&M University
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
TAMUV.....Texas A&M University-Victoria
TAM-FW .....Texas A&M-Fort Worth
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

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Agenda Item No. 7.1

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Board of Regents
January 26, 2026

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

Subject: Approval of Minutes

I recommend the adoption of the following minute order:

> **"The minutes from the following meetings are approved:**
> **November 12-13, 2025, Regular Meeting**
> **November 14, 2025, Workshop Meeting**
> **November 21, 2025, Special Meeting (Telephonic)**
> **December 18, 2025, Special Meeting (Telephonic), and**
> **January 14, 2026, Special Meeting (Videoconference)**

Respectfully submitted

Vickie Burt Spillers
Executive Director, Board of Regents

Attachments (5)

Agenda Item No. 7.4

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Ryan C. Griffin, Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Confirmation of New and Amended Field Trip and Study Abroad Fees for The Texas A&M University System

Proposed Board Action:

Confirmation of field trip and study abroad fees for The Texas A&M University System.

Background Information:

System Policy *26.01, Tuition and Fees*, authorizes the presidents of the academic universities and the health science center to establish and collect student fees for field trips and study abroad programs, and to amend such fees as necessary, provided that fees so established or amended (during the previous fiscal year) are submitted annually for confirmation by the Board.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Attached.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

This agenda item is relevant to the advancement of all the imperatives of the Strategic Plan.

Agenda Item No. 7.4

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer
January 5, 2026

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

Subject: Confirmation of New and Amended Field Trip and Study Abroad Fees for The Texas A&M University System

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

"The request for new and amended field trip and study abroad fees for The Texas A&M University System as shown on the attached exhibit is hereby confirmed."

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Ryan C. Griffin
Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approval for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

ITEM 7.4
EXHIBIT

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

NEW & AMENDED
FIELD TRIP/STUDY ABROAD FEES
2024-25 Academic Year

BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING
February 2026

EAST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Field Trip/Study Abroad Program Fees
FY 2025

Department	Course	Course #	Destination	New Fee	Increased (Decreased) Fee From	Increased (Decreased) Fee To
Study Abroad Fees						
Visual Arts	ART	418	Japan	$3,055.00		
Honors College	HC	497	UK/Germany/Austria	$2,200.00		
Social Work	SWK	492/592	Costa Rica		$1,316.00	$1,707.09
Health & Human Performance	HHPK	Various	Germany/France		$5,000.00	$4,000.00

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

Field Trip/Study Abroad Program Fees
FY 2025

Department	Course	Course #	Destination	New Fee	Increased (Decreased) Fee From	Increased (Decreased) Fee To
Study Abroad Fees						
Architecture	ARCH	4333	Italy		$746.00	$2,980.00
Arts & Sciences	COMM	2355	Belize		$2,300.00	$3,532.54
	CURR	1300	Dominican Republic		$2,478.00	$1,825.00
	BIOL	1502	Galapagos	$3,628.96		
	HIST	2321/3315	Germany		$2,722.00	$4,294.00
Agriculture	AGRI	2351	Jamaica	$3,547.00		
College of Education	CURR	1401	Panama		$2,063.00	$3,007.00
College of Education	EDUL	7307	Belize	$3,247.00		
College of Juvenile Justice	CRIJ	4391	Jamaica		$300.00	$3,233.00

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Field Trip/Study Abroad Program Fees
FY 2025

Department	Course	Course #	Destination	New Fee	Increased (Decreased) Fee From	To
Field Trip Fees						
Agricultural Education & Communications	AGSD	4390	Various Texas locations	$200.00		
Communications	AGCS	4341	Various Texas locations	$800.00		
Study Abroad Fees						
Agricultural Education & Communications	AGSD	4390	Dublin, Ireland	$3,500.00		
	ACRS	5390	Dublin, Ireland	$3,500.00		
	ANSC	4390	Dublin, Ireland	$3,500.00		
	ARSC	6390	Dublin, Ireland	$3,500.00		
	AGSD	4390	Prague, Czech Republic	$5,500.00		
	AGSD	5390	Prague, Czech Republic	$5,500.00		
	ACOM	4342	Prague, Czech Republic	$5,500.00		
	ACOM	5342	Prague, Czech Republic	$5,500.00		
Animal Science	ANSC	4086/5086	Kakadu NT 0822, Australia; Gold Coast QLD, Australia; Frazer Island, Australia; Darwin NT, Australia; Brisbane QLD, Australia; Queensland, Australia	$4,000.00		
Honors	PHIL	1301	Athens, Greece	$3,000.00		
	ENGL	2350	Athens, Greece	$3,000.00		
	ARTS	1301	Athens, Greece	$3,000.00		
	ENGL	3341	Athens, Greece	$3,000.00		
	HIST	4350	Athens, Greece	$3,000.00		
	ARTS	4385	Athens, Greece	$3,000.00		
	HNRS	3385	Athens, Greece	$3,000.00		
Engineering Technology	ENGT	3318	Vienna, Austria	$4,540.00		
	ENGT	3395	Vienna, Austria	$4,540.00		
	CNST	3321	Vienna, Austria	$4,540.00		
	MEEN	4205	Vienna, Austria	$4,540.00		
	ENGR	4084	Vienna, Austria	$4,540.00		
Communication Studies	COMM	1311	Paris, France; Barcelona, Spain	$4,440.00		
	COMM	1315	Paris, France; Barcelona, Spain	$4,440.00		
	COMM	3304	Paris, France; Barcelona, Spain	$4,440.00		
	COMM	3332	Paris, France; Barcelona, Spain	$4,440.00		
Criminology, Criminal Justice, & Public Admin	CRIJ	4387	Prague, Czech Republic		$3,300.00	$2,000.00
	CRIJ	5315	Prague, Czech Republic		$3,300.00	$2,000.00
	CRIJ	6350	Prague, Czech Republic		$3,300.00	$2,000.00
Curriculum and Instruction	CHFS	4387	Urbino, Italy: Reggio Emilia, Italy; Florence, Italy		$4,400.00	$6,777.92
	EDUC	2330	Urbino, Italy: Reggio Emilia, Italy; Florence, Italy		$4,400.00	$6,777.92
	READ	3356	Urbino, Italy: Reggio Emilia, Italy; Florence, Italy		$4,400.00	$6,777.92
	READ	5373	Urbino, Italy: Reggio Emilia, Italy; Florence, Italy		$4,400.00	$6,777.92
Educational Leadership & Technology	EDAD	5389/6389	Galway, Ireland; Dublin, Ireland		$5,300.00	$2,750.00

TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Field Trip/Study Abroad Program Fees
FY 2025

Department	Course	Course #	Destination	New Fee	Increased (Decreased) Fee From	Increased (Decreased) Fee To
Study Abroad Fees						
College of Arts and Sciences	FREN	1620	France	$4,873.00		
	FREN	2620	France	$4,873.00		
	UNIV	4399	Austria, Hungary & Czech Republic	$5,860.00		
	SPAN	4330	Spain		$4,935.00	$5,031.00
	SPAN	5349	Spain		$4,935.00	$5,031.00
	CRIJ	4340	South Korea		$1,955.00	$1,807.00
	CRIJ	5314	South Korea		$1,955.00	$1,807.00

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Field Trip/Study Abroad Program Fees
FY 2025

Department	Course	Course #	Destination	New Fee	Increased (Decreased) Fee From	Increased (Decreased) Fee To
Field Trip Fees						
College of Agriculture & Life Sciences	ECCB	215-All Sections	Biodiversity Teaching and Research Cooperative and Herbarium, Range Area, Little Brazos River, Lick Creek		$35.00	$25.00
	HMGT	300-689	Orlando Florida	$1,942.64		
	HORT	421-All Sections	Fredericksburg, TX	$75.00		
College of Architecture	ARCH	441-500	San Antonio, TX	$145.00		
	COSC	153-All Sections	Various cities in Texas within 150 miles of campus. Typically cities such as, Alvin, Austin, Hockley, Katy, Houston, New Braunfels, Red Oak, Rosenberg, Seguin, Spring, and Thorndale	$50.00		
	LAND	112-All Sections	Fort Worth, TX	$150.00		
	LAND	412-All Sections	Bridgeland Houston Texas	$50.00		
	LAND	489-501	Costa Rica	$2,300.00		
	LAND	621-All Sections	Houston, TX	$60.00		
	URPN	493-902	Fort Stockton, TX	$300.00		
College of Arts & Sciences	ATMO	370-550	Continental United States - within the US Great Plains, but specific locations will vary based on weather conditions	$450.00		
	COMM	343-503	Prague and Pisek, Czechia	$3,000.00		
	COMM	485-555	Prague and Pisek, Czechia	$3,000.00		
	OCNG	443-All Sections	Galveston, TX	$100.00		
College of Education & Human Development	EDCI	604-700	Finland	$5,283.61		
	EDCI	604-701	Finland	$5,283.61		
	EDCI	605-700	Thailand and Cambodia	$4,419.03		
	EDCI	680-701	Thailand and Cambodia	$4,419.03		
	EDCI	692-701	Thailand and Cambodia	$4,419.03		
	EDCI	701-All Sections	Thailand and Cambodia	$4,419.03		
	EHRD	408-All Sections	Egypt	$4,651.72		
	EHRD	481-All Sections	Egypt	$4,651.72		
	EHRD	685-All Sections	Egypt	$4,651.72		
	EPSY	320-500	Finland	$5,283.61		
	EPSY	321-500	Finland	$5,283.61		
	EPSY	321-500	Morocco - Marrakech, Casablanca, and Essaouira	$4,260.81		
	EPSY	485-500	Greenland and Iceland	$14,395.64		
	EPSY	485-507	Finland	$5,283.61		
	EPSY	485-507	Morocco - Marrakech, Casablanca, and Essaouira	$4,260.81		
	EPSY	485-All Sections	Egypt	$4,651.72		
	EPSY	491-500	Greenland and Iceland	$14,395.64		
	EPSY	685-500	Greenland and Iceland	$14,395.64		
	EPSY	685-603	Finland	$5,283.61		
	EPSY	685-609	Morocco - Marrakech, Casablanca, and Essaouira	$4,260.81		
	EPSY	691-500	Greenland and Iceland	$14,395.64		
	INST	222-All Sections	Finland	$5,283.61		
	INST	301-500	Finland	$5,283.61		
	INST	301-500	Greenland and Iceland	$14,395.64		
	INST	301-500	Morocco - Marrakech, Casablanca, and Essaouira	$4,260.81		
	SPMT	260-All Sections	United Kingdom	$4,965.35		
	SPMT	270-All Sections	United Kingdom	$4,965.35		
	SPMT	337-550	Morocco - Marrakech, Casablanca, and Essaouira	$4,260.81		
	SPMT	337-All Sections	United Kingdom	$4,965.35		
	SPMT	462-All Sections	United Kingdom	$4,965.35		
	SPMT	485-All Sections	United Kingdom	$4,965.35		

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Field Trip/Study Abroad Program Fees
FY 2025

Department	Course	Course #	Destination	New Fee	Increased (Decreased) Fee From	To
	SPMT	685-All Sections	United Kingdom	$4,965.35		
	TEFB	371-All Sections	Finland	$5,283.61		
College of Engineering	ENGR	291-500	Greece - Thessaloniki and Athens	$3,700.00		
	ENGR	491-500	Greece - Thessaloniki and Athens	$3,700.00		
College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences	VIBS	489-199	Ikaria and Athens, Greece	$4,743.00		
	VIBS	689-199	Ikaria and Athens, Greece	$4,743.00		
Mays Business School	ACCT	430-501	Japan & South Korea	$7,675.00		
	ACCT	485-503	Japan & South Korea	$7,675.00		
	IBUS	310-500	Argentina & Antarctica	$13,700.00		
	IBUS	320-501	Greece	$5,050.00		
	IBUS	430-501	Japan & South Korea	$7,675.00		
	IBUS	455-501	Japan & South Korea	$7,675.00		
	IBUS	456-5001	Austria, Italy, and Switzerland	$6,800.00		
	IBUS	685-600	Argentina & Antarctica	$13,700.00		
	IBUS	689-602	Panama	$4,050.00		
	MGMT	689-602	Panama	$4,050.00		
	SCMT	485-502	Portugal	$4,000.00		
	SCMT	640-602	Portugal	$4,000.00		
School of Law	LAW	689-601	Channel Islands	$4,500.00		
	LAW	689-602	Iceland, Faroe Islands (Denmark)	$5,500.00		
	LAW	7830-601	Channel Islands	$4,500.00		
	LAW	7830-602	Iceland, Faroe Islands (Denmark)	$5,500.00		
Study Abroad Fees						
Agriculture	ENTO	455	Costa Rica		$3,975.00	$10,000.00
	ENTO	489	France	$15,000.00		
	FIVS	489	United Kingdom	$15,000.00		
	FSTC	420	Italy	$15,000.00		
	HMGT	412	Switzerland	$15,000.00		
	HMGT	612	Switzerland	$15,000.00		
	HORT	489	France	$15,000.00		
Architecture	CARC	301	Germany & Netherlands		$15,000.00	$20,160.00
	CARC	301	Spain		$17,000.00	$25,000.00
	CARC	311	Germany & Netherlands		$15,000.00	$20,160.00
	CARC	311	Japan		$9,375.00	$15,000.00
	CARC	311	Spain		$17,000.00	$25,000.00
	CARC	331	Japan		$9,375.00	$15,000.00
	CARC	331	Spain		$17,000.00	$25,000.00
	CARC	485	Japan		$9,375.00	$15,000.00
	CARC	485	Germany & Netherlands		$15,000.00	$20,160.00
	CARC	485	Spain		$17,000.00	$25,000.00
	CARC	604	Germany & Netherlands		$15,000.00	$20,160.00
	CARC	604	Spain		$17,000.00	$25,000.00
	CARC	685	Germany & Netherlands		$15,000.00	$20,160.00
	CARC	685	Japan		$9,375.00	$15,000.00
	CARC	685	Spain		$17,000.00	$25,000.00
Arts & Sciences	ARAB	301	Morocco	$25,000.00		
	ARAB	302	Morocco	$25,000.00		
	ARAB	485	Morocco	$25,000.00		
	ARAB	491	Morocco	$25,000.00		
	ATMO	370	Australia	$15,000.00		
	CHIN	201	Taiwan	$25,000.00		
	CHIN	202	Taiwan	$25,000.00		
	CHIN	301	Taiwan	$25,000.00		
	CHIN	302	Taiwan	$25,000.00		
	CHIN	489	Taiwan	$25,000.00		
	COMM	335	Australia	$15,000.00		
	COMM	340	Australia	$15,000.00		
	COMM	446	Belize	$15,000.00		

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Field Trip/Study Abroad Program Fees
FY 2025

Department	Course	Course #	Destination	New Fee	Increased (Decreased) Fee From	To
	COMM	485	Australia	$15,000.00		
	COMM	485	Belize	$15,000.00		
	COMM	685	Belize	$15,000.00		
	GEOG	380	Germany & Sweden	$10,000.00		
	KINE	199-311	Belize	$15,000.00		
	PBSI	209	Iceland	$10,000.00		
	PBSI	319	Germany		$7,850.00	$15,000.00
	PBSI	360	Germany		$7,850.00	$15,000.00
	PBSI	485	Germany		$7,850.00	$15,000.00
	PBSI	485	Iceland	$10,000.00		
	SPAN	221	Spain		$6,000.00	$15,000.00
	SPAN	222	Span		$6,000.00	$15,000.00
Education & Human Development	EHRD	489	South Korea	$10,000.00		
Engineering	BMEN	311	Thailand	$15,000.00		
	CSCE	412	France	$10,000.00		
	CVEN	311	Greece	$15,000.00		
	CVEN	349	Italy	$15,000.00		
	ECEN	340	Spain	$15,000.00		
	ECEN	350	Japan	$15,000.00		
	ECEN	469	Japan	$15,000.00		
	EVEN	311	Greece	$15,000.00		
	IDIS	489	Canada	$15,000.00		
	ISEN	302	France	$10,000.00		
	ISEN	302	Spain & Portugal	$10,000.00		
	ISEN	434	Spain	$15,000.00		
	MEEN	305	France	$15,000.00		
	MTDE	333	Italy	$15,000.00		
	MTDE	480	Spain & Belgium	$15,000.00		
	NUEN	485	Switzerland		$6,300.00	$15,000.00
	OCEN	345	Italy		$10,513.00	$15,000.00
Mays Business School	FINC	445	Italy		$5,200.00	$15,000.00
	FINC	645	Italy		$5,200.00	$15,000.00
	IBUS	310	Italy		$5,200.00	$15,000.00
	IBUS	401	Croatia, Bosnia, Montenegro	$15,000.00		
	IBUS	440	Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand	$10,000.00		
	IBUS	446	Italy		$5,200.00	$15,000.00
	IBUS	455	Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand	$10,000.00		
	IBUS	456	Croatia, Bosnia, Montenegro	$15,000.00		
	IBUS	645	Italy		$5,200.00	$15,000.00
	IBUS	685	Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand	$10,000.00		
	ISTM	440	Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand	$10,000.00		
	MKTG	401	Croatia, Bosnia, Montenegro	$15,000.00		
	VIST	311	Croatia, Bosnia, Montenegro	$15,000.00		
	VIST	331	Croatia, Bosnia, Montenegro	$15,000.00		
Global Career Accelerator	UGST	484	Virtual Course	$1,800.00		
Visualization, Performance & Fine Arts	IBUS	401	Croatia, Bosnia, Montenegro	$15,000.00		
	IBUS	456	Croatia, Bosnia, Montenegro	$15,000.00		
	MKTG	401	Croatia, Bosnia, Montenegro	$15,000.00		
	VIST	311	Croatia, Bosnia, Montenegro	$15,000.00		
	VIST	331	Croatia, Bosnia, Montenegro	$15,000.00		

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY- GALVESTON

Field Trip/Study Abroad Program Fees
FY 2025

Department	Course	Course #	Destination	New Fee	Increased (Decreased) Fee From	To
Field Trip Fees						
College of Marine Sciences and Maritime Studies	DIVE	410 All Sections	Lake Travis, Blue Lagoon, Huntsville, TX	$15,106.63		
	DIVE	250-401	TAMUG		$340.00	$355.00
	DIVE	250-402	TAMUG		$340.00	$355.00
	DIVE	250-403	TAMUG		$340.00	$355.00
	DIVE	250-404	TAMUG		$340.00	$355.00
	MARB	438-All Sections	Coastal wetlands, dunes and beaches - Upper Texas Coast	$140.00		
	MARE	200-All Sections	Various ports of call		$10,833.00	$7,333.00
	MARE	300-All Sections	Various ports of call		$10,833.00	$7,333.00
	MARE	400-All Sections	Various ports of call		$10,833.00	$7,333.00
	MARS	330-All Sections	2 trips: 1 to an offshore oil and gas consulting firm and one to the Upper Texas Coast between Freeport and High Island		$50.00	$52.50
	MARS	336-All Sections	College Station	$50.00		
	MARS	430-All Sections	College Station	$50.00		
	MART	200-All Sections	Various ports of call		$10,833.00	$7,333.00
	MART	300-All Sections	Various ports of call		$10,833.00	$7,333.00
	MART	400-All Sections	Various ports of call		$10,833.00	$7,333.00
	NAUT	200-All Sections	Various ports of call		$10,833.00	$7,333.00
	NAUT	300-All Sections	Various ports of call		$10,833.00	$7,333.00
	NAUT	400-All Sections	Various ports of call		$10,833.00	$7,333.00

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY- HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

Field Trip/Study Abroad Program Fees
FY 2025

Department	Course	Course #	Destination	New Fee	Increased (Decreased) Fee From	Increased (Decreased) Fee To
Field Trip Fees						
School of Public Health	HBEH	685-550	Greece	$5,771.40		
	HBEH	689-655	Washington D. C.	$750.00		
	PHLT	485-550	Greece	$5,771.40		
	PHLT	489-150	Little Rock, Hot Springs, Bentonville- Arkansas	$938.85		
Study Abroad						
School of Public Health	PHEO	685	Germany		$11,250.00	$15,000.00
	PHLT	470	Germany		$11,250.00	$15,000.00
	PHLT	485	Germany		$11,250.00	$15,000.00
	SOPH	670	Germany		$11,250.00	$15,000.00

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS

Field Trip/Study Abroad Program Fees

FY 2025

Department	Course	Course #	Destination	New Fee	Increased (Decreased) Fee From	To
Study Abroad Fees						
Arts & Sciences	ENGL/LIBS	3357/3300	United Kingdom	$2,980.00		

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY - CORPUS CHRISTI

Field Trip/Study Abroad Program Fees

FY 2025

Department	Course	Course #	Destination	New Fee	Increased (Decreased) Fee From	Increased (Decreased) Fee To
Study Abroad Fees						
Honors	HONR	4390	Italy		$750.00	$1,375.00
Art & Design	ARTS	4391	Mexico City	$1,337.00		
	GRDS	4391	Mexico City	$1,337.00		
Department of Physical and	GEOL	4650	Merida, Mexico		$1,650.00	$1,401.58
Environmental Science	ESCI	5596	Gdansk, Poland	$1,420.00		
	ESCI	6596	Gdansk, Poland	$1,420.00		

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY - KINGSVILLE

Field Trip/Study Abroad Program Fees

FY 2025

Department	Course	Course #	Destination	New Fee	Increased (Decreased) Fee From	Increased (Decreased) Fee To
Field Trip Fees						
Geology	GEOL	3409	Various	$40.00		
	GEOL	3431	Various	$40.00		
Study Abroad Fees						
Counseling and Guidance	EDCG	5341	Scotland	$4,140.00		
Business Administration	BUAD	2374	Around the World	$3,785.00		
Comm Sciences and Disorders	CSDO	5330	Puerto Rico		$3,965.00	$2,850.00
Music	MUSI	4309	Austria		$3,165.00	$3,350.00
Marketing	MKTG	4395	Germany		$3,255.00	$2,960.00
Political Science	POLS	4370	Puerto Rico	$2,665.00		
Educational Leadership	EDLD	6315	Ireland		$3,380.00	$3,204.00
History	HIST	4392	Mexico City		$2,265.00	$2,600.00
Veterinary Technology	VETT	4291	Belize	$3,825.00		
Biology	BIOL	4355	Puerto Rico	$3,130.00		

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY - SAN ANTONIO

Field Trip/Study Abroad Program Fees

FY 2025

Department	Course	Course #	Destination	New Fee
Study Abroad Fees				
College of Business	MBA	5358_001	Tokyo / Korea	included in the 11-month MBA Program Fee
	MBA	5358_002	Berlin / Prauge	included in the 11-month MBA Program Fee

WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Field Trip/Study Abroad Program Fees

FY 2025

Department	Course	Course #	Destination	New Fee	Increased (Decreased) Fee From	Increased (Decreased) Fee To
Field Trip Fees						
Agricultural Sciences	AGRI	4094	New Zealand		$5,425.34	$6,497.04
	AGRI	7092	New Zealand		$5,425.34	$6,497.04
Communications & Agricultural Sciences	AGRI	4094-23	South Africa		$4,450.00	$4,800.00
	AGRI	7092	South Africa		$4,450.00	$4,800.00
	AGRI	4312	South Africa		$4,450.00	$4,800.00
	AGRI	4305	South Africa		$4,450.00	$4,800.00
	PSES	4321	South Africa		$4,450.00	$4,800.00
	MCOM	4300	South Africa		$4,450.00	$4,800.00
	MCOM	5300	South Africa		$4,450.00	$4,800.00
	COMM	4300	South Africa		$4,450.00	$4,800.00
	COMM	5300	South Africa		$4,450.00	$4,800.00
	AGBE	3301	South Africa		$4,450.00	$4,800.00
Study Abroad Fees						
College of Business	ECON	4321 & 5321	Demark, Germany, Sweden		$4,785.46	$4,218.72
English, Philosophy & Modern Languages	SPAN	3306-01	Peru	$4,980.54		
	SPAN	3306-02	Peru	$4,980.54		
College of Engineering	MENG	4097	Thailand	$3,468.39		
	CENG	4097	Thailand	$3,468.39		
	EVEG	4097	Thailand	$3,468.39		
	EENG	4097	Thailand	$3,468.39		
	CS	4097	Thailand	$3,468.39		

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Field Trip/Study Abroad Program Fees

FY 2025

The following System Members submitted no new or amended Field Trip/Study Abroad Program Fees:

Texas A&M University - Texarkana
Texas A&M University - Victoria

Agenda Item No. 7.6

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
December 9, 2025

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

Subject: Granting of the Title of Emeritus, February 2026, 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. 26-02, and grants all rights and privileges of this title."**

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

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

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
CONFIRMATION OF EMERITUS TITLES
EMERITUS TITLE LIST NO. 26-02

System Member Honoree	Years of Service	Current Rank	Title Conferred	Effective Date
EAST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY				
Dr. Benton H. Pierce	20	Professor	Professor Emeritus of Psychology and Special Education	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY				
Dr. John Calahan	50	Professor	Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY				
Mr. Juan J. Castillo	17	Vice President for Finance and Administration	Vice President Emeritus for Finance and Administration	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY				
[1] Ms. Susan Ayres	12	Professor	Professor Emerita of Law	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
[2] Dr. Everett Murl Bailey, Jr.	55	Senior Professor	Professor Emeritus of Veterinary Physiology & Pharmacology	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. Elaine L. Demps	12	Director of Instructional Design and Support Services	Director of Instructional Design and Support Services Emerita	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. Gary D. Ellis	18	Professor	Professor Emeritus of Agricultural Leadership, Education, & Communications	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement

System Member Honoree	Years of Service	Current Rank	Title Conferred	Effective Date
Dr. Andreas K. Kronenberg	40	Professor	Professor Emeritus of Geology & Geophysics	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. Julian L. Leibowitz	30	Professor	Professor Emeritus of Microbial Pathogenesis & Immunology	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
[3] Dr. Arnold LeUnes	60	Senior Professor	Professor Emeritus of Psychological & Brain Sciences	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. Carol Loopstra	31	Associate Professor	Associate Professor Emerita of Ecology & Conservation Biology	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Mr. Tom Reber	43	Executive Associate Vice President	Executive Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Emeritus	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. James G. Ryan	35	Professor	Professor Emeritus of Maritime Studies	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. Emet D. Schneiderman	37	Professor	Professor Emeritus of Biomedical Sciences	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. Vijay P. Singh	19	Regents Professor	Regents Professor Emeritus and [4] University Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Biological & Agricultural Engineering	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. Van G. Wilson	42	Professor	Professor Emeritus of Microbial Pathogenesis & Immunology	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement

System Member Honoree	Years of Service	Current Rank	Title Conferred	Effective Date
Dr. Kirk Owen Winemiller	34	Regents Professor	Regents Professor Emeritus and [4] University Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Ecology & Conservation Biology	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
[5] Dr. Thomas M. Woodfin	29	Executive Professor	Associate Professor Emeritus of Landscape Architecture & Urban Planning	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Dr. Ping Xiang	29	Professor	Professor Emerita of Kinesiology & Sports Management	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement

[1] School of Law faculty were transferred from Texas Wesleyan University to Texas A&M University at the time of acquisition in 2013. Years of Service reflects years at Texas A&M from the time of acquisition until retirement.

[2] Dr. Everett Murl Bailey, Jr. served as Assistant Professor (1970-1974), Associate Professor (1974-1980), and Professor (1981-2021). Dr. Bailey transitioned to a non-tenure track Senior Professor position, serving in that role from 2021 until his retirement in 2025 from Texas A&M University.

[3] Dr. Arnold LeUnes served as Instructor (1966-1969), Assistant Professor (1969-1975), Associate Professor (1975-1991), Professor (1991-2017), before transitioning to a Senior Professor position (2017-2019). Following his retirement in 2019, Dr. LeUnes was subsequently rehired as Senior Professor, serving in that role from 2019 until 2025.

[4] The University Distinguished Professor program began in 2011 and is currently the highest achievement a Texas A&M University faculty member can earn. This honorary title is bestowed in perpetuity, as long as the faculty member remains in good standing. University Distinguished Professors are preeminent authorities in their academic disciplines, and their accomplishments are exemplified by outstanding teaching, research, mentoring, and service. From 1984 through 2011, the university promoted select and outstanding faculty members to the rank of Distinguished Professor. The two titles are not interchangeable but represent different programs to honor faculty for their sustained positive impact on campus, their academic specialties and the world.

[5] Dr. Thomas M. Woodfin served as Visiting Assistant Professor (1987-1988), Lecturer (1988), Assistant Professor (1988-1994), and Associate Professor (1994-2010), retiring from Texas A&M University in December 2010. He was later rehired as Executive Professor, serving in that role from 2019-2025.

System Member Honoree	Years of Service	Current Rank	Title Conferred	Effective Date
TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE				
Dr. Al B. Wagner	49	Professor and AgriLife Extension Specialist	Professor and AgriLife Extension Specialist Department of Horticultural Sciences Emeritus	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
Ms. Donna Alexander	31	Assistant Agency Director and Chief Financial Officer	Assistant Agency Director and Chief Financial Officer Emeritus	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OFFICES				
Maria L. Robinson	28	Chief Investment Officer and Treasurer	Chief Investment Officer and Treasurer Emeritus	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement
TEXAS A&M VETERINARY MEDICAL DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY				
Dr. Martin Ficken	16	Resident Director	Resident Director Emeritus	Upon Approval by the Board and the Honoree's Retirement

Agenda Item No. 7.7

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Susan Ballabina, Ph.D., Executive Vice Chancellor
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. 7.7

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor
December 22, 2025

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,

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Dr. James Hurley, President
Tarleton State University

[SIGNED BY]

Richard M. Rhodes, President
Texas A&M University-Central Texas

[SIGNED BY]

Tomikia P. LeGrande, President
Prairie View A&M University

[SIGNED BY]

Mark J. Rudin, President
East Texas A&M University

[SIGNED BY]

Thomas D. Williams, Interim President
Texas A&M University

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

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

UNIVERSITY Officer's Name	Title	Hire Date
EAST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY		
Jennifer L. Jongsma	Peace Officer	12/15/2025
PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY		
Patrick Arnett	Peace Officer	09/22/2025
Faladrick Brown	Peace Officer	09/24/2025
James Canales	Peace Officer	12/08/2025
Alberto Casarez	Peace Officer	09/22/2025
Johnnie Freeman	Peace Officer	12/08/2025
Devin Nguyen	Peace Officer	10/01/2025
Lloyd Powell	Peace Officer	09/15/2025
Angelis Sanoguel	Peace Officer	11/17/2025
Shelia Wilson-Herrera	Peace Officer	11/10/2025
TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY		
Gregory Neal	Peace Officer	11/04/2025
James Wilsey	Peace Officer	12/17/2025
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY		
Travis Brewster	Peace Officer	12/05/2025
Clifford Chambers IV	Peace Officer	12/05/2025
James Chang	Peace Officer	12/05/2025
Shawnee Vaughn	Peace Officer	12/05/2025
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS		
Joseph Gallegos	Peace Officer	09/15/2025

Agenda Item No. 7.8

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Joe Elabd, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor for Research
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval for Dr. Giridhar Athrey, System Employee, to Serve as an Employee, Officer, and Member of the Board of Managers of Perspicax, LLC, a Business Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System

Proposed Board Action:

Approve for Dr. Giridhar Athrey, Associate Professor and Associate Department Head for Undergraduate Education at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) and Texas A&M AgriLife Research (AgriLife) to serve in his individual capacity as an employee, officer, and board of managers of Perspicax, LLC, a business entity that proposes to enter into a license agreement with The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) for software developed by Dr. Athrey.

Background Information:

Dr. Giridhar Athrey is an Associate Professor and Associate Department Head for Undergraduate Education at Texas A&M and AgriLife. Dr. Athrey is the author, which is a work for hire under the U.S. Copyright Act, of "Curriculum (Ai)ssist," an artificial intelligence-enabled curriculum mapping and alignment software tool that utilizes large language models to translate raw curriculum materials into structured mappings across program objectives and strategic goals, and created in his capacity as a Texas A&M faculty member. This software has applications in streamlining the assessment of whether a credentialed program curriculum is delivering on stated objectives and identifying areas for improvement.

Perspicax, LLC was founded by Dr. Athrey in August 2025, and he serves as Managing Member/CEO and owner. Perspicax, LLC desires to enter into a license agreement with the A&M System for the "Curriculum (Ai)ssist" intellectual property. Perspicax, LLC will further develop and commercialize this software tool, with the goal of making it commercially available to academic institutions, including those within the A&M System, with Dr. Athrey as Managing Member/CEO, which results in a financial conflict of interest.

Financial conflicts of interest have been evaluated under System Regulation *15.01.03, Financial Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Research*. A financial conflict of interest management plan has been issued by the A&M System Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Research Compliance Officer, in cooperation with Texas A&M, to mitigate those conflicts of interest that might arise given Dr. Athrey's financial interests with and fiduciary responsibility to Perspicax, LLC, and his role as an employee of Texas A&M and AgriLife. Any financial conflicts of interest in research that may arise in the future will be managed by Texas A&M.

Dr. Athrey's request for permission for external professional employment under System Regulation *31.05.01, Faculty Consulting and/or External Professional Employment* has been approved.

Pursuant to Texas Education Code §51.912 and Section 1.2 of System Regulation *17.01.08, Outside Activities – Business Entities Having an Intellectual Property Agreement with the System*, Board of Regents approval is required for Dr. Athrey to serve in his individual capacity as an employee, officer, and member of the board of managers and owner of Perspicax, LLC.

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 of enabling the A&M System to provide services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and support the mission of Texas A&M. Approval will enable the A&M System to license intellectual property developed by Dr. Athrey to Perspicax, LLC, which will enable Perspicax, LLC to make commercially available an artificial intelligence-enabled curriculum mapping and alignment software tool, expanding the curricula evaluation options of those in the state of Texas and elsewhere.

Agenda Item No. 7.8

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research
December 22, 2025

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

Subject: Approval for Dr. Giridhar Athrey, System Employee, to Serve as an Employee, Officer, and Member of the Board of Managers of Perspicax, 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. Giridhar Athrey, an employee of Texas A&M University and Texas A&M AgriLife Research, to serve in his individual capacity as an employee, officer, and member of the board of managers of Perspicax, 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. Athrey."**

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Joe Elabd, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Research

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Agenda Item No. 7.9

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Joe Elabd, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor for Research
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval for Dr. Arun Srinivasa and Dr. Krishna Narayanan, System Employees, to Serve as Employees, Officers, and Members of the Board of Directors of Encando.AI, Inc., a Business Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System

Proposed Board Action:

Approve for Dr. Arun Srinivasa, a Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Associate Dean for Student Success, and J.N. Reddy Chair in Applied Mechanics at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) and Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES), and Dr. Krishna Narayanan, a Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the Sanchez Endowed Chair at Texas A&M and TEES, to serve in their individual capacities as employees, officers, and members of the board of directors of Encando.AI, 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. Srinivasa and Dr. Narayanan.

Background Information:

Dr. Srinivasa earned his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley in 1991. He joined Texas A&M as faculty in 1997 and is now a Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Associate Dean for Student Success, and J.N. Reddy Chair in Applied Mechanics at Texas A&M and TEES. Dr. Srinivasa's research interests include simulation of manufacturing processes, fracture and damage to biomaterials, material structural responses, thermomechanics, and design and dynamics of active compliant mechanisms.

Dr. Narayanan earned his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1998. He joined Texas A&M as faculty the same year and is now a Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the Sanchez Endowed Chair at Texas A&M and TEES. His research interests include information theory, coding theory, machine learning, signal processing, and building reliable communication networks.

Encando.AI, Inc. was founded in March 2025. Both Drs. Srinivasa and Narayanan have ownership interests in and serve as Directors with Encando.AI, Inc. Encando.AI, Inc.'s planned commercial product will be a proprietary software platform focused on training, short courses, adult learning, and student/faculty interaction, the intellectual property rights to which are assigned to A&M System and for which Drs. Srinivasa and Narayanan are inventors and authors, which is a work for hire under the U.S. Copyright Act. Encando.AI, Inc. desires to enter into a license agreement with the A&M System for this intellectual property. Drs. Srinivasa and Narayanan are requesting approval to serve on the Encando.AI, Inc.'s Board of Directors to continue the refinement and commercialization of the software platform. Due to Drs. Srinivasa and Narayanan being Directors of Encando.AI, Inc. that will commercialize the technology, there are financial conflicts of interest.

Financial conflicts of interest have been evaluated under System Regulation *15.01.03, Financial Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Research*. A financial conflict of interest management plan has been issued by the A&M System Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Research Compliance Officer, in cooperation with Texas A&M and TEES, to mitigate those conflicts of interest that might arise given Drs. Srinivasa and Narayanan's financial interests with and fiduciary responsibilities to Encando.AI, Inc., and their roles as employees of Texas A&M and TEES. Any financial conflicts of interest in research that may arise in the future will be managed by Texas A&M and TEES as appropriate.

Drs. Srinivasa and Narayanan's requests for permission for external professional employment under System Regulation *31.05.01, Faculty Consulting and/or External Professional Employment* have been approved.

Pursuant to Texas Education Code §51.912 and Section 1.2 of System Regulation *17.01.08, Outside Activities – Business Entities Having an Intellectual Property Agreement with the System*, Board of Regents approval is required for Drs. Srinivasa and Narayanan to serve in their individual capacities as employees, officers, and members of the board of directors of Encando.AI, Inc.

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 of enabling the A&M System to provide services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and support the mission of Texas A&M. Approval will enable the A&M System to license intellectual property developed by Drs. Srinivasa and Narayanan to Encando.AI, Inc., which will enable Encando.AI, Inc. to commercialize educational products and platforms that incorporate this intellectual property, improving the educational management opportunities of those in the state of Texas and elsewhere.

Agenda Item No. 7.9

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research
December 22, 2025

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

Subject: Approval for Dr. Arun Srinivasa and Dr. Krishna Narayanan, System Employees, to Serve as Employees, Officers, and Members of the Board of Directors of Encando.AI, 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. Arun Srinivasa and Dr. Krishna Narayanan, employees of Texas A&M University and Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station, to serve in their individual capacity as employees, officers, and members of the board of directors of Encando.AI, 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 Drs. Srinivasa and Narayanan."**

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Joe Elabd, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Research

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Agenda Item No. 7.10

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Joe Elabd, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor for Research
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval for Aaron Thibault, System Employee, to Serve as an Employee, Officer, and Member of the Board of Directors of Gamebridge, Inc., a Business Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System

Proposed Board Action:

Approve for Aaron Thibault, Associate Professor of Practice and Director of Games and Esports 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 Gamebridge Inc., a business entity that proposes to enter into a license agreement with The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) for software developed by Mr. Thibault.

Background Information:

Mr. Aaron Thibault is an Associate Professor of Practice and Director of Games and Esports in the College of Performance, Visualization and Fine Arts at Texas A&M. Mr. Thibault is the author, which is a work for hire under the U.S. Copyright Act, of a virtual disaster day gaming software called "Calamity Crew," which allows first responders and others to virtually practice disaster response scenarios, created in his capacity as a Texas A&M faculty member.

Gamebridge, Inc. was founded by Mr. Thibault prior to joining Texas A&M in 2024, and he serves as CEO and owner. Gamebridge, Inc. desires to enter into an exclusive license agreement with the A&M System for the "Calamity Crew" intellectual property. Gamebridge, Inc. will further develop and commercialize this platform, with the goal of making it commercially available to the public, with Mr. Thibault as CEO of Gamebridge, Inc., which results in a financial conflict of interest.

Financial conflicts of interest have been evaluated under System Regulation *15.01.03, Financial Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Research*. A financial conflict of interest management plan has been issued by the A&M System Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Research Compliance Officer, in cooperation with Texas A&M, to mitigate those conflicts of interest that might arise given Mr. Thibault's financial interests with and fiduciary responsibility to Gamebridge, Inc., and his role as an employee of Texas A&M. Any financial conflicts of interest in research that may arise in the future will be managed by Texas A&M.

Mr. Thibault's request for permission for external professional employment under System Regulation *31.05.01, Faculty Consulting and/or External Professional Employment* has been approved.

Pursuant to Texas Education Code §51.912 and Section 1.2 of System Regulation *17.01.08, Outside Activities – Business Entities Having an Intellectual Property Agreement with the System*,

Board of Regents approval is required for Mr. Thibault to serve in his individual capacity as an employee, officer, and member of the board of directors of Gamebridge, Inc.

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 of enabling the A&M System to provide services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and support the mission of Texas A&M. Approval will enable the A&M System to license intellectual property developed by Mr. Thibault to Gamebridge Inc., which will enable Gamebridge Inc. to make commercially available software for virtual disaster planning and response scenarios, expanding the disaster response preparation options of those in the state of Texas and elsewhere.

Agenda Item No. 7.10

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research
December 22, 2025

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

Subject: Approval for Mr. Aaron Thibault, System Employee, to Serve as an Employee, Officer, and Member of the Board of Directors of Gamebridge, 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. Aaron Thibault, employee of Texas A&M University, to serve in his individual capacity as an employee, officer, and member of the board of directors of Gamebridge, 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. Thibault."**

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Joe Elabd, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Research

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Agenda Item No. 7.11

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Joe Elabd, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor for Research
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval for Dr. Swaminathan Gopalswamy, System Employee, to Serve as an Employee, Officer, and Member of the Board of Directors of Engineered Mechatronics, Inc., a Business Entity that Proposes to License Technology from The Texas A&M University System

Proposed Board Action:

Approve for Dr. Swaminathan Gopalswamy, Research Professor in Mechanical Engineering at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) and Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) to serve in his individual capacity as an employee, officer, and member of the board of directors of Engineered Mechatronics, 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. Gopalswamy.

Background Information:

Dr. Swaninatan Gopalswamy is a Research Professor in Mechanical Engineering at Texas A&M and TEES. Dr. Gopalswamy is one of the inventors of technology called "Sensor-Health-Aware Resistant Fusion" that combines data from multiple sensors while being aware of a sensor's performance and adjusting for degradations. Broadly, this technology is one of several specific capabilities that when combined, provide situational awareness. There are many prospective applications, including in oversight of construction projects, where identification and classification of objects around a subject is desired.

Engineered Mechatronics, Inc. was founded by Dr. Gopalswamy prior to joining Texas A&M and TEES, and he serves as CEO and co-owner. Engineered Mechatronics, Inc. desires to enter into a license agreement with the A&M System for the "Sensor-Health-Aware Resistant Fusion" intellectual property. Engineered Mechatronics, Inc. will further develop and commercialize this technology, with the goal of making it commercially available, since Dr. Gopalswamy is the CEO of Engineering Mechatronics, Inc., which results in a financial conflict of interest.

Financial conflicts of interest have been evaluated under System Regulation *15.01.03, Financial Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Research*. A financial conflict of interest management plan has been issued by the A&M System Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Research Compliance Officer, in cooperation with Texas A&M and TEES, to mitigate those conflicts of interest that might arise given Dr. Gopalswamy's financial interests with and fiduciary responsibility to Engineered Mechatronics, Inc., and his role as an employee of Texas A&M and TEES. Any financial conflicts of interest in research that may arise in the future will be managed by Texas A&M and TEES.

Dr. Gopalswamy's request for permission for external professional employment under System Regulation *31.05.01, Faculty Consulting and/or External Professional Employment* has been approved.

Pursuant to Texas Education Code §51.912 and Section 2 of System Regulation *17.01.08, Outside Activities – Business Entities Having an Intellectual Property Agreement with the System*, Board of Regents approval is required for Dr. Gopalswamy to serve in his individual capacity as an employee, officer, and member of the board of directors of Engineered Mechatronics, Inc.

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 of enabling the A&M System to provide services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and support the mission of Texas A&M. In particular, approval will enable the A&M System to license intellectual property developed by Dr. Gopalswamy to Engineered Mechatronics, Inc, which will enable Engineered Mechatronics, Inc. to make commercially available patented technology furthering the utility of situational awareness, expanding the construction oversight options of those in the state of Texas and elsewhere.

Agenda Item No. 7.11

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research
February 5, 2026

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

Subject: Approval for Dr. Swaminathan Gopalswamy, System Employee, to Serve as an Employee, Officer, and Member of the Board of Directors of Engineered Mechatronics, 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. Swaminathan Gopalswamy, an employee of Texas A&M University and Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station, to serve in his individual capacity as an employee, officer, and member of the board of directors of Engineered Mechatronics, 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. Gopalswamy."

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Joe Elabd, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Research

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Agenda Item No. 7.12

EAST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
December 3, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, February 2026,
East 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 East Texas A&M University as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 26-02."**

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Mark J. Rudin
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

ITEM 7.12
EXHIBIT

EAST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
BACKGROUND OF FACULTY
RECOMMENDED FOR ACADEMIC TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 26-02

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Name	Present Rank Department	Yrs. Towards Tenure* Univ.	 Other Inst.	Effective Date Tenure
Dr. Fabio Ambrosio	Professor Law (Tax)	0	11	Upon Approval by the Board
Ph.D. (2020)	University of Washington			
Fa 2013 – Sp 2017 Fa 2017 – Sp 2024 Fa 2025 – Present	Pacific Lutheran University Central Washington University East Texas A&M University		Assistant Professor Associate Professor Professor	

Dr. Ambrosio has had a successful academic career. His career has included exceptional performance as a teacher, researcher, and servant leader. He has excelled in both large and small classes and taught online and face-to-face. East Texas A&M University does not currently have any full professors in accounting which creates a void in mentoring our more junior faculty. As a former Research Professor at University of South Carolina Aiken, his experience will bring valuable experience to the team. Dr. Fabio Ambrosio is an extensively credentialed accounting scholar and teacher. He has taught graduate and undergraduate accounting for more than 12 years. Additionally, the breadth and depth of his teaching experience are noteworthy. He is licensed in Tax Law. He holds accounting credentials as a Certified Public Accountant, a Certified Fraud Examiner, IRS Enrolled Agent, and a Chartered Global Management Accountant.

Additionally, he is a Certified Financial Planner, a Master Analyst in Financial Forensics, and a Certified Valuation Analyst. His degrees and industry credentials provide him with the breadth of knowledge desirable for a full professor. He is an internationally recognized tax scholar with a strong research record supportive of being a professor at an R2 research institution. He has served a vital role in securing reaffirmations of accreditation and degree program management. He brings vita experience and knowledge in Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business accreditation standards. His service has spanned curriculum development, personnel, and budget. He has supported the faculty in his roles on faculty senate.

To the best of our knowledge, Dr. Ambrosio 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.

Name	Present Rank Department	Yrs. Towards Tenure* Univ.	 Other Inst.	Effective Date Tenure
Dr. Atefeh Yazdanparast Ardestani	Marketing	0	13	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival

Ph.D. (2012)	The University of North Texas	
Fa 2012 – Sp 2018 Fa 2018 – Sp 2020 Fa 2020 – Fa 2025 Sp 2026	University of Evansville University of Evansville Clark University East Texas A&M University	Assistant Professor Associate Professor (Tenured 2018) Associate Professor Professor

Dr. Yazdanparast Ardestani has demonstrated strong skills and abilities in teaching, research, and service. Her past performance supports an appointment as a full professor with tenure. She has proven herself to be a highly successful leader within her discipline and at universities. She has been awarded two leadership awards. Dr. Yazdanparast Ardestani has maintained a very strong research record spanning 15 years. Her successful research indicates her ability to support the university's maintenance of R2 status and helps to continue to strengthen the university's research portfolio. She will be an excellent faculty mentor for her department. She has published 35 academic research articles, with 15 in the past five years. Her research routinely appears in respected journals. She has developed a strong pipeline of work in progress. She has received seven research awards. Additionally, she has been successful in securing grants. She has obtained nine total grants, with three research development grants.

Dr. Yazdanparast Ardestani has strong teaching skills. She has a very extensive knowledge of current business trends and skills needed in industry. She will be able to help the faculty modernize the curriculum and prepare students for their future careers. She has been honored with six teaching awards. She has continuously improved her skills by gaining current relevant business knowledge through training and certifications. Dr. Yazdanparast Ardestani has been a tireless contributor of service to the universities where she has been and to her academic discipline. She has been awarded five service awards.

To the best of our knowledge, Dr. Yazdanparast Ardestani 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.

Name	**Present Rank** **Department**	**Yrs. Towards Tenure*** **Univ.**	 **Other Inst.**	**Effective Date** **Tenure**
Dr. Syed Zaidi	Professor Accounting	0	13	Upon Approval by the Board
Ph.D. (2012)	The University of Texas at El Paso			
Fa 2012 – Sp 2015 Fa 2015 – Sp 2016 Fa 2016 – Sp 2018 Fa 2018 – Sp 2019 Fa 2019 – Sp 2022 Fa 2022 – Sp 2025 Fa 2025 – Present	California State University San Marcos Midwestern State University California State University San Marcos California State University San Marcos Louisiana State University Louisiana State University East Texas A&M University		Assistant Professor Assistant Professor Assistant Professor Associate Professor (Tenured 2018) Associate Professor Professor (Tenured 2022) Professor	

Dr. Zaidi has had a successful academic career spanning more than a decade. His commitment to teaching, research, and service are strong indicators to support full professor and tenure. East Texas A&M University does not currently have any full professors in accounting, which creates a void in mentoring our more junior faculty. As a former full professor at Louisiana State University Shreveport, his background will bring valuable experience to the team. Dr. Zaidi was previously awarded an endowed professorship. He has been a consistent developer of new courses and new course content for both the graduate and undergraduate curricula. Additionally, he has taught more than a dozen different classes.

Dr. Zaidi holds several industry credentials in addition to his PhD. He is a Certified Management Accountant and a Financial and Management Accounting Associate. He brings strong technical skills to his accounting knowledge, helping to strengthen the university's STEM positioning in accounting. He is a Certified Scrum Master and a Professional Scrum Master. He is also a Certified Fraud Examiner and holds an Intuit credential in Federal Tax. These industry-recognized credentials bring depth to our programs.

Dr. Zaidi has maintained a steady research record. His successful research indicates his ability to support the university's maintenance of R2 status. He will be able to effectively mentor junior faculty. These are important skills for a tenured full professor.

He has served in support of his discipline with positions as Director, Vice President, Program Chair, and Executive Committee member. He has held important university leadership roles, including Department Chair and Interim Associate Dean.

To the best of our knowledge, Dr. Zaidi 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 SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Name	**Present Rank** **Department**	**Yrs. Towards Tenure*** **Univ.**	 **Other Inst.**	**Effective Date** **Tenure**
Dr. Ricardo Teixeira	Professor Mathematics	0	12	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
Ph.D. (2010)	The University of Texas at Austin			
Fa 2013 – Sp 2019 Fa 2011 – Sp 2015 Sp 2026	University of Houston - Victoria University of Memphis East Texas A&M University	Assistant Professor Associate Professor Professor		

Dr. Ricardo Teixeira's career as a mathematician spans more than 20 years in higher education, during which he has built an exemplary record of quality teaching, impactful research, and distinguished service. His contributions have earned him tenure and promotion to the rank of Full Professor within the University of Houston System.

His teaching record is particularly noteworthy, with 39 distinct undergraduate and graduate courses taught across Mathematics and Physics, serving both majors and non-majors. He has developed or redesigned 17 courses and supervised two master's theses. In research, Dr. Teixeira has produced more than 20 peer-reviewed

journal publications, delivered over 30 presentations at conferences and seminars, and authored four textbooks. Notably, his book *Mathemagics: A Magical Journey Through Advanced Mathematics – Connecting More Than 60 Magic Tricks to High-Level Math* was recognized by BookAuthority.org as one of the top 20 books on advanced linear algebra and listed by WorldScientific.com among the top 10 bestsellers in mathematics in 2020, alongside works by internationally renowned scholars.

Dr. Teixeira's service record is equally strong. He has served on numerous institutional committees, chaired both standing and ad hoc committees, delivered public presentations in his area of expertise, actively participated in professional societies, reviewed submissions for academic journals, and engaged broadly in service to his profession and community. Given the depth and breadth of his accomplishments in teaching, research, and service, strong supportis warranted for Dr. Teixeira's tenure and promotion to Full Professor at East Texas A&M University.

To the best of our knowledge, Dr. Teixeira 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.

Agenda Item No. 7.13

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Mark J. Rudin, President
East Texas A&M University

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

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at East Texas A&M University (ETAMU) leading to a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Applied Sport Analytics**,** 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 B.S. in Applied Sport Analytics is designed to equip students with the skills to analyze and interpret data within the sports industry. By integrating Business Analytics, Mathematics, and Sport Management, the program offers a comprehensive curriculum that addresses the growing demand for data-driven decision-making in sports. Students will learn how to apply analytical tools and statistical methods to assess performance, manage operations, and develop strategies in various sports organizations.

The rationale for adding this program lies in the increasing reliance on analytics in the sports sector. As teams, leagues, and organizations seek to optimize performance, enhance fan engagement, and streamline operations, the need for professionals trained in sport-specific analytics is on the rise. This program positions graduates to meet the industry demand, enhancing the university's reputation for providing innovative and relevant educational opportunities.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The proposed B.S. in Applied Sport Analytics will not increase costs as the necessary resources, including courses, faculty, lab space, and office support, are already established on campus. New costs during the first five years are estimated at $2,092,126.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) This Item Advances:

The proposed B.S. in Applied Sport Analytics strategically addresses multiple of The Texas A&M University System imperatives by creating an innovative academic pathway that expands educational opportunities and workforce preparedness. The program directly supports Imperative 1 by providing a targeted, specialized degree that offers qualified students a unique pathway in the rapidly evolving sports industry. Aligned with Imperative 3, the curriculum is designed to prepare students as career-ready professionals, equipping them with advanced analytical skills. The program also supports Imperative 5 by responding to the economic needs of Texas, particularly in technology-driven industries where data analysis skills are increasingly valuable.

Agenda Item No. 7.13

EAST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 8, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Applied Sport Analytics, 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 East Texas A&M University leading to a Bachelor of Science in Applied Sport Analytics.

The Board also authorizes submission of East 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,

[SIGNED BY]

Mark J. Rudin
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

East Texas A&M University
Bachelor of Science
with a major in Applied Sport Analytics
(CIP 30.7101.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Health and Human Performance within the College of Education and Human Services

The proposed Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Applied Sport Analytics is a distinctive interdisciplinary program housed in the Department of Health and Human Performance. It stands out due to its unique collaboration across three disciplines—Business Analytics, Mathematics, and Sport Management—from three different colleges, allowing students to develop comprehensive skills that span multiple fields. This interdisciplinary approach ensures that students receive a well-rounded education, combining the analytical rigor of business and mathematics with the practical application of sport management. This collaboration enhances student success by providing them with diverse perspectives and equipping them with a competitive edge in the sports industry, where data-driven decision-making is crucial for performance optimization and business strategy.

The educational objectives of the B.S. in Applied Sport Analytics are to:

- Develop students' proficiency in using analytical tools and methods to interpret sports data and inform decision-making.
- Equip students with a deep understanding of both the business and mathematical principles behind sport analytics, fostering interdisciplinary thinking.
- Prepare students for successful careers in the sports industry by offering hands-on experience through capstone projects and internships, where they can apply their learned knowledge to real-world challenges.

The program consists of 120 semester credit hours (SCH), with 42 SCH dedicated to the Texas Core Curriculum and the remainder split across courses from Business Analytics, Mathematics, and Sport Management. Students will also round out their degree with elective courses to provide additional specialization and breadth to their education. In their final year, students will participate in a capstone course as well as an internship to gain valuable practical experience in the field of sport analytics, ensuring they are well-prepared for the demands of the industry. The program's integration of theoretical knowledge with applied learning ensures that graduates are equipped for various professional roles in the rapidly evolving sports sector.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2026.

East Texas A&M University (ETAMU) certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117 regarding need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards and costs. New costs during the first five years are estimated to be $2,092,126.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

The employment outlook for graduates of the proposed B.S. in Applied Sport Analytics is promising, as data-driven decision-making continues to become a critical aspect of the sports industry. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the demand for roles related to data analysis, such as statisticians and data scientists, is expected to grow by 36% from 2021 to 2031, which is significantly faster than the average for all occupations. Additionally, the sports industry is increasingly relying on analytics for player performance, injury prevention, fan engagement, and business operations, creating more specialized opportunities for graduates in this field.

The Texas Workforce Commission echoes this trend – 53% increased employment from 2022 to 2032 in Texas – highlighting the growing need for professionals skilled in data analysis across various sectors, including sports. In Texas, where sports play a significant cultural and economic role, the demand for sport analytics professionals is expected to remain strong, particularly in metropolitan areas such as Dallas-Fort Worth and Houston, which are home to several major sports organizations.

Graduates of this program can expect to pursue careers as sports analysts, data scientists, performance analysts, business operations analysts, and more, within organizations such as professional sports teams, collegiate athletic departments, and sports technology firms. With the growing reliance on analytics in sports, the job market for graduates is anticipated to expand, providing numerous opportunities in both Texas and beyond.

B. Projected Enrollment

The projected enrollment in the first year is 32 students and the program will add an additional 40 students every year with a 25% attrition rate. This estimate is based on the unique interdisciplinary nature of the program, which is expected to attract students interested in sports, data analysis, and business. Initially, the program is expected to attract strong interest from current students in these, as well as related fields. For comparison, 2024 fall enrollment totaled 84 students in ETAMU's BBA in Business Analytics program and 106 students in the BS Sport and Recreation Management. Enrollment for the proposed BS in Applied Sport Analytics is projected to reach 111 students by Year 5.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
New Students	32	40	40	40	40
Returning Students	0	24	48	67	71
Total Students	32	64	88	107	111

C. Existing State Programs

Two public institutions in Texas offer bachelor's degrees under the Data Analytics CIP code (30.7101.00) -- Stephen F. Austin University and Texas State University. Stephen F Austin State University offers a BS in Data Analytics housed in the College of Sciences

& Mathematics. Fall enrollment at Stephen F. Austin for the most recent year in which data is available totaled 11 students. Enrollment data is not yet available for Texas State University's two programs in Business Analytics and Data Analytics, which were slated to begin in fall 2025 and fall 2026, respectively.

Other institutions in the state offer related programs but do not include a focus on sports analytics. For example, Texas A&M University offers programs related to sports management and business analytics but does not offer a direct sports analytics undergraduate degree. Students in these programs typically focus on either sport operations or general data science, not the specific intersection of analytics and sports.

Graduates from related fields in business and analytics number in the hundreds each year, though specific graduates in a sport-focused analytics track would be minimal. The University of Texas at Austin offers a data science program and an Analytics and Business of Sports minor, but it does not have a dedicated undergraduate sport analytics program. The focus of the program remains on broader analytics or business applications rather than specifically sports. The University of Texas at Arlington and the University of North Texas offer undergraduate programs in Business Analytics, with course content in business analytics and information systems, but not sport analytics.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

The proposed program will be supported entirely by existing faculty across the Departments of Mathematics, Management, Marketing & Management Science, and Health and Human Performance, with no additional personnel costs required. One core faculty member from Health and Human Performance will teach in the program. Nine additional support faculty across the three disciplines will also be utilized to teach courses in Math, Business Analytics, and Sport Management. No part-time faculty will be hired to teach in the new program.

B. Program Administration

The proposed B.S. in Applied Sport Analytics will be administered in the Department of Health and Human Performance within the College of Education and Human Services with no additional administrative costs anticipated.

C. Other Personnel

Current personnel in Health and Human Performance, Business Analytics, and Mathematics satisfy the requirements for this proposed degree. The program's share of institutional costs for existing administrative salaries will be $212,812.

D. Supplies, Materials

Each department currently has the budgeted and necessary costs associated with the proposed new program.

E. Library

No new library resources are needed. Current journals, books, and supplemental materials are current and meet the needs of faculty and students.

F. Equipment, Facilities

Courses will utilize current classrooms and laboratories. No new facilities or renovations are required at this time. The program's share of institutional facility costs for the first five years will be $307,395.

G. Accreditation

Specific accreditation is not required and sought at this time.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS			SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty**	$1,571,919		Formula Income (Less Statutory Tuition)*	($296,668)
Program Administration			Statutory Tuition (Less Set-Asides)	1,474,576
Graduate Assistants			Designated Tuition (Less Set-Asides)	1,169,145
Supplies & Materials			Reallocation**	$0
Library & IT Resources			Course Fees – Online Fee	17,520
Equipment, Facilities	307,395			
Institutional Administrative Support	212,812			
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$2,092,126		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$2,364,573

* Based on 2024-2025 rates

** Faculty expense is a new reallocation to this program

Agenda Item No. 7.14

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Mark J. Rudin, President
East Texas A&M University

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

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at East Texas A&M University (ETAMU) leading to a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Mechanical Engineering**,** 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 BS in Mechanical Engineering prepares students to apply mathematical and scientific principles to the design, development, and operational evaluation of mechanical and thermal systems. The proposed program responds to the growing demand for mechanical engineers across multiple industries, including aerospace, automotive, energy, biomedical, and advanced manufacturing. The program supports regional economic development in East Texas and the DFW Metroplex by supplying a skilled workforce equipped to address complex engineering challenges, drive innovation, and contribute to sustainable technological advancement. It also enhances the university's STEM portfolio and aligns with national priorities in infrastructure, automation, and clean energy.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The proposed BS in Mechanical Engineering is projected to require $1,733,900 in new expenditures over five years to support three new faculty, two teaching laboratories, supplies and materials, and the costs of seeking accreditation. These costs will be fully supported by the expected revenue of $1,927,346 from formula funding, statutory and designated tuition, and graduate differential tuition, net of mandatory set-asides.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Offering the BS in mechanical engineering program at ETAMU will ensure that all qualified students have access to a place within The Texas A&M University System (A&M System), expanding educational opportunities in a high-demand field through a local, accessible pathway (Imperative 1). As one of the more affordable regional institutions within the A&M System, offering the program will provide students from rural East Texas to the DFW Metroplex with the opportunity to earn an engineering degree at an accessible cost (Imperative 2). In support of Imperative 5, the program aligns with the needs of the state economy.

Agenda Item No. 7.14

EAST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 10, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Mechanical Engineering 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 East Texas A&M University leading to a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering.

The Board also authorizes submission of East 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,

[SIGNED BY]

Mark J. Rudin
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

East Texas A&M University

Bachelor of Science
with a major in Mechanical Engineering
(CIP 14.1901.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: College of Science and Engineering, Department of Engineering & Technology

A Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Mechanical Engineering prepares individuals to apply mathematical and scientific principles to the design, development and operational evaluation of physical systems used in manufacturing and end-product systems used for specific uses, including machine tools, jigs and other manufacturing equipment; stationary power units and appliances; engines; self-propelled vehicles; housings and containers; hydraulic and electric systems for controlling movement; and the integration of computers and remote control with operating systems.

In accordance with the standards set forth by the Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) of ABET, graduates of the Mechanical Engineering program will have:

- an ability to identify, formulate, and solve complex engineering problems by applying principles of engineering, science, and mathematics.
- an ability to apply engineering design to produce solutions that meet specified needs with consideration of public health, safety, and welfare, as well as global, cultural, social, environmental, and economic factors.
- an ability to communicate effectively with a range of audiences.
- an ability to recognize ethical and professional responsibilities in engineering situations and make informed judgments, which must consider the impact of engineering solutions in global, economic, environmental, and societal contexts.
- an ability to function effectively on a team whose members together provide leadership, create a collaborative and inclusive environment, establish goals, plan tasks, and meet objectives.
- an ability to develop and conduct appropriate experimentation, analyze and interpret data, and use engineering judgment to draw conclusions.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2026.

East Texas A&M University (ETAMU) certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117 regarding 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 national and regional demand for bachelor-prepared mechanical engineers remains strong and continues to grow across key industries. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (2025), employment of mechanical engineers is projected to increase by 11%

through 2033, a rate much faster than the average for all occupations. This robust outlook reflects the expanding need for engineers with expertise in automation, advanced manufacturing, renewable energy systems, and digital design technologies. The projected growth rate is even more pronounced within Texas and the ETAMU service region. The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) (2024) forecasts a 15.7% growth rate (1,277 absolute change) through 2032 for mechanical engineers in the manufacturing sector and a 24% growth rate (1,309 absolute change) in Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services occupations over the same period.

Regionally, the labor markets within the East Texas, North Central, and Dallas areas are expected to experience growth of 12.8% (55 positions), 20.8% (242 positions), and 23.48% (556 positions) respectively through 2032. Research of the regional job market supports these projections. An Indeed search of the Dallas–Fort Worth and surrounding areas yielded more than 200 current job postings requiring a mechanical engineering degree. Additionally, the TWC (2024) regional occupational profile reported an average of 370 mechanical engineering job postings per month between March 2024 and March 2025 within the ETAMU service region.

B. Projected Enrollment

The mechanical engineering enrollment projections are based ETAMU's historical data on the implementation of electrical, industrial, and construction engineering programs. The following table shows the projected enrollment.

Year	Change of Major/ Transfers	New Students	Attrition	Graduation	Cumulative Headcount	Cumulative FTSE (New only)
1	10*	20	0	0	30	26
2	10**	25	11†		54	47
3	10**	30	18†	3	76	67
4	10**	40	22†	6	98	86
5	10**	50	28†	12	118	103

**Represents students transferring from Construction Engineers and Industrial Engineering majors. It is believed the number of students changing majors will be minimal in year 2 and beyond.*

***Represents transfer students from transfer agreements from regional community / junior colleges*

†Represents a projected 40% attrition between Freshman and Sophomore, 30% attrition between Sophomore and Junior, and 20% between Junior and Senior years

Graduation numbers based upon actual graduation rates from the first 5 years of the Construction Engineering program

The FTSE was based upon the actual 5-year FTSE average (87.7%) for the existing engineering programs at ETAMU.

C. Existing State Programs

There are 24 ABET-approved BS Mechanical Engineering programs in Texas (THECB, 2025). The programs in nearest proximity to ETAMU include the University of North Texas (UNT) (90 miles), the University of Texas at Dallas (UT Dallas) (69 miles), the University of Texas at Arlington (UT Arlington) (86 miles), and the University of Texas at Tyler (UT Tyler) (84 miles). From 2022 to 2024, these institutions awarded mechanical engineering bachelor's degrees as follows: UNT awarded 91, UT Dallas awarded 212, UT Arlington awarded 118, and UT Tyler awarded 68. Other bachelor's degree programs in mechanical engineering are offered within the A&M System, including Prairie View A&M University, Tarleton State University, Texas A&M University, Texas A&M University-

Corpus Christi, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Texas A&M University-Texarkana, and West Texas A&M University.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

The BS in Mechanical Engineering will be taught by three (3) core faculty and four (4) supporting faculty. The estimated cost for new faculty hires is $857,619 (over 5 years).

Name of Core Faculty and Faculty Rank	**Highest Degree and Awarding Institution**	**Courses Assigned in Program**	**% Time Assigned**
New Faculty Fall 2026	Ph.D. Mechanical Engineering	ME 210, ME 211, ME 320, ME 321 ME 330	100%
New Faculty Fall 2026	Ph.D. Mechanical Engineering	ME 340, ME 350 ME 360, ME 420, ME 430	100%
New Faculty Fall 2027	Ph.D. Mechanical Engineering	ME 470, ME 471 ME 4XX	100%
Name of Support Faculty and Faculty Rank	**Highest Degree and Awarding Institution**	**Courses Assigned in Program**	**% Time Assigned**
*Dr. Burchan Aydin, Head and Associate Professor	Ph.D. Industrial Engineering, Texas Tech University	Department Head, Administrative ENGR 2304[2]	20% Administrative 10%[2]
Dr. Aymin Elzohairy, Associate Professor	Ph.D. Structural Engineering, Univ of Missouri-Columbia	CONE 331[1]	10%[1]
Dr. Gerald Fudge, Assistant Professor	Ph.D. Electrical Engineering, Univ of Texas at Dallas	ENGR 110[2], ENGR 213[2]	20%[2]
Dr. Perry Moler	Ph.D. Tech Mgmt, Indiana State University	ENGR 1304[2], ENGR 113[2]	20%[2]

[1]Couses taught concurrently with the Construction Engineering Program
[2]Couses taught concurrently with the all engineering and Technology Management Programs

B. Program Administration

There will be no additional administrative costs required with the addition of this degree program. The program will be housed within the existing Department of Engineering and Technology within the College of Science and Engineering.

C. Other Personnel

No additional personnel are expected to be required at the outset of the degree program, as existing faculty and instructional resources are sufficient to support the planned curriculum and projected enrollment. Staffing needs will be reevaluated based on program growth and programmatic demands.

D. Supplies, Materials

Customary supplies and materials have been budgeted in the amount of $20,000 per year to ensure the effective implementation and operation of the Mechanical Engineering program. In addition to standard office and instructional supplies, the budget includes funding for laboratory consumables, software licenses, and related materials.

E. Library

The ETAMU library collection includes more than 900,000 monographs, 95,000 serials volumes, and over 1,000,000 microforms. Electronic resources include 190 databases, 64,000 journals, and over 230,000 e-books. Existing resources already serve the engineering disciplines that exist within the portfolio. It is anticipated that there will be no additional costs.

F. Equipment, Facilities

It will be necessary to establish and fully equip two foundational teaching laboratories: 1) Fluid Mechanics and 2) Thermodynamics. Basic equipment for program implementation has been identified and will be purchased over a two-year period with university designated funds, donations, and extramural funding, with an estimated cost of $395,000.

G. Accreditation

The Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) of ABET is the leading accreditation agency for engineering programs. Curriculum for Mechanical Engineering is designed to meet the needs of the profession as described by The Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) of ABET (2025). The existing engineering and computer science programs at ETAMU are accredited by ABET. ETAMU will seek ABET accreditation for the BS Mechanical Engineering program, with an estimated cost of $150,000.

III. NEW 5 YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS			SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	$659,707		Formula Income	$136,188
Benefits	197,912		Statutory Tuition	642,250
ABET/Travel/Misc	150,000		Designated Tuition	1,408,840
Supplies & Materials	100,000		(Less Mandatory Set Asides)	-(259,931)
Labs, Equipment, Facilities	395,000			
Overhead	231,281			
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$1,733,900		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$1,927,347

Agenda Item No. 7.15

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Mark J. Rudin, President
East Texas A&M University

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Public Health Program with a Major in Epidemiology and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at East Texas A&M University (ETAMU) leading to a Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) in Epidemiology, 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:

ETAMU is seeking approval to offer an M.P.H. degree in Epidemiology. The proposed program will provide advanced training in disease prevention, health data analysis, and public health research. Students will develop expertise in biostatistics, epidemiological methods, and modern analytical tools while engaging in practical fieldwork and research. The curriculum emphasizes critical thinking, data-driven decision-making, and professional development. This specialized program prepares graduates for leadership roles in government agencies, non-profit organizations, academia, and research institutions addressing contemporary public health challenges through evidence-based approaches. The ongoing success of the university's existing M.P.H. degree with a focus on Community Health has highlighted increasing interest in advanced public health training, and the Epidemiology program responds to this demand by enhancing the university's capacity to educate students in core analytic and methodological areas of the field.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Institutional funds will be used to support the proposed M.P.H. in Epidemiology. The new costs for the first five years will not exceed $2 million.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed Epidemiology program aligns with The Texas A&M University System's (A&M System) Strategic Imperatives by expanding pathways for qualified students and working professionals to pursue advanced public health training (#1). Its flexible online and face-to-face format keeps tuition affordable and ensures accessibility for Texans from diverse backgrounds (#2). Through a rigorous, data-driven curriculum, graduates will be equipped for meaningful global careers as engaged citizens (#3). The program strengthens cross-disciplinary collaboration and contributes to the A&M System's research priorities in disease prevention and health policy (#4). By addressing health needs across both urban and rural populations, it supports the state's broader economic and social well-being (#5). Finally, leveraging existing faculty and resources demonstrates prudent financial stewardship and ensures long-term sustainability (#6).

Agenda Item No. 7.15

EAST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 10, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Public Health Program with a Major in Epidemiology, 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 East Texas A&M University leading to a Master of Public Health in Epidemiology.

The Board also authorizes submission of East 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,

[SIGNED BY]

Mark J. Rudin
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

East Texas A&M University

Master of Public Health
with a major in Epidemiology
(CIP 26.1309.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Health and Human Performance within the College of Education and Human Services.

The proposed Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) in Epidemiology at East Texas A&M University (ETAMU) will prepare graduates with specialized training in disease investigation, health data analysis, and research-driven public health practice. It will expand access to graduate education, particularly for working professionals and students in rural and underserved areas through a flexible online format complemented by hybrid and face-to-face options at ETAMU's Dallas instructional site that will reduce geographic and scheduling barriers. The M.P.H. in Epidemiology offers a curriculum that strengthens analytical skills and enhances career opportunities in government agencies, healthcare organizations, research institutions, and nonprofit sectors. The program emphasizes applied learning, interdisciplinary collaboration, and workforce readiness, ensuring that graduates are well-equipped to address evolving public health challenges and make meaningful contributions to the field.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Apply epidemiological methods and study designs to investigate disease patterns and outbreaks.
2. Collect, analyze, and interpret public health data using statistical and computational tools.
3. Evaluate public health programs and policies to improve population health outcomes.
4. Communicate research findings effectively to professional and public audiences.
5. Integrate social, environmental, and behavioral determinants into epidemiological practice.
6. Demonstrate ethical, culturally competent, and collaborative leadership in public health settings.

The program requires 42 semester credit hours (SCH) with no special tracks/concentrations. The curriculum includes 15 SCH of core courses, 18-SCH of epidemiology core courses, 6 SCH of a required practicum experience, and a 3 SCH elective course.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2026.

ETAMU certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 2, Subchapter F, Rule §2.117 regarding 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

Public health agencies have experienced a significant workforce decline—by as many as 50,000 workers between 1980 and 2000—even as the U.S. population continues to grow, and projections from the Association of Schools of Public Health estimate that 250,000 additional public health workers will be needed to address emerging threats such as infectious disease outbreaks and natural disasters.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of epidemiologists is projected to grow 19% between 2023 and 2033—substantially faster than the 4% average for all occupations. The Texas Workforce Commission (2024) similarly cites a projected growth of 26.8%. Furthermore, in Texas, public health departments, healthcare systems, and nonprofit organizations have identified shortages in data-driven roles, particularly in regional health districts and urban health systems. The de Beaumont Foundation (2023) estimates that the U.S. needs an additional 80,000 public health workers to deliver foundational services, with epidemiology and biostatistics among the most critical areas of shortage. Overall, these trends underscore the importance of epidemiological expertise across government agencies, nonprofit organizations, healthcare systems, and research institutions—ultimately placing graduates of an M.P.H. in Epidemiology in a favorable position within the job market, both regionally and nationwide.

B. Projected Enrollment

Enrollment projections for the M.P.H. in Epidemiology are informed by previous steady interest as well as current enrollment for the existing Epidemiology track of the M.P.H. degree. The existing M.P.H. – Community Health track which launched five years ago has demonstrated steady annual growth—averaging 15 to 20% year-over-year increases and reaching 35 active students by Year Five.

The current Epidemiology track currently has 10 students who will be moved to the new program. Using this as a baseline, the proposed standalone Epidemiology program anticipates moderate but consistent growth as awareness of the specialization increases and efforts to market the program are implemented. For purposes of this proposal, full-time status is defined as taking 9 SCH or more per term, and part-time status is fewer than 9 SCH. Also, graduation estimates are based on a typical two-year, including summer (full-time) or three-year (part-time) completion schedule.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Students Returning from Previous Year	0	4	10	16	23
New Students	5	10	12	15	15
Total Number of Students	5	14	22	31	40
FTSE	3	9	15	22	30
Attrition Following Current Year	0	1	2	3	4
Graduates During Current Year	0	3	6	10	12

C. Existing State Programs

The proposed M.P.H. degree is the most common graduate-level degree awarded by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) accredited schools and programs of public health. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's program inventory lists two universities and four health-related institutions that offer an Epidemiology degree. Those offering specific M.P.H. in Epidemiology similar to the proposed program include: Baylor University, Texas A&M University Health Science Center, The University of Texas Health Science Center Houston, UT Medical Branch at Galveston, and the University of North Texas Health Science Center (UNTHSC). The closest institution is UNTHSC in Fort Worth. Program delivery for these institutions ranges from in-person, hybrid and 100% online. A closer look at the UNTHSC program, shows that they have a 100% employment rate for M.P.H. graduates. UNTHSC has an online Professional option M.P.H. where eligibility requires having a previous advanced degree, be enrolled in another graduate level program or have three or more years of experience.

QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

The program will be supported by a combination of core and support faculty. A new Assistant Professor in Epidemiology will be hired to teach the specialized courses in epidemiological methods, data analysis, and disease. The current M.P.H. program Epidemiology track has existing core and support faculty teaching the core public health courses and electives which will continue with the standalone program as outlined in the following table. This structure leverages interdisciplinary expertise while maintaining sustainability and instructional excellence. Initially, no additional part-time faculty will be needed but as the program grows and courses need to be offered more than once a year, one adjunct professor may be added in year 4 or 5.

Faculty	**Cost**	**Courses Assigned**	**% Time Assigned to Program**
CORE FACULTY			
Elizabeth Wachira, Department of Health & Human Performance	No new cost; existing faculty	HHPH 512, 536, 537, 587 Electives: HHPH 544, HHPH 550, HHPH 510	36%; Teach core & elective courses
New Hire Assistant Professor in Epidemiology	Hired for Fall 2026 $70,000	HHPH 517, 520, 521, 522, 528, 530,	40%; Teach concentration courses in epidemiology and advanced data analysis
SUPPORT FACULTY			
Steve Prewitt, Department of Health & Human Performance	No new cost; existing faculty	HHPH 595	6%; Teach Research Methods Course
Economics Professor		ECO 557	6%; Teach elective course
Biological Sciences Professor		BSC 504	6%; Teach core course
Business Analytics Professor		BUSA 526 BUSA 547	6%; Teach core & elective courses

B. Program Administration

The program will utilize current administration services. No new additions will be needed. The program will be administratively housed in the Department of Health and Human Performance within the School of Nursing and Health Sciences.

C. Other Personnel

The new faculty hire will have a Graduate Assistant.

D. Supplies, Materials

No additional supplies or materials are required.

E. Library

No additional annual costs for library resources are anticipated.

F. Equipment and Facilities

No new equipment or facilities will be needed. The program's share of institutional facility costs for the first five years will be $246,426.

G. Accreditation

The program will also seek accreditation with CEPH. The timeline for accreditation includes submitting the self-study in Year 3 and receiving a final accreditation decision by Year 5, with estimated costs of up to $38,000.

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS			**SOURCES OF FUNDING**	
Faculty Salary & Benefits	$394,538		Formula Income (Less Statutory and Non-Res Statutory Tuition)	$13,394
Graduate Assistants	50,000		Resident & Non-Resident Statutory Tuition (Less Set-Asides)	574,814
CEPH Accreditation	38,000		Designated Tuition (Less Set-Asides)	300,139
Facilities & Equipment	246,426		Graduate Differential Tuition (Less Set-Asides)	99,072
Other (Institutional Administrative Support)	24,372		Distance Education Fee	77,400
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$753,336		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$1,064,819

Agenda Item No. 7.16

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Mark J. Rudin, President
East Texas A&M University

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Engineering and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at East Texas A&M University (ETAMU) leading to a Master of Science (M.S.) in Engineering**,** authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval, and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information

The M.S. in Engineering prepares individuals to apply mathematical and scientific principles to solve a variety of practical problems in industry. The program includes an engineering core along with specialization track options in different fields of engineering. Adding this program will expand advanced engineering capacity in a high-demand region, strengthening the talent pipeline for Texas industry and supporting the university's research and economic development mission.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The proposed program is projected to require $345,281 in new expenditures over five years to support program administration, graduate and research assistantships, and student scholarships, with no additional faculty costs anticipated due to existing instructional capacity. These costs will be fully supported by expected revenue from formula funding, statutory and designated tuition, and graduate differential tuition. The program is projected to generate a positive financial margin, ensuring long-term sustainability while expanding graduate engineering capacity and strengthening the university's research mission.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Establishing a high-quality engineering graduate program in East Texas and the Dallas–Fort Worth region will support Imperative 1 by ensuring qualified Texans can pursue advanced engineering degrees within The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) without geographic or financial barriers. In support of Imperative 2, the program will provide an accessible and cost-effective graduate engineering option at a regional A&M System campus, supporting rural and first-generation student success while strengthening workforce development across the state. The MS in Engineering capitalizes on ETAMU's recent Carnegie R2 designation by expanding graduate research, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, and advancing the university's trajectory toward Emerging Research University status (Imperative 4). To advance Imperative 5, the program directly addresses Texas' critical engineering talent shortage and aligns with statewide goals (Closing the Gaps, 60x30TX) and Governor-identified technology clusters requiring advanced engineering capacity.

Agenda Item No. 7.16

EAST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 10, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Engineering, 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 East Texas A&M University leading to a Master Science in Engineering.

The Board also authorizes submission of East 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,

[SIGNED BY]

Mark J. Rudin
President

Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved For Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

East Texas A&M University

Master of Science
with a major in Engineering
(CIP 14.0101.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: College of Science and Engineering, Department of Engineering & Technology

As the first graduate engineering program at East Texas A&M University (ETAMU), this advanced degree is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills to apply mathematical and scientific principles in solving complex, real-world challenges across diverse industries. The program features a rigorous engineering core complemented by specialization tracks in key engineering disciplines, offering students the opportunity to tailor their education to their career goals and emerging industry needs.

The Educational Objectives will equip graduates with the following:

1. Advanced Technical Competency
   Graduates will demonstrate advanced knowledge and application of engineering principles within their chosen track (Construction, Electrical, or Industrial) to solve complex real-world problems and contribute to technological innovation.
2. Effective Communication and Leadership
   Graduates will develop strong written, oral, and interpersonal communication skills to lead multidisciplinary teams, manage engineering projects, and interact effectively with diverse stakeholders.
3. Research and Innovation
   Graduates will engage in research or applied project work that fosters innovation, supports industry needs, and advances knowledge in their field of specialization.
4. Ethical and Sustainable Practice
   Graduates will apply ethical decision-making, professional standards, and sustainability principles in the design, development, and implementation of engineering solutions.

The Master of Science (M.S.) in Engineering program requires the successful completion of 36 semester credit hours (SCH). Students may choose between a thesis or non-thesis track to best align with their academic and professional goals. All students will complete an 18 SCH interdisciplinary core designed to provide a strong foundation in advanced engineering principles, research methods, and professional practices. Following the core, students will pursue specialized coursework in one of three concentration areas: Electrical Engineering, Construction Engineering, or Industrial Engineering.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2026.

ETAMU certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117 regarding 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

According to Lightcast labor market intelligence data (2025), the demand for skilled engineers is on the rise both in Hunt County and across Texas. With specialized tracks in Construction Engineering, Electrical Engineering**, and** Industrial Engineering, the program will equip students with advanced technical skills to meet evolving industry needs. The following highlights local and statewide job growth:

Civil Engineers (Construction Track)

- *Hunt County*: Expected growth of **26.2%** over the next 10 years.
- *Texas*: **12.7%** growth; over **1,100 job postings** statewide.
- 9.5% of professionals hold a master's degree.

Electrical Engineers

- *Hunt County*: Projected growth of **17.2%**.
- *Texas*: **14.4%** growth; **849 job postings** statewide.
- 7.3% of professionals hold a master's degree, highlighting the advantage of graduate-level credentials.

Industrial Engineers

- *Hunt County*: Growth of **22.2%** expected.
- *Texas*: **17.7%** growth; **1,700 job postings** statewide, among the highest demand in the field.
- 11.1% of professionals in this field hold a master's degree.

Mechanical Engineers (applicable through electives or cross-disciplinary preparation)

- *Hunt County*: **24.5%** projected growth.
- *Texas*: **16.8%** growth; **1,193 job postings** statewide.
- While only .5% hold a master's, graduate credentials can distinguish candidates in a competitive market.

B. Projected Enrollment

Enrollment projections for the M.S. in Engineering program are based on a gradual and sustainable growth model aligned with existing undergraduate engineering enrollments. The projected enrollment accepts a 20% yield in year 1 of eight students. An attrition rate of 27% and a two-year graduation rate of 62% is assumed. The following table shows the projected enrollment.

Year	New Students	Attrition	Graduating Students	Cumulative Enrollment
Year 1	8	0	0	8
Year 2	12	2	0	18
Year 3	15	3	5	25
Year 4	20	4	7	33
Year 5	25	5	9	43

C. Existing State Programs

The following table shows the approved M.S. in Engineering programs in Texas. According to data in the THECB Accountability System (2025), in fall 2024 there were 596 students enrolled in an M.S. in Engineering program in public universities, and 279 Master degrees were awarded in fall 2024.

Institution	Program Name	CIP Code	Fall 2024 Enrollment	Fall 2024 Degrees Awarded
Lamar University	ENGINEERING	14.0101.00	332	158
Prairie View A&M University	ENGINEERING	14.0101.00	20	11
Texas A&M University	ENGINEERING	14.0101.00	63	56
Texas A&M-Corpus Christi	ENGINEERING	14.0101.00	9	--
Texas State University	ENGINEERING	14.0101.00	101	25
Texas Tech University	ENGINEERING	14.0101.00	19	21
The University of Texas at El Paso	ENGINEERING	14.0101.00	7	1
West Texas A&M University	ENGINEERING	14.0101.00	45	7

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

The existing full-time faculty with appointments in the Department of Engineering and Technology will deliver the curriculum for the M.S. in Engineering degree program. No additional faculty hires are anticipated at this time; however, future hiring will be considered as justified by increased enrollment. Existing core faculty includes eight tenure/tenure-track faculty and two instructors (all hold doctoral degrees).

B. Program Administration

There will be no additional administrative costs required with the addition of this degree program. The program will be housed within the existing Department of Engineering and Technology within the College of Science and Engineering.

C. Other Personnel

Graduate assistants will be employed to provide instructional and research support, assisting with laboratory supervision, tutoring, and faculty-led research initiatives to enhance student learning and program effectiveness. Based on enrollment projections, the program anticipates the need to hire one to two graduate assistants starting in year 2, with the number growing to approximately four to six graduate assistants within five years as enrollment expands.

D. Supplies, Materials

Because the MS in Engineering program will utilize existing laboratories, classrooms, and equipment, no significant new capital expenditures are anticipated. The primary recurring costs will be for instructional supplies, software licenses, and general program support. Estimated annual costs are estimated at $15,000-$20,000.

E. Library

The ETAMU library collection includes more than 900,000 monographs, 95,000 serial volumes, and over 1,000,000 microforms. Electronic resources include 190 databases, 64,000 journals, and over 230,000 e-books. Existing resources already serve the engineering disciplines that exist within the portfolio. It is anticipated that there will be no additional costs.

F. Equipment, Facilities

The program will utilize existing laboratories, classrooms, and equipment. No significant new capital expenditure is anticipated.

G. Accreditation

ABET is the accrediting body for engineering programs. However, there is no accreditation at the graduate level.

I. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS			SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty[1]	$ 0.00		Formula Income	$257,081
Supplies/Materials/ Program Administration	75,000		Statutory Tuition (Less Set Asides)	97,155
Graduate Assistants + Benefits	52,500		Designated Tuition (Less Set Asides)	221,614
Research Assistantships	35,000		Graduate Differential Tuition (Less Set Asides)	73,152
Scholarships	40,000			
Overhead	142,781			
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$ 345,281		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$649,002

Notes: [1] No New Faculty & Staff Salaries or Benefits (Reallocated Resources)

Agenda Item No. 7.17

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Mark J. Rudin, President
East Texas A&M University

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Sports Science and Data Analytics and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at East Texas A&M University leading to a Master of Science (M.S.) in Sports Science and Data Analytics**,** authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval, and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information:

The proposed M.S. in Sports Science and Data Analytics integrates academic, practical, and research skills for data-driven decision-making. This program enables students to master sports science analytics with an emphasis on data acquisition, statistical modeling, predictive analytics, big data, and visualization techniques for effective application in the field.

The rationale for adding this program lies in the increasing reliance on analytics in the sports sector. As athletes, sports teams, and organizations seek to optimize performance, the need for professionals trained in sport-specific analytics is on the rise. This program positions graduates to meet the growing industry demand.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The proposed M.S. in Sports Science and Data Analytics will not increase costs as the necessary resources, including courses, faculty, lab space, and office support, are already established on campus. New costs during the first five years of the program are estimated at $573,411.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed M.S. in Sports Science and Data Analytics aligns with the mission of The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) by expanding academic pathways through an innovative, interdisciplinary program that prepares them for emerging careers at the intersection of human performance and technology (Imperative 1). This collaboration expands access for qualified students seeking innovative programs that prepare them for emerging careers at the intersection of human performance and technology. The program's emphasis on applied learning, data literacy, and evidence-based practice ensures graduates are equipped to thrive as responsible and engaged professionals in an increasingly data-driven global economy (Imperative 3). Furthermore, by fostering collaboration between colleges and advancing research in sports science, analytics, and artificial intelligence, the program directly supports the A&M System's goal of building a robust and cross-disciplinary research portfolio (Imperative 4).

Agenda Item No. 7.17

EAST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 8, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Sports Science and Data Analytics 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 East Texas A&M University leading to a Master of Science in Sports Science and Data Analytics.**
>
> **The Board also authorizes submission of East 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,

[SIGNED BY]

Mark J. Rudin
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

East Texas A&M University
Master of Science
with a major in Sports Science and Data Analytics
(CIP 26.0913.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Health and Human Performance within the College of Education and Human Services

The proposed Master of Science (MS) in Sports Science and Data Analytics is a distinctive interdisciplinary program housed in the Department of Health and Human Performance. It stands out due to its unique combination of Sports Science and Computer Science – a collaboration between two colleges – allowing students to develop comprehensive skills that span these fields. It is designed to provide students with a rigorous foundation in sports science, data acquisition, management, and preparation methodologies, ensuring they develop the technical capacity to handle complex datasets effectively. Building on this foundation, students will apply statistical analysis, data visualization, and predictive analytics to interpret data, generate insights, and inform decision-making processes. Central to the program is the promotion of evidence-based practices that cultivate advanced data literacy skills, empowering graduates to critically evaluate information and apply it in professional contexts. In addition, the curriculum emphasizes the integration of technical competencies with disciplinary expertise by preparing students to identify and apply a diverse set of skills, roles, and functions across the sport industry. These skills include specialized knowledge in sports science, exercise physiology, biomechanics, and sport management, thereby equipping students with a comprehensive and interdisciplinary understanding of the field.

The educational objectives of the MS in Sports Science and Data Analytics are to:

- Develop students' proficiency to integrate advanced physiological and biomechanical principles with data analytics techniques to assess, optimize, and enhance athletic performance across diverse sports disciplines.
- Equip students with knowledge on programming, statistical analysis, and artificial intelligence (AI) applications as applied to practical challenges in sports science.
- Prepare students for successful careers in the sports industry by offering hands-on experiences, where they can apply their learned knowledge to real-world challenges.

The program consists of 36 semester credit hours (SCH); 23 SCH from courses within the Department of Health and Human Performance and 13 SCH from courses within the Department of Computer Science and Information Systems. Students are also required to complete a practicum to gain applied experiences in the industry. The program's interdisciplinary and applied nature ensures that graduates will be equipped for various analytical roles in the rapidly evolving sports industry.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2026.

East Texas A&M University certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117 regarding need, quality, financial and

faculty resources, standards, and costs. New costs during the first five years are estimated to be $573,411.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

The expanding role of data analytics in sports organizations highlights a critical shift in how information is leveraged to maintain a competitive advantage. Increasingly, decision-makers in coaching, athletic training, kinesiology, performance analysis, and sport management rely on data-driven insights to optimize performance and strategy. Students pursuing these career paths now expect academic programs to integrate advanced technological and analytical training that prepares them for this evolving landscape.

These trends suggest strong student demand for a program that intentionally bridges the gap between sports science and applied analytics. The global sport analytics market is projected to exceed $6 billion by 2030, fueled by expanding applications across professional teams, collegiate athletics, healthcare, and fitness technology sectors. Emerging trends include wearable and sensor-based data collection for athlete monitoring, predictive analytics to enhance performance and reduce injury risk, and strategic modeling in sport management and marketing.

At the regional level, employers in collegiate athletics, physical therapy, public health, and K–12 school districts are increasingly seeking graduates who can interpret, contextualize, and apply sport-specific data in meaningful ways. By preparing graduates with expertise at the intersection of sports and analytics, the proposed program will directly respond to these industry needs while positioning students for success in a rapidly growing job market.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Data Scientists may earn as much as $112,590, with a job outlook of 36% increase. Computer and Information Research Scientists can earn up to $140,910, with a job outlook of 26% increase. Specific industry specialists, such as a Sports Scientist, earn approximately $89,243.

B. Projected Enrollment

The proposed program is expected to begin with a cohort of five students in the first year, with an additional 10 to 13 new students per year thereafter, and a 20% attrition rate. This growth trajectory is supported by three primary recruitment pools: current students in the exercise science track within the MS in Health, Kinesiology, and Sports Studies; recent graduates of a BS program in Kinesiology, Exercise Science, or Computer Science; and professionals in the sport and health industries seeking advanced training in analytics. The current exercise science track within the MS in Health, Kinesiology, and Sports Studies enrolls approximately 10 new students per year. This track will be replaced by the proposed MS in Sports Science and Data Analytics.

C. Existing State Programs

In comparison with other Texas universities, the proposed program will occupy a distinct niche. While Rice University and the University of North Texas offer programs that integrate sport marketing with data analytics, their emphasis is either embedded within a broader data science framework (Rice) or situated as a concentration within an advanced analytics degree (UNT). Other institutions, including Texas A&M University, University

of Texas at San Antonio, and Texas State University, provide data analytics programs, but lack explicit connections to sports science. By contrast, the proposed MS in Sports Science and Data Analytics program is uniquely structured to merge comprehensive sports science training with advanced data analytics, offering a deliberately interdisciplinary approach that equips graduates with both domain-specific expertise and cutting-edge technical skills. This positioning not only distinguishes the program within the Texas higher education landscape but also ensures its graduates are exceptionally prepared to address industry needs at the intersection of sport, health, and data-driven innovation.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

Faculty	Cost	Courses Assigned in Program	% Time Assigned to Program
CORE FACULTY			
Michael Oldham, Department of Health and Human Performance	No new cost; existing faculty	HHPK 593, HHPS 657	30%
Sarah Mitchell, Department of Health and Human Performance	No new cost; existing faculty	HHPK 530, HHPK 617	30%
HoYeol Yu, Department of Health and Human Performance	No new cost; existing faculty	HHPS 556	15%
Vipa Bernhardt, Department of Health and Human Performance	No new cost; existing faculty	HHPK 545	15%
Steve Prewitt, Department of Health and Human Performance	No new cost; existing faculty	HHPK 595	15%
Omar El Ariss, Department of Computer Science	No new cost; existing faculty	AI 500, CSCI 513	30%
Kaonin Hu, Department of Computer Science	No new cost; existing faculty	CSCI 527	15%
Jinoh Kim, Department of Computer Science	No new cost; existing faculty	CSCI 556	15%
SUPPORT FACULTY			
HHP Professors	No new cost; existing faculty	HHPK 561	10%

The program will be supported by a combination of existing core and support faculty in the two departments to ensure a well-rounded and high-quality educational experience. Currently existing core and support faculty are already teaching all required courses. This structure leverages interdisciplinary expertise while maintaining sustainability and instructional excellence.

B. Program Administration

The proposed degree will be administered in the Department of Health and Human Performance within the College of Education and Human Services with no additional administrative costs expected.

C. Other Personnel

Current personnel in the Department of Health and Human Performance satisfy the requirements for this proposed degree. The program's share of institutional costs for existing administrative salaries will be $5,583.

D. Supplies, Materials

Not required.

E. Library

Each department currently has the budgeted and necessary costs associated with the proposed new program. No new library resources are needed. Current journals, books, and supplemental materials are current and meet the needs of faculty and students.

F. Equipment, Facilities

Courses will utilize current classrooms and laboratories. No new facilities or renovations are required at this time. The program's share of institutional facility costs for the first five years will be $56,450.

G. Accreditation

Accreditation is not required nor sought at this time.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS			**SOURCES OF FUNDING**	
Faculty	$393,368		Formula Income	$18,894
Benefits	118,010		Statutory Tuition (Less set-asides)	38,250
Graduate Assistants	0		Reallocation	511,378
Supplies & Materials	0		Designated Tuition (Less set-asides)	144,834
Library & IT Resources	0		Other Funding: Graduate Differential Tuition (Less set-asides)	47,808
Facilities & Equipment	56,450		Non-Resident Tuition (Less set-asides)	262,162
Other (Institutional Administrative Support)	5,583			
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$573,411		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$1,023,326

Agenda Item No. 7.18

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Mark J. Rudin, President
East Texas A&M University

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

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at East Texas A&M University leading to a Master of Public Administration**,** 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 Master of Public Administration (MPA) program is a 36-semester credit-hour, hybrid online degree designed to prepare students for careers in the public and nonprofit sectors. The rationale for the program is driven by the high, consistent workforce demand for skilled public administration graduates in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. By offering a flexible education model, the MPA is uniquely positioned to serve working professionals seeking career advancement in high-demand fields such as government administration, healthcare, and policy analysis, a need currently underserved by more geographically remote or traditionally structured programs in the region. With a focus on developing research skills and policy application, the program is a strategic addition that aligns ETAMU with the regional workforce needs and national growth trends in public service.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The primary new financial investment will be for faculty salaries. Two full-time faculty positions have been approved for hire to start in fall 2026. Other recurring costs include the annual subscription to at least one peer-reviewed journal in public administration (estimated at $865-$1,213 USD annually) and the addition of a research assistant. There are no additional costs anticipated for program administration, supplies, materials, on-site facilities, or physical equipment, as the program will be a hybrid online degree. New costs during the first five years will not exceed $2 million

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The program aligns with The Texas A&M University System Strategic Plan Imperative 3 to prepare students for successful careers in an increasingly global economy by focusing on high-demand fields such as healthcare, education, and government administration, directly responding to the robust public sector employment growth in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Furthermore, the hybrid online delivery and flexible course schedule enhance the system's commitment to remaining affordable and accessible (Imperative 2), providing a pathway for working professionals and current public service employees to obtain a graduate degree without geographic or schedule barriers, thereby contributing to the development of a highly skilled workforce in Texas.

Agenda Item No. 7.18

EAST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 10, 2025

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

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

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

"The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at East Texas A&M University leading to a Master of Public Administration.

The Board also authorizes submission of East Texas AM& 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,

[SIGNED BY]

Mark J. Rudin
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

James R. Hallmark
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

East Texas A&M University

Master of Public Administration
with a major in Public Administration
(CIP 44.0401.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Social Sciences within the College of Humanities, Social Sciences & Arts

The proposed Master of Public Administration (MPA) program at East Texas A&M University (ETAMU) is well-designed to meet the needs of students in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex (DFW) seeking a career in public service or advancement for employees seeking promotions or leadership roles. By offering a hybrid online degree program, it provides flexibility for working professionals, allowing them to balance their studies with their careers. The program focuses on preparing students for roles in high-demand fields such as healthcare, education, law enforcement, fire protection, government administration, human resources, and policy analysis, which aligns with the region's workforce needs. The DFW area has a consistent demand for skilled MPA graduates to fill professional and leadership roles in public sector organizations. The educational objectives of the MPA program emphasize a strong foundation in the theories, applications, and research skills of public administration, ensuring a comprehensive and rigorous academic experience. The program's focus on education rooted in public administration theories will ensure that students gain a deep understanding of foundational concepts, such as organizational behavior, public policy analysis, and governance structures, essential for addressing complex challenges. By incorporating both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies into the curriculum, the program will equip students with the tools to analyze data, evaluate policies, and conduct evidence-based decision-making. The emphasis on advanced writing and synthesis skills ensures students can articulate complex ideas, develop policy briefs, and produce professional reports. By focusing on applying theoretical knowledge to real-world issues in public administration—such as equity in public policy, crisis management, or technological advancements in governance—graduates are prepared to address current and emerging challenges in the field.

The proposed MPA program will require students complete 36-semester credit-hours (SCH) of graduate courses. The program is structured to be completed over four semesters, with students completing nine SCH per semester, followed by a capstone research project. The program includes a core of 24 SCH required courses and 12 SCH from one of the following concentrations: General, Non-Profit Management, Criminal Justice, Management, or Sociology. Courses are offered on a continuous rotation schedule to ensure accessibility and flexibility. Students may select to pursue the program part-time and would complete six SCH per semester with completion of coursework over six semesters.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2026.

ETAMU certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117 regarding 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

An MPA degree prepares graduates for rewarding careers across the public and nonprofit sectors, and the national job outlook is robust, with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projecting a steady 5 to 6% growth in roles like administrative services management through 2033. Employment growth is driven by increasing administrative complexity and public-sector retirements. MPA graduates are well-positioned for key roles such as Policy Analyst, Urban Planner, and Budget Analyst, with highly specialized areas like Health Services Management showing even stronger projected growth (up to 28% by 2032). The job market in Texas is strong due to rapid population growth and economic diversity, fueling high demand for Urban and Regional Planners (6% growth) and Education Administrators (11% growth by 2028). Earning potential is substantial for those with an MPA and specialization in high-demand fields like healthcare administration.

In addition to data from the BLS, information about MPA program completion data across Texas universities was identified via Lightcast, which shows a consistently strong statewide demand. The collective completion numbers were 758 in 2022, 660 in 2023, and 691 in 2024. Major research universities like Texas A&M University (127 completions in 2024) and University of Texas at Arlington (101 in 2024) serve as the primary degree producers. In contrast, regional universities, such as Lamar University and Sam Houston State University, consistently graduate student cohorts in the 15 to 30 range, suggesting that a new program at ETAMU aiming for 20 to 30 new students per year aligns with the sustainable output of established competitors. The data highlights the success of programs that offer flexible or online modalities, such as Tarleton State University, which showed significant growth from 20 to 44 completions in 2022-2024. This rapid growth validates the strategy of targeting working professionals who require flexibility, a core feature of the proposed ETAMU program. The modest but steady completion rates at universities in smaller metro areas—like Texas State University, University of Texas at Tyler, and Lamar University—reinforce that a consistent demand exists for regionally focused training outside the state's four largest urban centers.

B. Projected Enrollment

The projected enrollment for Year 1 is estimated to be 20 to 25 graduate students. In Year 2 the program would enroll an additional 20 to 30 new graduate students. This projected, moderate growth strategy is rationalized by the program's flexible structure and a comparative view of professional master's programs in Texas. The initial Year 1 target enrollment of 20 to 25 students acknowledges the challenges of a new program launch where marketing and awareness are still developing. The increase of 20 to 30 *additional* students in Year 2 reflects a planned increase in program visibility through dedicated marketing, positive student word-of-mouth, and the established success of the first cohort.

C. Existing State Programs

The proposed MPA degree differs from other Texas programs, primarily in its geographic accessibility and focus. The most distant programs are at University of Texas at San Antonio and Texas State University, both more than 300 miles southwest of the ETAMU campus, and Texas Tech University, located roughly 390 miles west. These institutions offer a two-year program (35 to 39 hours), with either comprehensive exams or thesis/non-thesis tracks. UT-Tyler and Stephen F. Austin State University, both in East Texas, approximately 100 miles and 160 miles away respectively, require 36 semester credit hours over two years and require a capstone project instead of a thesis or comprehensive exam. ETAMU is uniquely positioned to serve the DFW region with its hybrid model and career-focused concentrations, contrasting with the more geographically remote or traditionally structured programs elsewhere in the state.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

Two new core faculty will be hired in Year 1 for a five-year cost of $ 1,212,223. After two years, the program will assess its existing enrollment and projected growth in Years 3 through 5. It will aspire to add a full-time faculty member in Year 4 and one in Year 5 if the enrollment growth is greater than expected. Eventually, the MPA will seek to add a fifth hire for the sake of attaining professional accreditation. Existing faculty in Political Science, Sociology, Criminal Justice, and Business may serve as support faculty.

B. Program Administration

The MPA program is in the Department of Social Sciences within the College of Humanities, Social Sciences & Arts, overseen by Department Head, Dr. Willie Edwards. No additional program administration costs will be needed.

C. Other Personnel

One graduate research assistant will be added to support the program for a five-year cost of $52,100. The program's share of institutional costs for existing administrative salaries will be $10,337.

D. Supplies, Materials

The MPA program will be a hybrid online degree program. There are no anticipated costs for supplies and materials.

E. Library

Existing library resources are available to serve the program. The subscription to a peer-reviewed journal, *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, would cost $865 for online-only access or $1,213 for print and online access.

F. Equipment, Facilities

The MPA program will be a hybrid online degree program. No new on-site facilities or physical equipment will be needed. The program's share of institutional facility costs for the first five years will be $104,515.

G. Accreditation

The program will seek accreditation through the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA) at the earliest opportunity. NASPAA accreditation requires four full years of program operation and a minimum of five full-time faculty prior to seeking initial accreditation. We anticipate beginning to work on accreditation documentation in Year 5 with costs associated with seeking accreditation incurred beginning in Year 6 when the application is submitted.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS			SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	$ 1,212,223		Formula Income	$400,389
Research Assistants	$52,100		Statutory Tuition (Less Set Asides)	$106,845
Library	$6,065		Designated Tuition (Less Set Asides)	$243,717
Facilities & Equipment	$104,515		Graduate Differential Tuition (Less Set Asides)	$80,448
Other (Institutional Administrative Support)	$10,337		Distance Education Fee	$125,700
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$1,385,240		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$ 957,099

Agenda Item No. 7.21

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Tomikia P. LeGrande, President
Prairie View A&M University

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Sport Management and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) leading to a Master of Science (MS) in Sport Management, authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information:

The proposed MS in Sport Management program offers a curriculum focused on data analytics alongside core sport management principles, equipping students with analytical skills to interpret sports data and general management concepts to navigate the industry's complexities. This dual approach ensures graduates are well prepared to leverage data-driven insights for strategic planning, operational efficiency, and innovation, while also understanding the broader context of sports management. This blend of analytics and advanced knowledge positions students to lead and make informed decisions in the rapidly changing sports sector.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The proposed program will utilize reallocated resources from existing faculty members in the School of Public and Allied Health. New costs include salaries and benefits for three new faculty in years two, three, and four.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The MS in Sport Management offered via distance education advances Strategic Imperative 2 by providing an affordable, accessible educational online path, facilitating quicker career entry with less financial burden. This program also advances Strategic Imperative 3 by preparing graduates to significantly enhance the sport management field in the state, region, and nation.

Agenda Item No. 7.21

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 10, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Sport Management and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

"The Board of Regents approves the establishment of a new degree program at Prairie View A&M University leading to a Master of Science in Sport Management.

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

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Tomikia P. LeGrande
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

James R. Hallmark
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Prairie View A&M University

Master of Science
with a major in Sport Management
(CIP 31.0504.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: School of Public and Allied Health

The Master of Science (MS) in Sport Management at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) is a cutting-edge 30-semester credit hour (SCH) program designed to be completed in an accelerated eight-week format. This structure allows students to effectively balance their academic and professional commitments, making it an ideal choice for those looking to advance their careers in the sports industry.

An advanced degree in sport management arms students with robust skills, including strategic planning, finance, marketing, and ethical leadership, preparing them to tackle the sports industry's dynamic and competitive challenges. Graduates are equipped to lead with innovation, addressing contemporary issues such as digital engagement, global fan base expansion, and sustainability in sports. Furthermore, an emphasis on broadening representation in key leadership and decision-making roles within sport management is crucial.

The program focuses on equipping students with essential skills and knowledge in sport management, particularly emphasizing data analytics. Key educational objectives include:

- Effectively conveying data and skill-based knowledge through various forms of communication
- Leveraging data analytics to inform strategic decisions in areas such as marketing, operations, and performance management
- Work with industry professionals to gain knowledge about the management of personnel and program development of occupational needs in sport and physical activity
- Uphold ethical standards through compliance and advancement of the profession and
- Establish research skills for dissemination.

The MS in Sport Management program at PVAMU will enhance the university's academic offerings and provide students with the tools needed to excel in a competitive field. By focusing on data analytics, the program prepares graduates to meet the growing demand for data-savvy professionals in the sports industry, positioning them as valuable assets to organizations. With a focus on data analytics, students will be prepared for various career paths, including sports marketing manager, athletic director, and event coordinator, where data-driven insights can enhance operational efficiency and marketing strategies as well as opportunities in emerging fields like sports analytics, esports management, and performance analysis, reflecting the industry's evolving landscape.

The proposed MS in Sport Management requires 10 courses (30 SCH), which includes 15 SCH of required core courses, 6 SCH of sport management elective courses, 3 SCH of an unrestricted elective, and 6 SCH of a final project/capstone or internship/external learning.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2027.

PVAMU certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117 regarding 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 sport management field is experiencing rapid growth, as indicated by data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Employment in sports management roles is expected to increase by 7% from 2024 to 2029, a rate significantly higher than the 5% average growth rate for all occupations. Specifically, the entertainment and sport sector is projected to add an average of 60,600 new jobs annually over this period. In terms of compensation, the median annual salaries in 2024 for various positions within the entertainment and sports industries are as follows: $116,410 for athlete agents and managers, $78,250 for coaches and scouts, $87,526 for advertising and promotion managers within the spectator sports industry, and $48,396 for general sport management positions. Regarding regional data, Texas ranks 18th in the nation for average sport management salaries and holds the number one spot in the Southern United States.

B. Projected Enrollment

Table 1 presents enrollment projections based on demonstrated student demand. Projections consider student attrition, graduation rates, and part-time students. The table also includes cumulative headcount and full-time student equivalent (FTSE) enrollment for the first five years of the proposed program. Although we expect more students to enroll, we propose an average enrollment of 15 students in the first year of the graduate program. Each year, it is expected that new student annual enrollment will increase by 20%. Attrition rates were calculated by comparing the average rates of students from other graduate programs within the institution to those of graduate-level sport management programs across Texas and other states.

Table 1. MS Sport Management Enrollment Projections Over Five Years

Enrollment	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Full-Time					
In-state	15	17	19	22	24
Out-of-state	3	3	5	6	6
Out-of-country	0	0	0	0	0
FTSE Semester Credit Hours	18	20	24	28	30

Part-Time					
In-state	3	3	4	4	4
Out-of-state	0	0	0	0	0
Out-of-country	0	0	0	0	0
FTSE Semester Credit Hours	36	36	48	48	48
Total New Students	**21**	**23**	**28**	**32**	**34**
Total FTSE	**20**	**56**	**72**	**76**	**32**
Attrition Headcount		2	2	3	3
Graduates	0	5	7	9	10
Cumulative Headcount	**21**	**16**	**19**	**21**	**22**

C. Existing State Programs

There are 17 similar programs in Texas, including the following public universities: Sam Houston State University, Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University, and the University of Houston. However, there is an urgent need to increase the number of sport management careers and sport management related fields, especially from vulnerable and underserved populations. The proposed program will enable PVAMU, as one of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in the state, to address this issue, increase the talent pool and train future workforce in the sport management and sport management related fields. This makes the proposed program the only one offered by HBCU in the state.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

The proposed program will be housed in the School of Public and Allied Health on the main campus of PVAMU. The program will be supported by existing faculty in the School of Public and Allied Health eligible to teach graduate-level courses. Over the first five years of program implementation, the program intends to hire three Assistant/Associate Professors. These strategic moves are to bolster the program's academic and practical expertise.

B. Program Administration

The graduate program coordinator will be an existing faculty member, eligible for membership in the graduate faculty according to eligibility protocols at PVAMU. This individual will oversee the program, teach classes in the major, and provide academic advising. Administrative support will be provided by existing personnel in the Division of Kinesiology and Physical Education.

C. Other Personnel

No additional personnel will be needed to support the implementation of the program.

D. Supplies, Materials

No additional supplies and materials are required to support the MS in Sport Management program.

E. Library

PVAMU has adequate library resources, so no additional funding is requested.

F. Equipment, Facilities

New equipment or facilities are not required to execute the program.

G. Accreditation

Accreditation will be sought from the Commission of Sport Management Accreditation by fall 2032.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS			SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	$748,799		Formula Income	$760,626
Program Administration	$0		Statutory Tuition	$3,351,969
Graduate Assistants	$0		Reallocation	$706,044
Supplies & Materials	$0		Designated Tuition	$328,385
Library & IT Resources	$0		Other Funding:	
Equipment, Facilities	$0			
Other				
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$748,799		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$5,147,024

Agenda Item No. 7.22

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Tomikia P. LeGrande, President
Prairie View A&M University

Subject: 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

Proposed Board Action:

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

Background Information:

Public health remains a fast-growing career industry, allowing students several professional employment opportunities. Jobs in the public health industry require specialized skills and professionals in public health to address growing concerns such as inadequate or no health insurance, limited health education, poverty, data mining, and complex lifestyle issues affecting the population. Students who obtain a master's degree in public health can work in public health policy, environmental health, epidemiology, health education, research, healthcare consulting, and hospital administration. The proposed Master of Public Health degree increases students' opportunities to work in management, research, and leadership. It increases their qualifications to work in a more specialized area such as epidemiology, biostatistics, and informatics. In addition, these students are better prepared to successfully obtain certifications and licensures. As the first master's degree in public health program at a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) in Texas, this program can help increase recognition of PVAMU and increase the talent pool and future workforce in multiple interrelated specializations.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Estimated new costs over the first five years include salaries and benefits for three new faculty (Assistant Professor of Practice, Clinical Assistant Professor, and Associate/Assistant Professor) at 100% effort.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed program aligns with The Texas A&M University System's Strategic Plan. Specifically, the multidisciplinary nature of the proposed program will attract students from a variety of academic backgrounds (Imperative 1). The proposed program will contribute to Imperative 2 by providing students with competence in public health to compete in a global economy. Furthermore, the graduates from the proposed program will provide a pool of students to pursue Ph.D. degrees, which will promote research in the emerging areas of public health (Imperative 4). In addition, the proposed program will help meet the state's critical need for graduate degrees granted in Texas (Imperative 5).

Agenda Item No. 7.22

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 10, 2025

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

Subject: 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

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

> **"The Board of Regents approves the establishment of a new degree program at Prairie View A&M University leading to a Master of Public Health.**
>
> **The Board also authorizes submission of Prairie View A&M University's new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met."**

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Tomikia P. LeGrande
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]
Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]
Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]
James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]
R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]
Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY
Master of Public Health
Public Health
(CIP 51.2201.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: School of Public and Allied Health

As the state of Texas continues to develop programs to address longstanding negative health outcomes, implications of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the national public health agenda, it remains committed to ensuring the delivery of health care to all populations. Reports from Healthy People (2030 & 2020) and the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion outline the critical role that higher education institutions play in strengthening public health infrastructure. The most significant task is training and preparing public health professionals to understand, evaluate, and address priority health issues facing the nation. The proposed Master of Public Health (MPH) degree at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) is designed to educate and build professionals who desire to expand their academic experience in public health. The students who complete this program will learn the fundamentals of public health through an evidence-based curriculum and how to address or improve the health of communities and populations. The program follows the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) accreditation guidelines, which require all students to complete an experiential capstone activity with prescribed courses that are intended to develop public health competencies and fulfill CEPH requirements. The proposed curriculum will consist of courses in epidemiology, biostatistics, program planning, monitoring and evaluation, and social and behavioral sciences. These courses complement and enhance the existing Bachelor of Science program in Public Health at PVAMU. Overall, the proposed 42 semester credit hour (SCH) will allow the university to train students to gain much-needed competence in this promising area and provide up-to-date health promotion knowledge to satisfy the nation's workforce needs.

This is especially promising based on reports indicating that the United States spends more than any developed country on healthcare, yet U.S. health outcomes are inferior to countries that spend much less. There is an urgent need to increase the number of public health practitioners and researchers with advanced training in related fields, especially from vulnerable and underserved populations. The proposed program will address this issue, increase the talent pool, and train future workforce in data science and data engineering-related fields. Adding to our portfolio of graduate programs will better serve students with state-of-the-art knowledge and enable our faculty to expand their research and support the recently earned Research 2 (R2) status of the institution.

The MPH degree will be an accelerated program offered exclusively (100%) online. The program’s courses are designed to be completed in eight weeks. Students can start the program in spring, fall, or summer. The course load may be greater than that of traditional students. However, to ensure students stay on track and follow the program plan, a faculty advisor will be assigned to a student once they are accepted into the program.

The proposed MPH degree program will:

1. Equip students with competencies that allow students to transcend into the various settings and roles within the public health sector, including applying epidemiological and community

organizing/building skills and developing effective health promotion programs and policies that facilitate health equity.

2. Empower students to become leaders within their field and communities through supportive learning, scholarship, research, and community engagement.
3. Provide the highest quality educational experience through a curriculum designed by well-qualified faculty and public health professionals and continuous feedback from faculty, students, and community for improvement.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2027.

PVAMU certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the 19th Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117, regarding need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards, and costs.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

Public health remains a fast-growing career industry, allowing students several professional employment opportunities. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), approximately 2.4 million healthcare jobs will be available between 2019 and 2029. These jobs require specialized skills and professionals in public health to address growing concerns such as inadequate or no health insurance, limited health education, poverty, data mining, and complex lifestyle issues that are affecting the population. Students who obtain a bachelor's or master's degree in public health can work in public health policy, environmental health, epidemiology, health education, research, healthcare consulting, and hospital administration. However, a master's degree in public health increases students' opportunity to work in management and leadership levels because their qualifications are more specialized in areas such as epidemiology, biostatistics, and informatics. Also, students who obtain an MPH are trained to obtain certifications and licensures, which further increase job-related skills.

B. Projected Enrollment

Table 1 details the estimated cumulative headcount for full-time and part-time students and full-time student equivalent (FTSE) enrollment for the first five years of the proposed program.

Table 1. Master of Public Health Enrollment Projections Over Five Years

Enrollment	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Full-Time					
In-state	8	10	15	18	20
Out-of-state	1	2	3	4	5
Out-of-country	0	0	0	1	1
FTSE Semester Credit Hours	216	288	432	552	624
Part-Time					
In-state	1	2	3	4	5
Out-of-state	0	0	0	0	0
Out-of-country	0	0	0	0	0
FTSE Semester Credit Hours	12	24	36	48	60

Total New Students*	**10**	**14**	**21**	**27**	**31**
Total FTSE Semester Credit Hours	**228**	**312**	**468**	**600**	**684**
Attrition Headcount		2	2	3	3
Graduates	0	5	7	9	10
Cumulative Headcount	**10**	**7**	**12**	**15**	**18**

C. Existing State Programs

The Council on Education for Public Health reported 70 public health degree programs offered through seven universities in Texas. However, there is an urgent need to increase the number of scientists and engineers in public health, especially given that negative health outcomes are more concentrated in specific populations. PVAMU is a public HBCU offering a BS in public health in the School of Public and Allied Health; however, a master's in public health is not offered. The proposed MPH will enable PVAMU to address public health issues, increase the talent pool of public health practitioners, and train future workforce in the field of public health. This makes the proposed accelerated program the only one offered by an HBCU in the state.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

All faculty members have terminal degrees from institutions that are accredited by agencies recognized by the THECB or from equivalent institutions that are located outside the United States. The proposed program will be supported by existing faculty in the School of Public and Allied Health with a full-time coordinator, three core faculty, and other support faculty. Each core faculty member has educational and professional experience and research that contribute to the required competency in the proposed degree program. Three new faculty will be hired to support the program over the first five years.

B. Program Administration

Administrative costs for the program are embedded in the existing faculty costs and current departmental structure; therefore, no additional funding is requested.

C. Other Personnel

Execution of the program does not require the hiring of additional personnel.

D. Supplies, Materials

No additional supplies and materials are required to support the MPH program.

E. Library

PVAMU has adequate library resources, as a result, no additional funding is requested.

F. Equipment, Facilities

New equipment or facilities are not required to execute the program.

G. Accreditation

No special accreditation is required.

III. NEW 5 YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS			SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	$772,160		Formula Income	$551,182
Program Administration	$0		Statutory Tuition	$3,762,311
Graduate Assistants	$0		Reallocation	$772,160
Supplies & Materials	$0		Designated Tuition	$239,528
Library & IT Resources	$0		Other Funding:	
Equipment, Facilities	$0			
Other				
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$772,160		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$5,325,181

Agenda Item No. 7.23

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Tomikia P. LeGrande, President
Prairie View A&M University

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

Proposed Board Action:

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

Background Information:

The proposed Master of Public Policy (MPP) program at PVAMU will provide students with a robust foundation in public policy analysis, development, and implementation. The program is designed to prepare future leaders with the intellectual tools and practical skills necessary to navigate complex policy environments and drive meaningful change. Emphasizing interdisciplinary learning, the MPP will draw from criminal justice, education, health, architecture, and agriculture to ensure a well-rounded educational experience.

The addition of this degree responds to a growing demand for policy professionals who can address pressing challenges facing sectors such as the criminal and juvenile justice systems, education, public health, community agencies, and others. It will offer students a pathway to leadership roles across government agencies, nonprofits, think tanks, advocacy groups, and the private sector. The MPP program aligns with PVAMU's commitment to public service and community engagement, while expanding the university's graduate offerings in high-impact, policy-oriented fields.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The predominant expenditure for the program will be hiring faculty (salaries & benefits) during the growth of the program in five years. The program expects to hire three Assistant and Associate professors over the first five years, in addition to funding a pool of credentialed adjunct professors.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed MPP program directly supports several key imperatives outlined in The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) Strategic Plan. This interdisciplinary program is designed to equip students with critical skills in policy analysis, leadership, and evidence-based decision-making to address the most urgent challenges facing Texas and the nation.

Imperative 1. Access and Pathways

The MPP program will broaden access to graduate education for qualified students. By offering a policy-focused master's degree within the A&M System, PVAMU will help fulfill the System's commitment to creating new, coordinated educational pathways that align with student interests and workforce needs.

Imperative 2. Affordability and Accessibility

PVAMU is committed to maintaining affordability for all students. The MPP will provide a high-value educational option in public policy within a cost-effective and supportive environment, ensuring graduate-level education remains within reach for Texans.

Imperative 3. Career Readiness and Civic Engagement

Graduates of the MPP program will be equipped with the skills and experiences necessary for leadership roles in government, nonprofits, and the private sector. Through our courses, internships, and community-based projects, students will gain hands-on experience that promotes civic responsibility and prepares students for careers in a global and interconnected policy landscape.

Imperative 4. Research and Innovation

The program will contribute to the A&M System's research portfolio by supporting interdisciplinary and applied policy research on critical social issues. Faculty and student collaborations will help PVAMU be a premier, public, research-intensive HBCU that serves as a national model for student success, with research benefiting Texas communities.

Imperative 5. State Impact and Economic Contribution

Through its focus on public service and evidence-based policymaking, the MPP program will support local and state governments and other policy-driven organizations in addressing social, economic, and institutional challenges. Graduates will directly contribute to strengthening Texas's public and civic infrastructure.

Imperative 6. Financial Stewardship and Growth

The development of the MPP program reflects PVAMU's strategic and fiscally responsible approach to program expansion. The degree supports long-term institutional goals by leveraging existing faculty expertise, interdisciplinary resources, and partnerships while maintaining financial sustainability.

Agenda Item No. 7.23

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 10, 2025

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

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

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

"The Board of Regents approves the establishment of a new degree program at Prairie View A&M University leading to a Master of Public Policy.

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

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Tomikia P. LeGrande
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

James R. Hallmark
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Prairie View A&M University
Master of Public Policy
(CIP 44.0501.00)
Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: College of Juvenile Justice, Department of Justice Studies

The proposed Master of Public Policy (MPP) degree program at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) offers a unique opportunity for students to engage in interdisciplinary approaches to policy studies, equipping them with the skills needed to address critical societal issues, from juvenile justice reform to public health disparities, educational reform, and social welfare. This program is designed for those aspiring to impactful careers in public, private, and nonprofit sectors and federal, state, and local agencies, such as the Department of Justice, Department of Education, Department of Health and Human Services, and other policy-focused organizations. Additionally, graduates will be well-prepared for further academic pursuits, research-focused roles, and diverse career opportunities.

Students in the program will build a comprehensive understanding of policymaking, learning to apply critical thinking, problem-solving, decision-making, and analytical and research skills to real-world scenarios. With a curriculum that integrates criminology, criminal and juvenile justice, education, public health, and social work, students will gain the knowledge and competencies required to shape policy and positively impact communities locally and nationally.

The proposed 36 semester credit hour (SCH) MPP includes 18 SCH of public policy core courses; 12 SCH of prescribed cross-disciplinary electives; and 6 SCH of research and capstone experience.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2027.

PVAMU certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117, regarding need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards, and costs.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

Hanover Research shows that the projected 10-year labor market/employment growth in Texas for all occupations is 13.8%, and the growth for those with an MPP degree is similar at 13.7%. While this shows that this degree has similar employment growth to other fields, there are other areas to examine in terms of labor market strength. LinkedIn is a source where many employers recruit prospective employees. Using LinkedIn to complete a review showed several specific jobs that can be competitive with this degree. These included a public policy manager position which listed 3,031 positions; a public relations manager which listed 527 positions; and a government relations manager which listed 2,849 positions. This degree provides a strong foundation for managerial and other

leadership positions. Other positions attainable with an MPP include legislative aide, elected official, community outreach manager, consultant, and researcher.

B. Projected Enrollment

Over a five-year period, student enrollment in both full-time and part-time categories shows steady growth. In Year 1, full-time enrollment will consist of 10 in-state students and one out-of-state student, with no out-of-country students. This number will increase significantly by Year 5, with 34 in-state students and four out-of-state students. Similarly, part-time enrollment will start with two in-state students in Year 1 and grow to five in-state students by Year 5, with no out-of-state or out-of-country part-time students throughout the period. The total number of new students admitted each year will range from 13 in Year 1 to 20 in Years 4 and 5, indicating a positive trend in enrollment.

Table 1 projects increasing semester credit hours, demonstrating an overall expansion in academic engagement, a rising headcount, reflecting the institution's increasing capacity and retention of students over time.

Table 1. Master of Public Policy Projected Enrollment

Enrollment	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Full-Time					
In-state	10	22	26	30	34
Out-of-state	1	2	3	4	4
Out-of-country	0	0	0	0	0
FTSE Semester Credit Hours	264	576	696	816	912
Part-Time					
In-state	2	2	3	4	5
Out-of-state	0	0	0	0	0
Out-of-country	0	0	0	0	0
FTSE Semester Credit Hours	24	36	36	48	60
Total New Students*	**13**	**15**	**17**	**20**	**20**
Total FTSE Semester Credit Hours					
Attrition Headcount		2	2	2	2
Graduates	0	9	12	13	17
Cumulative Headcount	**13**	**17**	**20**	**25**	**26**

C. Existing State Programs

Several universities in the region offer graduate programs in public policy and administration. The Master of Public Policy (MPP) at the University of Houston emphasizes research, data-driven decision-making, and governance strategies to address complex societal issues. Texas A&M University, the Master of Public Service and Administration (MA) blends policy analysis with leadership training to prepare students for roles in government, nonprofits, and international organizations. The Master of Public Administration (MPA) at Sam Houston State University provides a broad curriculum in

public management, budgeting, and policy implementation. Similarly, Texas Southern University's MPA program caters to professionals aiming to advance in public service careers.

Despite the multiple programs in the Houston region, there is a gap in the existing programs that the proposed program will fulfill. PVAMU's proposed program's strength is in its interdisciplinary approach, as students can choose from a range of courses in various disciplines that include juvenile justice, community architecture, education, health, environmental studies, and nutrition. The broader approach uniquely positions graduates for roles in agencies, institutions, and organizations targeted for their personal career pathways.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

Four existing faculty will serve as core faculty, possessing relevant academic and professional experience in public policy, governance, and justice administration, and will dedicate 25% of their teaching and service responsibilities to the first year of the MPP program. In alignment with the strategic vision set forth by the President of the university, the College of Juvenile Justice will embark on the recruitment of a distinguished faculty member in Year 1 to contribute to the program's academic rigor, research excellence, and community impact. This position will play a pivotal role in teaching and mentoring public policy at the local, state, and national levels. The candidate will possess a terminal degree in Public Policy, Criminal Justice, or a closely related field and demonstrate a strong record of research and publications in public policy. The College will continue to recruit one high-caliber faculty for the position every year for the next two years. The faculty members will be expected to teach core courses within the MPP program, engage in interdisciplinary research, and contribute to service initiatives, including work as the program coordinator for the MPP.

The increase in faculty expenditure over the first three years reflects the phased hiring of additional faculty to support the program's growth and expansion. The initial years focus on staffing the program with a combination of new faculty hires and existing faculty from the College of Juvenile Justice and the Department of Justice Studies. The third year's expenditure increase is attributed to additional hires, ensuring the program meets increasing student demand and curriculum needs. The commitment to funding faculty salaries ensures the successful launch and sustainability of the MPP program while aligning with the university's strategic plan in public policy education.

B. Program Administration

The institutional expenses for the program primarily account for faculty salaries and benefits, which constitute the program's sole expenditure.

C. Other Personnel

No additional personnel are required to support the MPP program.

D. Supplies, Materials

No additional supplies or materials are needed to support the MPP program.

E. Library

PVAMU has adequate library resources to support the program, and no additional funding is requested.

F. Equipment, Facilities

No additional supplies or materials are needed to support the program.

G. Accreditation

The proposed MPP program is committed to achieving accreditation from the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA). During the first years, the program will ensure the curriculum aligns with NASPAA's core competencies and develop assessment metrics to evaluate students, faculty, and the program. The program will then conduct self-studies to assess compliance with NASPAA accreditation standards to address areas of improvement and establish a committee to oversee the preparation for accreditation. Finally, the program will apply to NASPAA, engage in the peer review processes, host evaluators, and implement any adjustments based on their feedback.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS			SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	$1,310,800		Formula Income	$573,150
Program Administration			Statutory Tuition	$4,259,487
Graduate Assistants			Reallocation	$550,350
Supplies & Materials			Designated Tuition	$283,002
Library & IT Resources			Other Funding:	
Equipment, Facilities				
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$1,310,800		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$5,665,989

Agenda Item No. 7.24

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Tomikia P. LeGrande, President
Prairie View A&M University

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science in Education Degree Program with a Major in Higher Education Administration and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

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

Background Information:

Forged in response to the critical leadership gaps identified in a landmark 2023 study by the United Negro College Fund (UNCF), this groundbreaking 30-semester credit hour MSED program addresses the urgent need for contextually responsive administrators at America's 107 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Born from collaborative efforts between HBCU alumni networks, educational policy experts, and current institutional leaders, the curriculum in the proposed program transcends traditional administrative training by interweaving universal leadership competencies with the distinctive historical resilience and community-centered approaches that have defined HBCUs since their inception. By cultivating scholar-practitioners who possess both technical expertise and contextual fluency, the program aims to reverse troubling trends in leadership turnover while creating sustainable talent ecosystems within these institutions. Graduates emerge as stewards of the HBCU legacy, equipped not only to navigate contemporary challenges like funding disparities and accreditation complexities, but also to leverage the unprecedented opportunities emerging from renewed national focus on these institutions' contributions to social mobility and educational access. Through its deliberate focus on applied research and institutional knowledge preservation, the program further serves as a vital repository for the organizational wisdom that has sustained these irreplaceable cultural treasures through nearly two centuries of service to underrepresented communities.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The proposed program will utilize existing faculty resources. Additional annual funding of $102,400 will be requested to hire one new Assistant/Associate Professor in Year One of the program.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The MSED in Higher Education Administration at PVAMU strategically aligns with several key imperatives of The Texas A&M System (A&M System) Strategic Plan in multiple significant ways:

Imperative 3: Student Success

- The program directly contributes to the Texas A&M University System's (A&M System) goal of enhancing educational opportunities by preparing skilled administrators who will improve student outcomes across higher education institutions
- Graduates will implement evidence-based approaches to strengthen student retention, progression, completion, and career mobility - core metrics within the A&M System's student success framework

Imperative 4: Building a Robust Research Portfolio

- Students' scholarly contributions will enhance the A&M System's research portfolio in higher education and institutional effectiveness

Imperative 5: Strengthening the State's Economy

- The program directly addresses the System's commitment to meeting Texas workforce needs by preparing qualified higher education administrators
- By strengthening HBCU leadership pipelines, the program supports the broader A&M System goal of developing talent that contributes to state economic vitality

Imperative 6: Financial Stewardship and Operational Excellence

- Graduates will possess specialized knowledge in resource management and institutional effectiveness, supporting the System's imperative for operational efficiency
- The program prepares administrators who can navigate complex funding challenges - a critical skill for advancing the System's financial sustainability goals

As a program housed at PVAMU - a historically significant member of A&M System - this degree offering also reinforces the A&M System's commitment to leveraging the distinctive strengths of each member institution while advancing its collective mission of service to Texas and beyond.

Agenda Item No. 7.24

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 10, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science in Education Degree Program with a Major in Higher Education Administration and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

"The Board of Regents approves the establishment of a new degree program at Prairie View A&M University leading to a Master of Science in Education in Higher Education Administration.

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

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Tomikia P. LeGrande
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Prairie View A&M University

Master of Science in Education
with a major in Higher Education Administration
(CIP: 13.0406.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Educational Leadership & Counseling, Whitlowe R. Green College of Education

The proposed Master of Science in Education (MSED) in Higher Education Administration will offer an emphasis on a prescribed core of courses that focus on Historically Black College and University (HBCU) administration. Specifically, it will be the only university in the state, and one of a few in the nation, that focuses on administrative leadership at HBCUs. The MSED in Higher Education Administration is designed to cultivate skilled administrators who will shape the future of higher education, particularly within HBCUs. This 30-semester credit hour program uniquely addresses the specialized needs of HBCU leadership while building a sustainable pipeline of talented professionals committed to advancing these institutions' distinctive missions and values.

The MSED in Higher Education Administration is designed to prepare transformative educational leaders who understand, preserve, and advance the distinct mission and contributions of HBCUs, while fostering innovation and excellence in these vital institutions through the following educational objectives:

1. **Historical Foundation and Contextual Foundation**: Analyze the historical evolution and significance of HBCUs in American higher education
2. **Strategic Leadership and Institutional Advancement**: Develop comprehensive strategic plans that honor HBCU missions while promoting innovation
3. **Student Success and Development**: Design holistic student support systems that address HBCU student needs
4. **Financial Management and Resource Development**: Create innovative resource development approaches
5. **Academic Excellence and Program Development**: Design academic programs that serve HBCU mission and student needs
6. **Community Engagement and Social Justice**: Develop programs that address social justice and equity issues
7. **Research and Assessment**: Conduct research on HBCU-specific issues and challenges
8. **Technology and Innovation**: Develop distance education programs that maintain HBCU culture
9. **Policy and Advocacy**: Create policy proposals that support HBCU advancement
10. **Professional Competence and Leadership Development**: Foster cross-cultural communication and understanding

Students will be required to enroll in two internship courses - one at an HBCU, and the other in their area of concentration.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2027.

Prairie View A&M University certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117 regarding 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 employment landscape for higher education administrators shows exceptional promise, with the Bureau of Labor Statistics projecting 8% growth nationally through 2032 and the Texas Workforce Commission forecasting even stronger 9.2% growth statewide - translating to approximately 3,700 new and replacement positions in Texas alone. This robust outlook is particularly favorable for HBCU-focused professionals, as the 101 HBCUs nationwide experience enrollment growth, program expansion, and increased federal and private funding, while simultaneously facing a significant leadership transition with 25 to 30% of senior administrators approaching retirement within five years.

Workforce demand is especially strong in student success initiatives, advancement and development, and technology integration roles, with additional opportunities emerging from corporate partnerships and federal grant programs specifically targeting HBCUs. Professional organizations like the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education, (NAFEO), United Negro College Fund, (UNCF), and the Thurgood Marshall College Fund ()TMCF) provide robust career development networks, further strengthening the long-term sustainability of the field, which offers competitive compensation with a median annual salary of $98,760 as of 2023 and particularly strong prospects for graduates with specialized expertise in the distinctive needs and operations of HBCUs like PVAMU.

B. Projected Enrollment

Projected enrollment for the proposed MSED in Higher Education Administration is likely to see steady growth, driven by increasing demand for specialized administrators in HBCU settings and a growing recognition of the unique challenges and opportunities within these institutions. Initially, enrollment may start with perhaps 15 to 20 students in the first year and could potentially double or triple by the fifth year, reaching 45 to 60 students annually. This growth trajectory is supported by the projected 4% increase in higher education administrator positions from 2022 to 2033, with about 15,300 openings anticipated each year. As the program gains recognition and establishes a strong reputation, it could become a competitive choice for those aspiring to leadership positions in HBCUs, potentially drawing students from across the country. Table 1 shows projected enrollment in the first five years of the program.

Table 1. MSED Higher Education Administration Projected Enrollment

Enrollment	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Full-Time					
In-state	20	45	48	55	68
Out-of-state			1	2	3
Out-of-country					
FTSE Semester Credit Hours	480	1080	1152	1320	1632
Part-Time					
In-state	2	3	4	5	6
Out-of-state	0	0	0	0	0
Out-of-country	0	0	0	0	0
FTSE Semester Credit Hours	24	36	48	60	72
Total New Students	**22**	**48**	**53**	**62**	**77**
Total FTSE	**504**	**1116**	**1200**	**1380**	**1704**
Attrition Headcount		2	1	2	1
Graduates		20	21	27	25
Cumulative Headcount	**22**	**26**	**31**	**33**	**51**

C. Existing State Programs

Ten Texas universities offer a master's in higher education, either as MED, MA, or MSED, but none have a focus on HBCUs. The existing programs are shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Similar Programs in Texas

Degree Title & Designation	University	CIP Code
MA Higher Education Administration	Sam Houston State	13.0406.00
MEd Educational Administration	Texas A&M University	13.0401.00
MEd Educational Administration	Texas Southern University	13.0401.00
MEd Higher Education	University of Houston	13.0406.00

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

The proposed MSED will utilize existing resources in the Department of Educational Leadership and Counseling, as several new faculty members have been hired over the past four years. In addition, several faculty and administrators outside of the department with appropriate credentials will support the program. The program anticipates hiring an Assistant/Associate Professor during year one of the program at 100%.

B. Program Administration

Administrative costs for the program are embedded in the faculty costs; therefore, no additional funding is requested.

C. Other Personnel

No additional personnel are required to support the proposed MSED program.

D. Supplies, Materials

No additional supplies and materials are required to launch the proposed MSED program.

E. Library

Prairie View A&M University has an extensive library collection of books and reference materials. Additionally, the department has multiple resources for new books and reference materials through its textbook representatives and sales personnel.

F. Equipment, Facilities

The program will be housed in the Wilhemina Delco building, which recently received extensive equipment upgrades, including technology. No additional funding is required for the proposed MSED program.

G. Accreditation

The proposed program does not require accreditation.

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS			**SOURCES OF FUNDING**	
Faculty	$ 543,655		Formula Income	$1,108,353
Program Administration			Statutory Tuition	$9,466,270
Graduate Assistants			Reallocation	$1,089,863
Supplies & Materials			Designated Tuition	$684,972
Library & IT Resources			Other Funding:	
Equipment, Facilities				
Other				
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$543,655		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$ 12,349,458

Agenda Item No. 7.25

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Tomikia P. LeGrande, President
Prairie View A&M University

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Kinesiology and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

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

Background Information:

The M.S. in Kinesiology program emphasizes the breadth in kinesiology and allied health professions. This program will provide much needed health care professionals in rehabilitation, therapy, health, wellness, and movement sciences. It equips students with the knowledge and skills to improve health needs across a wide range of communities. This strategic initiative aligns with our mission to foster equity in healthcare, providing relevant education to prepare graduates as agents of change, solving some of today's most significant health challenges.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Estimated new costs over the first five years include salaries and benefits for four new assistant/clinical/associate faculty members hired in years one, two, and three, and two graduate assistants to support the M.S. in Kinesiology program in years three, four, and five.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Imperative 1. Affordability and Accessibility: The 30-semester credit hour program provides an affordable, accessible educational path compared to typical 36-hour programs, facilitating quicker career entry with less financial burden. By breaking down financial and accessibility barriers, this offering will enhance the profession and enrich it with vital perspectives for addressing varied community health needs.

Imperative 2. Global Economy and Responsible Citizenship: Graduates will be equipped to professionally and ethically address global health challenges and contribute positively to the health and wellness sections, both locally and internationally.

Agenda Item No. 7.25

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 10, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Kinesiology and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

"The Board of Regents approves the establishment of a new degree program at Prairie View A&M University leading to a Master of Science in Kinesiology.

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

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Tomikia P. LeGrande
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]
Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]
Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]
James R. Hallmark
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]
R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]
Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Prairie View A&M University

Master of Science
with a major in Kinesiology
(CIP 31.0505.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: School of Public and Allied Health

Kinesiology encompasses a broad spectrum of disciplines, including physiology, biomechanics, psychology, and neuroscience. The relevance of the proposed Master of Science (M.S.) in Kinesiology at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) extends far beyond academia, profoundly influencing community health initiatives and the healthcare sector. By dissecting the complexities of movement and physical activity's physiological impacts, kinesiology professionals devise strategies that markedly improve both individual and community health. The field's contributions to community well-being are substantial, offering programs that elevate physical activity levels, diminish chronic disease risks, and boost mental health.

In healthcare, kinesiologists play a critical role in patient rehabilitation, chronic condition management, and overall physical wellness promotion. This underscores the importance of pursuing advanced degrees in kinesiology, providing students a pathway to specialize in impactful areas such as exercise science, sports management, rehabilitation sciences, and health promotion. Such advanced education opens diverse career avenues in sports, fitness, healthcare, and research, positioning graduates to lead and innovate within these sectors. With the growing demand for health and wellness initiatives in both communities and the healthcare system, the need for well-educated kinesiologists is set to rise, placing these professionals at the heart of solving some of today’s most significant health challenges.

Moreover, there is a pressing need in the field to effectively address the unique needs and challenges of vulnerable communities. Diverse professional backgrounds are crucial for developing health programs and interventions that resonate with and meet the specific requirements of all community sectors, particularly those not historically served. Enhanced representation ensures research, policymaking, and health interventions are accessible and tailored, thereby improving health outcomes for all populations.

Integrating data analysis into kinesiology magnifies its impact, enabling the identification of health trends and disparities through systematic data examination. This approach fosters the creation of evidence-based, personalized health programs, making interventions more effective. Data analytics skills, imbued in kinesiology education, empower professionals to conduct thorough research, assess intervention success, and tailor strategies to real-world needs. This not only bridges the theoretical and practical aspects of kinesiology but also ensures health improvements are both significant and measurable, aligning with the field’s goal to innovate and improve health outcomes across all community sectors.

The proposed M.S. in Kinesiology will be a three-semester resident program with a 30-semester credit hour (SCH) (10 courses) curriculum. The program is designed to have 18 SCH required

hours, a 3 SCH kinesiology prescribed elective, a 3 SCH prescribed elective, and 6 SCH of a culminating experience (i.e., project, internship, thesis).

Educational Objectives
The program learning objectives are preparing students to:

- Effectively communicate research, measurement, and assessment data to various stakeholders (i.e., research committees, professional organizations, clients, etc.) through oral, written, and visual forms of communication;
- Translate cognitive and fitness assessment results into appropriate exercise prescriptions;
- Uphold ethical standards through compliance and advancement in the profession; and
- Establish research skills for dissemination.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2027.

PVAMU certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117 regarding 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 robust growth in health-related professions, with Kinesiology and related fields playing a pivotal role in bridging the gap between traditional healthcare and the evolving need for a data-informed approach to health and wellness. With a projected growth rate of 10% (much faster than the average of 5% for all occupations), the demand for kinesiologists and related professions is set to rise, reflecting the necessity for professionals who can navigate the complexities of modern health challenges through evidence-based practices and data analytics. The projected numeric change in employment of kinesiologists and related occupations from 2022 to 2032 is 82,100 new jobs.

B. Projected Enrollment

Table 1 details the estimated cumulative headcount for full-time and part-time students and full-time student equivalent (FTSE) enrollment for the first five years of the proposed program.

Table 1. MS Kinesiology Enrollment Projections Over Five Years

Enrollment	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Full-Time					
In-state	12	15	18	21	26
Out-of-state	2	4	5	8	10
Out-of-country	1	1	1	1	1
FTSE Semester Credit Hours	360	480	576	720	888
Part-Time					
In-state	5	6	6	7	7
Out-of-state	0	0	0	0	0
Out-of-country	0	0	0	0	0
FTSE Semester Credit Hours	60	72	72	84	84
Total New Students	**20**	**26**	**30**	**37**	**44**
Total FTSE	**420**	**552**	**648**	**804**	**972**
Attrition Headcount		2	3	3	4
Graduates	0	8	10	12	14
Cumulative Headcount	**20**	**16**	**17**	**22**	**26**

C. Existing State Programs

In Texas, there are currently 19 programs akin to the proposed program. However, these programs fall short in addressing some communities. To fill this gap, the proposed program is designed with a strategic focus on outreach, support, and engagement strategies tailored to all communities. By doing so, it aims to cultivate a cohort of professionals equipped with the knowledge and skills to make meaningful contributions to the field and their communities.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

The proposed degree will be supported and taught by faculty from the Division of Kinesiology and Physical Education within the School of Public and Allied Health. This team will include one associate professor, three assistant professors, and a Doctor of Physical Therapy. All core faculty members are highly qualified, holding degrees that equip them with the necessary knowledge and professional experience to enhance the learning outcomes for the program's students. These faculty members have earned terminal degrees from institutions recognized by THECB or from comparable international institutions. Also, the curriculum includes elective courses taught by external faculty from their respective departments. In the first five years following the program's launch, plans include the potential hiring of four additional faculty members to broaden the range of courses available in the program.

B. Program Administration

The graduate program coordinator will be an existing faculty member eligible for membership in the graduate faculty according to eligibility protocols at PVAMU. This individual will oversee the program, teach classes in the major, and provide academic advising. Administrative support will be provided by existing personnel in the Division of Kinesiology and Physical Education.

C. Other Personnel

Two new graduate teaching assistants will be needed to support the program's courses at a cost of $90,000 over the first five years.

D. Supplies, Materials

There are no additional funds for supplies or materials needed.

E. Library

Existing library resources will be sufficient. No additional library resources are anticipated.

F. Equipment, Facilities

Existing equipment and facilities will be sufficient. No additional equipment or facilities will be needed.

G. Accreditation

The degree program will not seek accreditation.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS			SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	$1,648,133		Formula Income	$734,773
Program Administration	$0		Statutory Tuition	$5,666,889
Graduate Assistants	$90,000		Reallocation	$720,374
Supplies & Materials	$0		Designated Tuition	$336,111
Library & IT Resources	$0		Other Funding:	
Equipment, Facilities	$0			
Other				
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$1,738,133		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$7,458,147

Agenda Item No. 7.26

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Tomikia P. LeGrande, President
Prairie View A&M University

Subject: Approval of a New Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program in Food-Energy-Water Security and Sustainability and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) program at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) focusing on Food-Energy-Water Security and Sustainability (FEWSS), authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information:

PVAMU's College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (CAFNR) is advancing its land-grant mission with a research-intensive Ph.D. that prepares systems-thinkers to confront the intertwined food, energy, and water challenges. The FEWSS doctorate retains an interdisciplinary approach, integrating biophysical and social sciences, and it expands the scope to the whole nexus of resources and the policies that govern them. Students learn to diagnose complex socio-ecological problems, apply cutting-edge analytic tools, and design resilient, community-focused solutions that enable sustainability and equity in vulnerable regions. The program answers the call for "a new generation of systems thinkers" able to transcend traditional disciplinary silos and craft multifaceted interventions for climate-driven challenges.

The 54-semester credit hour (SCH) curriculum (post-master's) moves well beyond the thesis/non-thesis master's model. Doctoral scholars complete 12 SCH of core courses in advanced research methods, statistics, and sustainability perspectives; 9 SCH of prescribed electives within one of three concentration areas (Water-Energy-Food Nexus; Food, Animal & Nutrition Sciences; or Economics of Food-Water-Energy Systems); 9 SCH of free electives; 12 SCH of supervised doctoral research; and 12 SCH of dissertation hours, culminating in an oral qualifying exam, advancement to candidacy, and a public dissertation defense.

The FEWSS program is the first and only Ph.D. of its kind in Texas and the only FEWSS doctorate housed at an HBCU, filling a critical regional and national gap in graduate education. Its location at PVAMU leverages a 778-acre research farm, NIFA-funded laboratories, and a diverse faculty whose expertise spans hydrology, soil science, nutrition, sustainable management, economics, and data analytics, creating a powerful incubator for interdisciplinary discovery. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects 3 %–9 % growth in most FEWSS-related occupations between 2023 and 2033, with demand in Texas outpacing national averages. The FEWSS program will help close persistent talent gaps, support state and federal agencies, and empower industries to meet escalating sustainability goals by producing researchers and professionals in nexus thinking.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The FEWSS Ph.D. will launch using the College's current research-active faculty. The five-year financial plan sets aside resources for two strategic hires: a statistics / big-data analyst in Year 1 and a sustainability scientist in Year 2, to strengthen the program's quantitative and interdisciplinary core. The funds for robust graduate support (about $1.33 million in scholarships and assistantships over five years) and the laboratory supplies and field-research materials needed to sustain high-impact dissertation work .

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed Ph.D. FEWSS is aligned with the Texas A&M University System (A&M System) Strategic Plan Imperative 4: Increasing Prominence by Building a robust and targeted research portfolio, as well as Prairie View A&M University's Journey to Eminence Strategic Plan 2025-2035 to "accelerate the University's research capacity, grow graduate programs and Ph.D. completions, and develop and invest in research-intensive faculty," and "cutting-edge interdisciplinary programs that align with evolving market needs." By launching CAFNR's first research-intensive doctoral program and the only FEWSS-focused Ph.D. in Texas, PVAMU meets both the A&M System and PVAMU's strategic goals and strengthens the marketable skills of graduates statewide.

The program also advances Strategic Imperative 5: Providing services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and contribute to the strength of the state's economy. FEWSS graduates will emerge as systems thinkers who can integrate advanced analytics, policy insight, and stakeholder engagement to navigate the complex food-energy-water nexus at local, state, and national levels. Program learning outcomes require them to design rigorous interdisciplinary research, communicate findings to diverse audiences, and lead collaborative teams.

Agenda Item No. 7.26

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 10, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Ph.D. Program in Food-Energy-Water Security and Sustainability and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

I recommend the adoption of the following minute order:

"The Board of Regents approves the establishment of a new degree program at Prairie View A&M University leading to a Ph.D. in Food-Energy-Water Security and Sustainability.

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

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Tomikia P. LeGrande
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

James R. Hallmark
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Prairie View A&M University

Ph.D. in Food-Energy-Water Security and Sustainability
(CIP 01.0308.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Agriculture, Nutrition and Human Ecology, College of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources.

The proposed Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) program in Food-Energy-Water Security and Sustainability (FEWSS) is a transdisciplinary, research-intensive initiative designed to explore the interconnectedness of water, energy, and food systems. It examines how these systems interact under Texas-specific environmental conditions, while also considering their broader implications at national and global scales. The program emphasizes the critical role these linkages play in advancing climate resilience and human well-being. Through rigorous training in advanced analytics, policy analysis, and stakeholder engagement, the program equips scholars with the tools needed to anticipate and address complex resource challenges.

The program will develop a cohort of systems thinkers capable of responding to challenges, adapting to change, and anticipating future needs to deliver innovative, science-based solutions to society's most urgent sustainability issues. It will prepare graduates for high-level roles in research, extension, policy, and leadership across academia, government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the private sector.

In addition, the program aims to increase doctoral enrollment, retention, and completion rates within PVAMU's College of Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources. It will also strengthen the university's research capacity and enhance its ability to secure external funding in nexus science, ultimately boosting PVAMU's impact at both the state and national levels.

The FEWSS program will prepare students to:

- Build deep, interdisciplinary expertise in the biophysical, economic, policy, and social dimensions of the food-energy-water nexus, equipping graduates to anticipate and address extreme events and other emerging sustainability challenges.
- Master and deploy advanced research methods to analyze complex coupled resource systems, design evidence-based interventions, and guide resilient, science-informed decision-making.
- Emerge as ethical, impact-focused leaders with analytical, communication, and collaboration skills to drive transformative change in academia, government, industry, and the non-profit sector.

The FEWSS Ph.D. is built around a streamlined 54-semester credit hour (SCH) sequence beyond the master's degree: 12 SCH of core courses in advanced statistics, research design, and sustainability science; 9 SCH of prescribed electives tied to one of three concentrations, Water-Energy-Food Nexus, Food–Animal and Nutrition Sciences, or Economics of

Food-Water-Energy Systems; 9 SCH of free electives for additional depth or breadth; 12 SCH of supervised doctoral research; and 12 SCH of dissertation hours, culminating in a qualifying exam and public defense.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2027.

PVAMU certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria in 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.146 regarding 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

National labor-market indicators underscore the urgency and the opportunity of launching PVAMU's research-intensive PhD in Food-Energy-Water Security and Sustainability. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that the economy will add about 6.7 million jobs between 2023 and 2033, while total employment is expected to grow by four percent. Occupations that map directly onto the FEWSS nexus: agricultural and food scientists, environmental scientists, hydrologists, energy analysts, and related systems engineers are forecast to expand by three to nine percent, with most titles showing even higher demand in Texas than nationally. Texas' clean-energy workforce alone grew 3.9% last year, and agriculture, food, and natural-resource sectors already contribute more than $1.4 trillion to U.S. gross domestic product and employ over 10% of the national labor force. A Hanover market analysis predicts that doctoral-level FEWSS-aligned positions in Texas will rise by 15.8% this decade, outpacing the state's overall job growth rate of 14.7%. By producing interdisciplinary "systems thinkers," the proposed program directly answers this talent gap and positions PVAMU graduates for high-impact careers across government, industry, academia, and non-profits.

B. Projected Enrollment

Table 1 projects a modest inaugural cohort of four full-time doctoral scholars, climbing to nine new entrants in Year 2 and stabilizing at 13 to 14 per year thereafter; cumulative headcount, therefore, rises from 4 to 24 across the first five years, while full-time-student equivalents (FTSE) grow from 72 to 252 by Year 4 and hold steady in Year 5. These figures embed realistic 10 to 15% annual growth assumptions derived from a decade-long Food and Agricultural Information System trend analysis of comparable FEWSS-aligned graduate programs and incorporate attrition (one student per cycle after Year 2) and on-time completions, with the first three graduates expected in Year 3 and 14 by Year 5. The resulting enrollment curve reflects demonstrable student demand, aligns with PVAMU's historic retention patterns, and provides a sustainable ramp-up that balances faculty capacity with the program's research-intensive mission.

Table 1. Enrollment Projections of FEWSS Ph.D.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Total New Students	**4**	**9**	**13**	**14**	**14**
Attrition	0	1	1	1	1
Cumulative Headcount	**4**	**12**	**21**	**25**	**24**
FTSE	72	162	234	252	252
Graduates	0	0	3	9	14

C. Existing State Programs

No public university in Texas currently awards a doctorate specifically in Food-Energy-Water Security and Sustainability. The nearest analogs, Tarleton State University's PhD in Animal & Natural Resource Sciences, Texas A&M University-Kingsville's Agriculture & Natural Resource Sciences doctorates, and Texas State University's PhD in Environmental & Water Resources Engineering, cover only slices of the nexus and therefore do not duplicate the integrative FEWSS curriculum that PVAMU proposes. Collectively, these discipline-based programs produce far fewer graduates than the state's labor-market forecasts demand. By establishing the first FEWSS PhD in the state, PVAMU avoids program duplication while filling a critical workforce gap for interdisciplinary systems thinkers.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

Five research-active faculty from across the College of Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources will anchor the FEWSS PhD, teaching core and concentration courses that also serve other graduate programs. The team combines three tenure-track agriculture, nutrition, and human ecology professors with two Cooperative Agricultural Research Center research scientists, ensuring strength in disciplinary depth and field-based inquiry. The proposed program will hire two new faculty in year one and two, with priorities in statistics and big data analytics and sustainability, who will also manage doctoral advising and quality assurance. Also, affiliate experts and professional staff will be tapped as necessary to sustain the program's research intensity and breadth.

B. Program Administration

Administrative costs for the program are embedded in the faculty costs; therefore, no additional funding in this area is requested.

C. Other Personnel

Execution of the program does not require the hiring of additional personnel. Student research assistantships will be funded through capacity grant funding.

D. Supplies, Materials

Minimal supplies and materials are needed to support the Ph.D. in FEWSS program; costs are listed under Miscellaneous in the funding tables.

E. Library

PVAMU has adequate library resources, and no additional funding is requested.

F. Equipment, Facilities

Neither new equipment nor facilities are required to execute this program.

G. Accreditation

The program does not require accreditation.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS			SOURCES OF FUNDING	
New Faculty	$518,400		Formula Income	$1,109,028
Program Administration			Statutory Tuition	$2,492,097
Graduate Assistants	$345,600		Reallocation	$1,116,350
Supplies & Materials	$36,000		Designated Tuition	$240,931
Library & IT Resources			Other Funding:	
Equipment, Facilities			Federal Grant Funding	$1,152,000
Research Assistants (funded 100% through federal grant)	$1,152,000			
Other (Scholarships and Miscellaneous)	35,000			
Estimated 5-Year Costs	**$2,087,000.00**		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	**$6,110,406**

Agenda Item No. 7.59

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
December 3, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, February, 2026,
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 members at Tarleton State University as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 26-02."**

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Dr. James Hurley
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]
Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]
Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]
James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]
R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]
Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

ITEM 7.59
EXHIBIT

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY
BACKGROUND OF FACULTY
RECOMMENDED FOR ACADEMIC TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 26-02

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

Name	Present Rank Department	Yrs. Towards Tenure* Univ.	 Other Inst.	Effective Date Tenure
Dr. David Leitman	Professor Neuroscience	0	6	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
Ph.D. (2006)	The City University of New York			
Fa 2010 – Sp 2011 Sp 2011 – Sp 2016 Fa 2025 – Present	University of Pennsylvania University of Pennsylvania Tarleton State University	Instructor Research Assistant Professor Professor		

Dr. Leitman comes to Tarleton as the Department Head of Neuroscience in the College of Science and Mathematics. Dr. Leitman has held several instructional roles, from Adjunct Professor to Research Assistant Professor, at institutions like the University of Pennsylvania and Drexel University. He has developed and taught courses in cognitive and affective neuroscience and has supervised a significant number of graduate and undergraduate students, mentoring them on their thesis projects and research. His research focuses on social neuroscience and psychopathology, with an emphasis on social communication, prosody, and the neurobiological basis of conditions like schizophrenia and autism. He has conducted and led numerous studies using multimodal neuroimaging and has secured multiple federal and private grants to fund this work.

His service contributions are extensive, particularly in his current role as a Scientific Program Officer at the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). He manages a large grant portfolio that totals over $97 million in federal research, chairs and co-chairs numerous workshops and committees, and serves as a subject matter expert for various interagency and trans-NIH initiatives, including advising on the U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory on social connection.

Dr. Leitman 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.

Agenda Item No. 7.60

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

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

Subject: Granting of Faculty Development Leave for FY 2027,
Tarleton State University

Proposed Board Action:

Authorize faculty development leave for FY 2027 at Tarleton State University (Tarleton).

Background Information:

System Policy *31.03, Leaves of Absence*, and System Regulation *12.99.01, Faculty Development Leave*, require that a recommendation for faculty development leave be submitted by the university president to the chancellor for recommendation to the Board of Regents for approval. At Tarleton, the application is submitted with support of the academic department, college dean, university development leave committee (elected by the general faculty), provost and executive vice president for academic affairs and president.

As shown in the exhibit, Tarleton requests approval for faculty development leave for one faculty member for FY 2027.

Tarleton is in compliance with the statutory requirement that no more than six percent of eligible faculty be on development leave at any time.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

No additional funding is required. Departmental faculty members are assuming the recommended faculty member's teaching loads by adjusting course offerings the next academic year.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

There are several Texas A&M University System (A&M System) Strategic Imperatives that are advanced by Tarleton's recommendations for Faculty Development Leave. Dr. Diamantis' project will contribute to the A&M System's increased prominence by building a robust and targeted research portfolio, including cross-institution and cross-discipline collaborations (Strategic Imperative 4).

Dr. Diamantis's collaboration with Rice University advances Tarleton's research goals by expanding expertise in high-performance computing, AI, and robotics. Working with leading R1 researchers provides access to advanced labs, cutting-edge methods, and opportunities for joint publications and grant development. This experience will accelerate research productivity, enhance STEM innovation, and support Tarleton's strategic trajectory toward R1 classification (Strategic Imperative 1).

Agenda Item No. 7.60

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 20, 2025

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

Subject: Granting of Faculty Development Leave for FY 2027,
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 *31.03,* System Regulation *12.99.01* and Sections 51.101-108 of the Texas Education Code, authorizes faculty development leave to the faculty members as shown in the attached exhibit, Faculty Development Leave List FY 2027, Tarleton State University."**

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Dr. James Hurley
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

ITEM 7.60
EXHIBIT

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE LIST
FY 2027
TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Name/ Title/ Department	Years of Tarleton Tenured, Tenure-Track Service	Semester of Leave	Location, Brief Description of Leave and Benefit to University
MAYFIELD COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING			
Sotirios Diamantas Associate Professor Computer Science and Electrical Engineering	7	Fall 2026	Dr. Diamantis's project will take place at Rice University in Houston, a leading R1 research institution known for its strengths in AI, robotics, and high-performance computing. During the leave, Dr. Diamantis will collaborate with Rice faculty on advanced research projects, develop new technical skills, and engage in interdisciplinary work that supports applications in infrastructure, agriculture, and other STEM areas. This experience will directly benefit Tarleton by expanding research capacity, strengthening external partnerships, increasing opportunities for student and faculty collaboration, and supporting the university's strategic goals, including its trajectory toward higher research classification and statewide impact.

Agenda Item No. 7.27

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

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

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Nutrition and Dietetics 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 (M.S.) with a major in Nutrition and Dietetics (NTDT), authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval, and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information:

The proposed M.S. in NTDT program is a 34-semester credit hour (SCH) program that will provide students with an integrated course of study that will provide a strong comprehension and application in the field of nutrition. The curriculum integrates foundational nutrition and dietetics disciplines, including food management, nutrition counseling and therapy, community nutrition, and research. The M.S. program is a 17-month graduate program designed to provide students with applied learning experience in preparation for a career as a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN). The program is seeking accreditation from the Accreditation Council on Education for Nutrition and Dietetics Future Education Model and will prepare graduates to sit for the Commission on Dietetic Registration's examination, required to become an RDN. The program will include an embedded certificate of 13 SCH in Advanced Clinical Integration of Nutrition Science and Public Health.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Estimated new costs over the first five years are $2,122,486, with estimated five-year revenue of $2,209,150.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed M.S. aligns with The Texas A&M University System strategic plan imperative 3 by preparing students for long-term careers in a fast-growing field.

Agenda Item No. 7.27

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 7, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Nutrition and Dietetics 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 Degree Program with a Major in Nutrition and Dietetics.

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,

[SIGNED BY]

Dr. James Hurley
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
Acting General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved For Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Tarleton State University

Master of Science
with a major in Nutrition and Dietetics
(CIP 51.3101.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: College of Health Sciences, Department of Medical Laboratory Sciences, Public Health, and Nutrition Science

The proposed Master of Science (M.S.) in Nutrition and Dietetics (NTDT) program is a 34-semester credit hour (SCH) program that will provide students with an integrated course of study that will provide a strong comprehension and application in the field of nutrition. The curriculum integrates foundational nutrition and dietetics disciplines, including food management, nutrition counseling and therapy, community nutrition, and research. The M.S. program is a 17-month graduate program designed to provide students with applied learning experience in preparation for a career as a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN). The program is seeking accreditation from the Accreditation Council on Education for Nutrition and Dietetics Future Education Model and will prepare graduates to sit for the Commission on Dietetic Registration's (CDR) examination to become an RDN. There will be an embedded certificate in Advanced Clinical Integration of Nutrition Science and Public Health that is 13 SCH. The program will only be offered at Tarleton's Fort Worth off-campus instructional site with both in-person and hybrid modalities.

Educational objectives:

1. Students will succeed on the RDN certification examination as a result of the knowledge and experience they have gained through their graduate coursework and their supervised experiential learning.
2. Students will become leaders of the profession and advocate for nutrition and dietetics amongst the community and other professions.
3. Students will serve diverse populations through community-based practice, public health nutrition, and culturally competent care.
4. Students will deliver quality nutritional care that is based on academic standards for entry-level dietitians and current research.
5. Students will engage in applied research projects that address public health nutrition, food insecurity, the management and quality improvement of chronic diseases, and chronic disease prevention.
6. Students will participate in projects in this program that contribute to local, regional, and national health initiatives, stimulate innovation in dietetics, and support economic development through workforce training.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2026.

Tarleton State University (Tarleton) certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117 regarding need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards, and costs. New costs during the first five years are estimated at $1 million.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects a 7% national growth rate for Dietitian and Nutritionist positions, outpacing the average for all occupations. In 2023, there were 81,300 Dietitian and Nutritionist jobs nationally, and from 2023 to 2033, an additional 6,100 positions are expected to open.

The need for Dietitians and Nutritionists is even stronger in Texas. Texas currently has 4,470 positions and is projected to see a 17% growth in these positions from 2023 to 2033. A search of Careeronestop.org on July 16, 2025, showed there were 3,544 Dietitian and Nutritionist positions available nationally and 234 within Texas. With the new 2024 Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics standards requirement of a master's degree for eligibility to sit for the CDR exam, the need for a master's degree to be competitive in the job market will increase over the coming years.

B. Projected Enrollment

It is anticipated that this program will begin with a cohort of 10 students in the first year. The program will have a projected cumulative headcount of 10 students in year one, 10 students in year two, 15 students in year three, 15 students in year four, and 15 students in year five.

C. Existing State Programs

Five public Texas universities offer a master's program in nutrition with the CIP code 51.3101.00. The universities are Sam Houston State University, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Texas Southern University, University of Texas at San Antonio, and University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley. These five universities are not within 100 miles of Tarleton's Fort Worth off-campus instructional site.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

One current faculty member will provide a core role in the proposed degree. Two clinical instructors will be hired for the program. One clinical instructor will be hired in year one of the program, and the second will be hired in year three of the program. The faculty line for the first clinical instructor will be $76,000 in year one, $78,280 in year two, $80,628 in year three, $83,047 in year four, and $85,538 in year five of the program. The faculty line for the second clinical instructor will be $76,000 in year three, $78,280 in year four, and $80,628 in year five.

B. Program Administration

Current administration is sufficient for this program.

C. Other Personnel

A graduate assistant will be hired in the program's second year, with a salary of $25,000 per year for years two through five. The estimated cost is $100,000 for the first five years of the program.

D. Supplies, Materials

Costs for supplies, materials, and program administration will be $12,387 in year one, $4,243 in year two, $4,339 in year three, $4,438 in year four, and $4,409 in year five of the program.

E. Library

Existing library resources will be sufficient. No additional library resources are anticipated.

F. Equipment, Facilities

Existing equipment and facilities will be sufficient. No additional equipment or facilities will be needed.

G. Accreditation

Accreditation fees will be $15,280 in year one, $4,292 in year two, $4,329 in year three, $4,369, and $4,409 in year five of the program.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS			SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	$1,837,699		Formula Income	$185,474
Graduate Assistant	$100,000		Statutory Tuition	$118,000
Clinical Education	$17,160		Reallocation	$627,505
Supplies & Materials	$29,948		Designated Tuition	$1,090,696
Student Scholarships	$105,000		Other Funding:	
Equipment, Facilities	$0		Board Authorized Tuition	$118,000
Accreditation	$32,679		Required Student Fees	$69,475
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$2,122,486		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$2,209,150

Agenda Item No. 7.28

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 24, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, February 2026,
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. 26-02."**

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Thomas D. Williams
Interim President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

ITEM 7.28
EXHIBIT

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
BACKGROUND OF FACULTY
RECOMMENDED FOR ACADEMIC TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 26-02

NARESH K. VASHISHT COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Name	Present Rank Department	Yrs. Towards Tenure* Univ.	 Other Inst.	Effective Date Tenure
Dr. Gillian Bartlett-Esquilant	Professor Primary Care & Rural Medicine	1	>15	Upon Approval by the Board
Ph.D. (2001)	McGill University			
Su 2009 – Fa 2016	McGill University	Associate Professor (Tenured 2014)		
Fa 2016 – Su 2022	McGill University	Professor		
Fa 2020 – Fa 2024	University of Missouri	Professor (Tenured 2020)		
Fa 2024 – Present	Texas A&M University	Professor		

Dr. Gillian Bartlett-Esquilant earned a Ph.D. in Epidemiology from McGill University in 2001. Dr. Bartlett-Esquilant joined the Department of Primary Care & Rural Medicine at Texas A&M University in 2024 as a professor. She is a recognized leader in academic administration and health research. She previously served as a tenured professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of Missouri where she was the inaugural associate dean for graduate research education and founded the Translational Biosciences Ph.D. program. She also chaired the Working Party for the Patient-Reported Indicator Surveys Project with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, involving 22 countries over a three-year term. Before this, she was a faculty member at McGill University in the Department of Family Medicine where she served as a tenured professor, a tenured associate professor and a tenure track associate professor, along with a number of administrative appointments including research director and graduate program director. Dr. Bartlett-Esquilant's research focuses on translational approaches to improve primary care and optimizing medication use, particularly for populations not represented in clinical trials. She has published over 116 peer-reviewed articles, has an H-index of 39, and her work has been cited more than 15,000 times. She has secured over $25 million Canadian dollars in direct research grants and close to $10 million U.S. dollars in additional support, including $7.5 million from the National Institutes of Health's All of Us program (2023), for which she served as Missouri's principal investigator. Her mentorship has guided 22 master's graduates, 10 doctoral students and four postdoctoral fellows, many of whom were co-authors on her over 116 peer-reviewed articles. Dr. Gillian Bartlett-Esquilant's commitment to fostering academic excellence was recognized with the Distinguished Research Mentor Award by North American Primary Care Research Group in 2022.

Dr. Bartlett-Esquilant's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy *12.01*, Section 4.3.

COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE & BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Name	Present Rank Department	Yrs. Towards Tenure* Univ.	 Other Inst.	Effective Date Tenure
Dr. Sushmitha S. Durgam	Associate Professor Large Animal Clinical Sciences	0	9	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
BVSc (2007) Ph.D. (2016)	Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University, India University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign			
Fa 2016 – Su 2022 Su 2022 – Fa 2025 Fa 2025 – Present	The Ohio State University The Ohio State University Texas A&M University	Assistant Professor Associate Professor (Tenured 2022) Associate Professor		

Dr. Sushmitha S. Durgam earned a BVSc in Veterinary Science from Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University, India, in 2007 and a Ph.D. in Veterinary Clinical Medicine from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in 2016. Dr. Durgam joined the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences at Texas A&M University in 2025 as an associate professor. She is an equine orthopedic surgeon and a translational tendon- and stem cell-focused researcher. She has authored 49 peer-reviewed articles and 93 conference papers and to date has secured over $2 million in research funding from intra- and extramural funding agencies, including veterinary and philanthropic foundations, the National Institutes of Health, and industry sponsors. Dr. Durgam has served as principal investigator on the majority of these cross-disciplinary research grants with collaborators in clinical orthopedic surgery, sports medicine and rehabilitation, and biomedical engineering. At The Ohio State University, Dr. Durgam served as thesis advisor for seven master's students, research mentor for five veterinary professional students, and primary advisor for two postdoctoral researchers. Her trainees have been successful in further securing academic faculty and industry positions and positions as clinical associate veterinarians. Dr. Durgam is an active member of AO VET North America, where she currently serves as research committee chair. Her didactic teaching at The Ohio State University spanned undergraduate, veterinary, and graduate curricula, with a focus on musculoskeletal development and pathophysiology, as well as regenerative and biologic therapies to enhance healing. Taken together, Dr. Durgam's commitment to academia, veterinary clinical medicine, and translational research strives toward the synergistic advancement of clinical orthopedic medicine and biomedical science.

Dr. Durgam's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy *12.01*, Section 4.3.

Dr. Bonnie Robin Rush	Professor Large Animal Clinical Sciences	0	>15	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
DVM (1989)	The Ohio State University			
Fa 1993 – Sp 1998 Fa 1998 – Su 2002 Fa 2002 – Su 2025 Su 2025 – Present	Kansas State University Kansas State University Kansas State University Texas A&M University	Assistant Professor Associate Professor (Tenured 1998) Professor Professor		

Dr. Bonnie Robin Rush earned a DVM from The Ohio State University in 1989. Dr. Rush joined Texas A&M University in 2025 as the Carl B. King Dean of Veterinary Medicine and as a professor in the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences. Dr. Rush is a nationally recognized leader in veterinary medicine and education. A Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, she has authored over 110 journal articles, 30 book chapters, and a textbook. She began her academic career at Kansas State University in 1993, where she gained international recognition for her work on equine respiratory diseases. Over the next three decades she held multiple leadership roles, including department head, teaching hospital director, executive associate dean, and dean. As the Hodes Family Dean (2017–2025), she advanced veterinary education, student wellness, faculty development, and clinical outreach. She launched certificate programs, expanded shelter medicine rotations, and established a donor-funded student wellness initiative that has since become a national model. Dr. Rush also serves as president and board chair of the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges, shaping the future of veterinary education. Her numerous awards reflect her impact on teaching, research, and service.

Dr. Rush's file does not include any information we believe to be inconsistent with System Policy *12.01*, Section 4.3.

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING MEDICINE

Name	**Present Rank** **Department**	**Yrs. Towards Tenure*** **Univ.**	 **Other Inst.**	**Effective Date** **Tenure**
Dr. Ashutosh Agrawal	Professor Engineering Medicine	0	14	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
Ph.D. (2008)	University of California, Berkeley			
Su 2011 – Su 2017 Fa 2017 – Sp 2025 Sp 2025 – Present	University of Houston University of Houston Texas A&M University	Assistant Professor Associate Professor (Tenured 2017) Professor		

Dr. Ashutosh Agrawal earned a Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley in 2008. Dr. Agrawal joined the School of Engineering Medicine at Texas A&M University in 2025 as a professor. Dr. Agrawal's background spans civil engineering, neuroscience, and materials science. Dr. Agrawal leads *Life at the Interface*, a research group that explores engineering principles at the intersection of mechanics, geometry, and electrostatics in both biological cells and synthetic materials. His research has been supported by over $3 million in funding from various sources. His work spans a wide range of topics – from studying lipid-protein interactions in neurons to designing biomimetic, two-dimensional topological materials for various engineering applications. Dr. Agrawal's research connects fundamental science with real-world application – work that reflects the School of Engineering Medicine's mission to train a new kind of medical professional: the *physicianeer*. Beyond the laboratory, Dr. Agrawal is passionate about education and the holistic development of young minds. Together with his son, he co-founded Grow Wildflowers, a nonprofit organization that encourages curiosity, environmental awareness, and educational engagement among young learners.

Dr. Agrawal'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 towards tenure based on his/her dossier.

Agenda Item No. 7.29

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Thomas D. Williams, Interim President
Texas A&M University

Subject: Granting of Faculty Development Leave for FY 2027,
Texas A&M University

Proposed Board Action:

Authorize faculty development leave for FY 2027 at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M).

Background Information:

System Policy *31.03, Leaves of Absence*, and System Regulation *12.99.01, Faculty Development Leave*, require that a recommendation for faculty development leave be submitted by the university president to the chancellor for recommendation to the Board of Regents for approval. At Texas A&M, the application is submitted with support of the academic department, college dean, university development leave committee (elected by the general faculty), executive vice president and provost, and president.

As shown in the exhibit, Texas A&M requests approval for faculty development leave for 93 faculty members for FY 2027.

Texas A&M is in compliance with the statutory requirement that no more than six percent of eligible faculty be on development leave at any time.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

No additional funding is required. Departmental faculty members are assuming the recommended faculty members' teaching loads by adjusting course offerings for the next academic year.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Approval of this agenda item will advance The Texas A&M University System strategic imperatives 1, 3, 4, and 5. More specifically, it will: a) enable faculty to reinvent graduate and undergraduate education which will provide students with an array of pathways to pursue their ambitions and interests, in support of imperative 1; b) cultivate academic innovation, retain exceptional faculty, and foster lifelong success of our graduates in support of imperative 3; c) increase the breadth and scope of our research portfolio, in support of imperative 4; and d) provide services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and contribute to the strength of the state's economy in support of imperative 5 by extending our engagement in rural and urban communities, accelerating commercialization and entrepreneurship, and graduating students who impact our communities and the world.

Agenda Item No. 7.29

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
December 3, 2025

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

Subject: Granting of Faculty Development Leave for FY 2027, 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 *31.03,* System Regulation *12.99.01,* and Sections 51.101-108 of the Texas Education Code, authorizes faculty development leave to the faculty members as shown in the attached exhibit, Faculty Development Leave List FY 2027, Texas A&M University."**

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Thomas D. Williams
Interim President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

ITEM 7.29
EXHIBIT

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE LIST
FY 2027
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Name/ Title/ Department	Years of Texas A&M Tenured, Tenure-Track Service	Semester of Leave	Location, Brief Description of Leave and Benefit to University
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES			
Gary Wingenbach Professor Agricultural Leadership, Education & Communications	24	Fall 2026	Dr. Wingenbach's leave will take place at the University of Chile in Santiago, Chile. He will begin a six-month U.S. Fulbright Scholar research program in collaboration with University of Chile faculty to explore how social and psychological dynamics influence smallholder farmers' adoption of agricultural innovations. This collaboration will deepen understanding of innovation adoption processes among smallholder farmers and inform the planning and deployment strategies of both Chilean and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension programs – ultimately enhancing extension efforts across Latin America and Texas.
Zhihong Xu Associate Professor Agricultural Leadership, Education & Communications	5	Spring 2027	Dr. Xu's leave will take place at Atlantic Technological University in Letterkenny, Ireland, Ehime University in Matsuyama, Japan, and Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. She will collaborate with faculty in health and nutritional sciences and science education to advance her research on upcycled food, waste, and sustainability. By integrating her social science expertise with the work of food scientists and sustainability researchers, she will develop a collaborative program focused on consumer acceptance of upcycled food and communication strategies to encourage its adoption. This leave will strengthen her research agenda and elevate Texas A&M's international presence in sustainable food systems.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES (continued)			
Luis Tedeschi Professor Animal Science	20	Fall 2026	Dr. Tedeschi's leave will take place at the University of São Paulo in Piracicaba, Brazil, and the University of Sassari in Sassari, Italy. He will develop an advanced computer model to improve the efficiency of feedlot beef cattle production by integrating artificial intelligence into existing mechanistic nutrition models. This work will advance his research program in predictive modeling and enrich his teaching through artificial intelligence-based tools, resulting in enhanced academic offerings and a more modern curriculum. These developments will help attract graduate students and external funding in data-intensive animal science research.
Sarah White-Springer Associate Professor Animal Science	9	Spring 2027	Dr. White-Springer's leave will take place at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, Arkansas, and Virginia Tech University in Blacksburg, Virginia. During her leave, she will collaborate with renowned scientists in the field of skeletal muscle physiology – each with active National Institutes of Health and/or United States Department of Agriculture funding – to learn cutting-edge technologies and identify intersections between her expertise and the governmental research priorities. The proposed leave will expand Dr. White-Springer's research enterprise, strengthen federal support for her program, and enrich the academic experiences of students under her mentorship.
Janie Moore Associate Professor Biological & Agricultural Engineering	8	Fall 2026	Dr. Moore's leave will take place at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio and in Houston, Texas. During her leave, she will collaborate in person with a nationally recognized engineering education fellow and engage virtually with engineering education faculty to develop research ideas focused on student persistence and stewardship in biological and agricultural engineering, with particular emphasis on competitive grant proposal development. The leave will enable Dr. Moore to strengthen her externally funded research program, enhance student success initiatives within the Department of Biological & Agricultural Engineering, and elevate Texas A&M's national visibility in engineering education innovation.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES (continued)			
Tatyana Igumenova Professor Biochemistry/Biophysics	18	Fall 2026	Dr. Igumenova's leave will take place at the Medical Research Council Laboratory of Molecular Biology in Cambridge, United Kingdom. She will collaborate with Professor Roger Williams to gain expertise in hydrogen-deuterium exchange mass spectrometry and single-particle electron cryo-microscopy, applied to protein-membrane systems. These technologies will strengthen her research program, support new grant proposals, enhance student training in biophysics, and increase the international visibility of multidisciplinary research at Texas A&M.
Paul Straight Associate Professor Biochemistry/Biophysics	18	Spring 2027	Dr. Straight's leave will take place in Glasgow, Scotland, where he will collaborate with Professor Paul Hoskisson, a leading expert in Streptomyces secondary metabolism, and Dr. Lorena Fernandez-Martinez, a specialist in Streptomyces genetics and advanced genetic screening technologies. The project will focus on developing methods to elicit secondary metabolites from Streptomyces and identifying the genetic pathways responsible for their biosynthesis. This leave will enhance the capabilities of the Straight Lab at Texas A&M in downstream genetic identification and metabolic engineering of antibiotic-producing strains, thereby strengthening Texas A&M's leadership and visibility in microbial biotechnology and antibiotic discovery.
Cecilia Tamborindeguy Professor Entomology	18	Spring 2027	Dr. Tamborindeguy will spend her leave at the Colmar National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment in Colmar, France, and the University of Strasbourg in Strasbourg, France. During her leave, she will collaborate with faculty in the Joint Research Unit for Grapevine Health, collect data on aphid-mediated virus transmission, and co-develop a research proposal on vector biology with Dr. Veronique Brault, a world-renowned expert in the field. The leave will enable Dr. Tamborindeguy to generate preliminary data, prepare a competitive grant submission with her collaborator, and enhance Texas A&M's international visibility in vector biology.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES (continued)			
David Matarrita-Cascante Associate Professor Rangeland, Wildlife & Fisheries Management	17	Fall 2026	Dr. Matarrita-Cascante's leave will take place in Guanacaste and San José, Costa Rica and in Bastrop, Texas. During his leave, he will collaborate with scholars and practitioners to examine how communities and government agencies address wildfire risk in fire-prone regions, conduct comparative fieldwork, and analyze policies that shape wildfire governance. The leave will enable Dr. Matarrita-Cascante to produce peer-reviewed publications, develop new teaching materials for undergraduate and graduate courses, strengthen partnerships with Costa Rican institutions, and enhance his competitiveness in securing major external research grants.
David Baltensperger Professor Soil & Crop Sciences	20	Spring 2027	Dr. Baltensperger's leave will take place at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida, Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama, the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, Nebraska, and Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. During his leave, he will collaborate with faculty in each of the Agronomy and Soils Departments, develop a grant proposal and research project, design new teaching modules, and participate in seminars and workshops. The leave will enable Dr. Baltensperger to submit a major grant proposal and refine innovative teaching modules to benefit Texas A&M students.
Dirk Hays Professor Soil & Crop Sciences	24	Fall 2026	Dr. Hays' leave will take place at root and tuber crop hubs in Ghana, Tanzania, and Zambia, Africa. He will train breeders, consultants, and processors to use ground penetrating radar, Studio Cloud software, and multi-agent learning models to breed early bulking cultivars and optimize supply chains. This work will support a root and tuber crop green revolution and strengthen food security across Africa. It will also expand Texas A&M's international research footprint and enhance its leadership in agricultural innovation.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES (continued)			
Felipe Andres Aburto Guerrero Associate Professor Soil & Crop Sciences	4	Fall 2026	Dr. Aburto Guerrero's leave will take place at the Max Planck Institute for Biogeochemistry in Jena, Germany, the University of Tübingen in Tübingen, Germany, and the University of California in Irvine, California. During his leave, he will study the use of radiocarbon and complementary stable isotopes to trace carbon sequestration, study mineral-carbon stabilization, and collaborate with leading researchers on integrative approaches to coupled soil carbon and nutrient cycling. This leave will enhance his technical capabilities, generate novel data for publication, expand collaborations that will enrich student education at Texas A&M, and elevate the university's international visibility in environmental research.
COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE			
Marcelo Lopez-Dinardi Associate Professor Architecture	7	Spring 2027	Mr. Lopez-Dinardi's leave will take place at the University of Puerto Rico in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He will conduct archival research at the Architecture and Construction Archives, continue documenting cement sites, exhibit visual work at the Museum of Art and Design of Miramar, and develop a book proposal on influential United States-trained architects in Puerto Rico shaped by the cement industry. The leave will support analysis of original hand drawings and documents central to the project and increase the visibility of his work through public exhibition and scholarly engagement. These efforts will strengthen research, creative output, and impact for Texas A&M.
Kunhee Choi Professor Construction Science	15	Fall 2026	Dr. Choi's leave will take place at the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology in Daejeon, South Korea. He will explore innovative techniques for integrating large language models into adaptable infrastructure, autonomous vehicles, and smart city systems. This leave will expand his research into emerging technologies, boost his competitiveness for major external funding, and reinforce Texas A&M's leadership in next-generation mobility and intelligent infrastructure.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES			
Christopher Dostal Assistant Professor Anthropology	7	Fall 2026	Dr. Dostal's leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. During his leave, he will complete a long-term study of a group of 18th-century shipwrecks discovered on the Alexandria, Virginia waterfront, resulting in three publications that analyze the hull forms and construction practices of these vessels. The leave will allow Dr. Dostal the necessary time for this intensive analysis, advancing knowledge of early American shipbuilding, providing material for graduate student training, and reinforcing Texas A&M's leadership in nautical archaeology.
Sharon Gursky Professor Anthropology	23	Spring 2027	Dr. Gursky's leave will take place at Tangkoko Nature Reserve in Sulawesi, Indonesia, where she will collect behavioral, reproductive, and density data to assess the impact of a nearby gold mine on tarsiers. The leave will generate publishable data, support grant applications, and offer high-impact learning opportunities for students. It will also enhance the international visibility of Texas A&M in the field of anthropology.
Kurt Rademaker Associate Professor Anthropology	2	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. Rademaker's leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas and in Arequipa, Peru. He will complete an analysis of long-term archaeological collection, finalize a series of high-impact publications, and curate datasets in an online repository. This leave will allow him to conclude 15 years of research in southern Peru, with many resulting publications co-authored by graduate and undergraduate students. These outcomes will showcase the innovative, interdisciplinary work of Texas A&M's Department of Anthropology and the Center for the Study of the First Americans, enhancing the university's visibility in global archaeological research.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES (Continued)			
Heather Thakar Assistant Professor Anthropology	7	Fall 2026	Dr. Thakar's leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas and the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She will collaborate with international scholars to complete high-profile publications on the origins of agriculture in the Neotropics. Her work will focus on finalizing analysis and publishing findings related to ancient plant discoveries tied to 12,000 years of human occupation in the Maya Mountains of Belize. This research will elevate Texas A&M's international visibility in the fields of Archaeobotany and Paleoecology and highlight the university's contributions to interdisciplinary archaeological science.
Xiaohong Liu Professor Atmospheric Sciences	6	Fall 2026	Dr. Liu's leave will take place at Max-Planck Institute for Chemistry in Mainz, Germany and the University of Leeds in Leeds, England. During his leave, he will collaborate with faculty at the two institutions to advance the fundamental understanding of aerosol processes by integrating Earth system predictions with observations and examine the effects of aerosols on clouds and weather. The leave will allow Dr. Liu to develop innovative ideas, conduct research projects, publish high-impact papers with his collaborators, and increase the visibility of Texas A&M internationally in the field of aerosols, clouds, and weather.
Ramalingam Saravanan Professor Atmospheric Sciences	20	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. Saravanan's leave will take place at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colorado and Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. He will collaborate with scientists to advance research using high-resolution and artificial intelligence methods for Earth system modeling, extreme weather simulation, and risk assessment. The leave will support exploration of novel research directions, development of teaching materials, and strengthened partnerships with the National Center for Atmospheric Research. These efforts will elevate Texas A&M's profile in atmospheric modeling and contribute to its leadership in climate science and environmental resilience.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES (Continued)			
Heath Blackmon Associate Professor Biology	8	Spring 2027	Dr. Blackmon's leave will take place at the University of Bern in Bern, Switzerland. During his leave, he will collaborate with Dr. Katie Peichel, an international leader in the study of genome and sex chromosome evolution, to learn and apply new genomic approaches, develop comparative research questions, and begin joint projects that connect their two research communities. The leave will allow Dr. Blackmon to expand the scope of his research program, enhance graduate student training upon his return, and increase the international visibility of Texas A&M in evolutionary genomics.
Jennifer Dulin Associate Professor Biology	8	Spring 2027	Dr. Dulin's leave will take place at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne, in Lausanne, Switzerland. During her leave, she will work with world leaders in the field to learn advanced neuromodulation techniques for spinal cord injury, receive hands-on training, observe clinical studies, and develop collaborative research projects. The leave will allow Dr. Dulin to establish new expertise in a cutting-edge neuroscience technique and generate preliminary data to support new grant proposals. This will strengthen Texas A&M's international presence in neuroscience and support its priorities in translational science and international engagement.
Quentin Michaudel Associate Professor Chemistry	7	Spring 2027	Dr. Michaudel's leave will take place at Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule (ETH) Zürich in Zürich, Switzerland, where he will collaborate with Prof. Tae-Lim Choi to develop synthetic methods for creating novel organic electronic materials with atomic to nanoscale precision. These materials target applications in clean energy and bioimaging. The leave will advance next-generation materials and catalysis research, broaden Dr. Michaudel's scientific impact, enrich student education, and enhance Texas A&M's international visibility in cutting-edge chemical innovation.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES (Continued)			
Amy Earhart Associate Professor English	18	Fall 2026	Dr. Earhart's leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. She will conduct newspaper archive research, develop a beta version of an open-access map tracing mid-19th century newspaper article transmission, and write a book proposal. The leave will advance her digital humanities research and result in a classroom-ready digital project. These efforts will enhance Texas A&M's international visibility and provide valuable resources for graduate and undergraduate education.
Susan Egenolf Associate Professor English	23	Fall 2026	Dr. Egenolf's leave will take place at Princeton University in Princeton, New Jersey and Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. She will collaborate remotely with faculty at four universities to transcribe, encode, and annotate the correspondence of Irish author Maria Edgeworth (1769 – 1849), conduct archival research at Princeton, and write two scholarly articles. The leave will support the publication of 500 additional searchable letters to the Maria Edgeworth Letters Project, involving graduate and undergraduate researchers. These efforts will advance literary scholarship, provide hands-on research experience for students, and enhance Texas A&M's visibility in digital humanities and eighteenth-century studies.
Andrew Pilsch Associate Professor English	10	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. Pilsch's leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. He will complete a book manuscript entitled The World According to Computer Bugs. This book will focus on the media history of computer bugs, an important and under-considered element in the social history of computing. This book is uniquely positioned to attract significant interest from top-tier institutions in the humanistic dimensions of digital technology, thereby elevating Texas A&M's international visibility in the field of technology studies by contributing a unique perspective to the intersection of media, history, and computing.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES (Continued)			
David Cairns Professor Geography	27	Fall 2026	Dr. Cairns' leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas and Umea University in Umea, Sweden. During his leave, he will classify and interpret ecological change at the forest-tundra ecotone using aerial photographs previously acquired by Dr. Jon Moen and his team at Umea University. The leave will allow Dr. Cairns to generate preliminary data for future proposals, refocus his research, and learn new analytical skills. The leave will also increase the international visibility of Texas A&M in the fields of geography and vegetation ecology.
Wendy Jepson Professor Geography	21	Spring 2027	Dr. Jepson's leave will take place at the DRAGON-Mekong Institute in Can Tho, Vietnam and field sites across Vietnam's Mekong Delta. She will conduct interviews, surveys, and policy analysis for a public-facing book on global salinization, focusing on adaptation strategies in one of the world's most affected regions. The leave will support data collection, publication efforts, new course development, and study abroad opportunities, while strengthening Texas A&M's international partnerships and leadership in water resources research.
Zhe Zhang Associate Professor Geography	6	Fall 2026	Dr. Zhang's leave will take place at Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in Illinois, the University College London in London, England, the University of Oxford in Oxford, England, and the Technical University of Munich in Munich, Germany. She will collaborate with faculty across these institutions to publish research manuscripts, develop innovative teaching materials, and prepare grant proposals. These activities will strengthen her teaching and research portfolio while fostering international academic partnerships. The leave will enhance Texas A&M's international visibility in the field of geospatial information science.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES (Continued)			
Lei Zou Associate Professor Geography	6	Fall 2026	Dr. Zou's leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas and Google DeepMind in San Francisco, California. He will collaborate with Google scientists to develop multimodal artificial intelligence methods for analyzing large-scale geographic data and work with faculty in the Center for Biological Clocks Research to study how environmental and social conditions affect sleep and circadian health. The leave will expand his research into sleep health resilience, offer unique learning opportunities for students, and enhance Texas A&M's visibility as a leader in geospatial science and public health.
Alberto Moreiras Professor Global Languages & Cultures	15	Fall 2026	Dr. Moreiras' leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas, and Universidad Metropolitana de Ciencias de la Educación in Santiago, Chile. During his leave, Dr. Moreiras will collaborate with Dr. William Thayer to complete Dr. Moreiras' book Broken Time: Living the Anthropocene. This book will explore the philosophical sources and projections of an understanding of existential time under conditions of potential unfathomable catastrophe. It will enhance the international prestige of Texas A&M through its innovative and original philosophical thought. The book will also have educational significance for future students.
Violet Johnson Professor History	13	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. Violet Johnson's leave will take place in College Station, Texas, Portland, Oregon, and New York, New York. She will conduct archival research at the Oregon Historical Society and engage with African migrant communities in New York to support her book on the history of African migrants in late-twentieth-century America. She will also develop a new course in African history. Her book will contribute to an understudied area of United States history, and the course will enrich curriculum by addressing a significant gap in historical education, thereby enhancing Texas A&M's academic reach and impact.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES (Continued)			
Dean Baskin Professor Mathematics	11	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. Baskin's leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas, Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, the University of Melbourne in Melbourne, Australia, and Utrecht University in Utrecht, Netherlands. During this time, Dr. Baskin will pursue research collaborations in geometric wave equations and quantum field theory on curved spacetimes. The leave will strengthen Dr. Baskin's research program and enhance Texas A&M's international reputation as a center for mathematical physics. It will also support the mentoring and development of Dr. Baskin's graduate students.
Yalchin Efendiev Professor Mathematics	24	Fall 2026	Dr. Efendiev's leave will take place at Khalifa University in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, and Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. He will collaborate with Dr. Al Kobaisi on multicontinuum methods for porous media and advance hierarchical multicontinuum homogenization techniques in Singapore. The leave will support large-scale applications of recent multiscale methods, development of a multicontinuum textbook, expanded opportunities for graduate students, and future research funding. These efforts will strengthen Dr. Efendiev's research program and enhance Texas A&M's international visibility in applied mathematics and porous media modeling.
Jean-Luc Guermond Professor Mathematics	21	Spring 2027	Dr. Guermond's leave will take place at the École Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées in Champs-sur-Marne, France and Paris-Saclay University in Gif-sur-Yvette, France. During this time, Dr. Guermond will collaborate with Dr. Alexandre Ern at the École Nationale des Ponts and with Dr. Caroline Nore at Paris-Saclay University. The leave will support progress on a long-term research project focused on developing innovative algorithms to simulate multi-physics fluid flows. This work will culminate in the publication of an undergraduate textbook, enhancing the visibility of Texas A&M in the scientific textbook market.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES (Continued)			
Joseph Landsberg Professor Mathematics	21	Fall 2026	Dr. Landsberg's leave will take place at the Institute of Mathematics of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the University of Warsaw in Warsaw, Poland, and Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. During this time, Dr. Landsberg will collaborate with leading geometers J. Buczyński and J. Jelisiejew to address key questions in theoretical computer science and develop new geometric techniques for resolving them. This leave will enhance Texas A&M's visibility among international leaders in mathematics and computer science and accelerate Dr. Landsberg's research productivity.
Chun-Hung Liu Associate Professor Mathematics	7	Fall 2026	Dr. Liu's leave will take place at Princeton University in Princeton, New Jersey, Monash University in Melbourne, Australia, and Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. During this time, he will collaborate with faculty in the mathematics departments of these institutions to address open problems in graph theory, deliver seminar talks, and finalize drafts of research papers. The leave will support the completion of ongoing research projects, initiation of new ones, and enhancement of both international and domestic visibility of Texas A&M in the field of mathematics.
Guergana Petrova Professor Mathematics	24	Spring 2027	Dr. Petrova's leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas and the University of South Carolina in Columbia, South Carolina. During this time, she will collaborate with faculty in the Department of Mathematics at both institutions to advance her research programs in the mathematical foundations of artificial intelligence and deep learning. The leave will support Dr. Petrova's efforts to deepen her work in artificial intelligence, allowing her to share the latest algorithmic innovations in deep learning and its applications with future students, and enhance the international visibility of Texas A&M in this rapidly evolving field.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES (Continued)			
Anne Shiu Professor Mathematics	11	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. Shiu's leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas, Hochschule für Technik und Wirtschaft Berlin in Berlin, Germany, the Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics in Dresden, Germany, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in Illinois, and Santa Clara University in Santa Clara, California. During this time, Dr. Shiu will pursue research collaborations in mathematical biology and applied algebraic geometry and will participate in a research conference. The leave will strengthen Dr. Shiu's research program, benefit future graduate students, and enhance Texas A&M's international reputation in applied algebraic geometry.
Guoliang Yu Distinguished Professor Mathematics	14	Spring 2027	Dr. Yu's leave will take place at the University of Chicago in Chicago, Illinois, New York University in Manhattan, New York, and Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. During this time, he will collaborate with faculty in mathematics and physics to study the classification of quasi-representations and contribute to the Novikov conjecture – a major open problem concerning the structure of high-dimensional spaces and geometry. This leave will enable Dr. Yu to advance his research, integrate new mathematical insights into his teaching, and elevate the international visibility of Texas A&M in the fields of geometry and mathematical physics.
Justin Moscarello Associate Professor Psychological & Brain Sciences	8	Spring 2027	Dr. Moscarello's leave will take place at the Johansen Laboratory at the University of California in Irvine, California and in College Station, Texas. He will collaborate with Dr. Josh Johansen to develop new research ideas and receive immersive training in advanced methodologies for studying learning and memory. The leave will support at least one grant proposal and expand Dr. Moscarello's experimental toolkit, enhancing the impact of his research and increasing recognition for Texas A&M in behavioral neuroscience.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES (Continued)			
Rachel Smith Associate Professor Psychological & Brain Sciences	10	Fall 2026	Dr. Smith's leave will take place in College Station and Bryan, Texas. She will collaborate with faculty at the Texas A&M University Health Science Center to develop expertise in advanced neuroscience tools that measure dopamine signals during decision-making tasks in animal models. By integrating these technologies into her research, Dr. Smith will expand her scientific capabilities, generate preliminary data for future publications and grant proposals, and enhance Texas A&M's visibility in the field of innovative behavioral neuroscience.
Ege Islekel Assistant Professor Philosophy	2	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. Islekel's leave will take place in Houston, Texas and at the French National Library in Paris, France. During her leave, she will complete archival research for the final chapter of her second book, Monstrous Visions, and prepare the full manuscript for submission. The leave will allow Dr. Islekel to strengthen her research program, enhance her teaching through new graduate and undergraduate courses, and enhance the reputation of Texas A&M in the fields of continental philosophy and philosophies of the global south.
Martin Peterson Professor Philosophy	11	Spring 2027	Dr. Peterson's leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas and the University of Bielefeld in Bielefeld, Germany. He will develop a new line of research exploring the question "What Is a Moral Compromise?" expected to yield three peer-reviewed journal articles. This leave will provide time to investigate this under-theorized concept in moral philosophy, enriching the academic quality of his large-enrollment ethics courses. The resulting scholarship will enhance student experience and elevate Texas A&M's reputation in moral philosophy and ethics education.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES (Continued)			
Lifan Wang Professor Physics & Astronomy	20	Fall 2026	Dr. Wang's leave will take place at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in Berkeley, California. During this period, he will collaborate with Dr. Saul Perlmutter and other physicists to advance research in supernovae and cosmology. The leave will enable Dr. Wang to initiate new observational projects with his collaborators, prepare proposals for observing time on major facilities, and develop new directions for future grant proposals. These activities will enhance the national and international visibility of Texas A&M in the field of astronomy and will generate data, methods, and tools that will be incorporated into undergraduate astronomy courses, directly benefiting both research and students at Texas A&M.
Nadia Kim Professor Sociology	2	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. Kim's leave will take place at the University of California at Los Angeles. During her leave, Dr. Kim will serve as a California Center for Population Research affiliate, engaging with academics on her book exploring why sociology did not anticipate immigration's central role in recent historic political shifts. This leave will enable Dr. Kim to conduct supplementary research, receive feedback from colleagues, and finalize the book. The resulting publication will be used by Texas A&M students at all levels to foster generative thinking and collaboration across the College of Arts & Sciences.
Suojin Wang Professor Statistics	36	Spring 2027	Dr. Wang's leave will take place in Corpus Christi, Texas, San Francisco and Palo Alto, California, and College Station, Texas. He will work closely with collaborators at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, the University of California San Francisco, and Stanford University to develop innovative and sound statistical methodology with novel applications in public health and medical research. The high-quality research and publications in high-impact journals produced during this leave will be integrated into classroom teaching and student advising. These activities will significantly benefit the Department of Statistics, the College of Arts & Sciences, and Texas A&M.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES (Continued)			
Quan Zhou Associate Professor Statistics	6	Spring 2027	Dr. Zhou's leave will take place at the University of Turin and Collegio Carlo Alberto in Turin, Italy and Imperial College London in London, England. During the leave, he will collaborate with Professor Tiziano De Angelis and Professor Philip Ernst on theoretical and interdisciplinary research problems in applied probability, data science, and artificial intelligence. The leave will allow Dr. Zhou to deepen existing collaborations, expand into new research directions, and develop future teaching materials. It will also increase his department's visibility in cutting-edge areas such as generative artificial intelligence.
MAYS BUSINESS SCHOOL			
Manjit Yadav Professor Marketing	35	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. Yadav's leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. Following the completion of his five-year term as Department Head and nearly two years as Interim Department Head, he will develop and advance his research and future teaching objectives, focused on how digital technologies impact markets and marketing. His leave will result in acquisition of new methodological skills, particularly in the emerging field of artificial intelligence, advance ongoing research projects, and explore ideas for new course development. This leave will contribute to the research, teaching, and service mission of the Department of Marketing at Mays Business School.
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT			
Chayla Haynes Davison Associate Professor Educational Administration & Human Resource Development	9	Spring 2027	Dr. Haynes Davison's leave will take place at the University of California in Los Angeles, California. During her leave, she will collaborate with nationally recognized scholars to develop a book proposal and begin co-authoring a field-defining book on intersectionality methodology. This approach enables scholars to design studies that capture the complex experiences of multiple groups with both theoretical and methodological precision. The leave will strengthen Dr. Haynes Davison's research program, enhance graduate-level teaching in qualitative and mixed-methods research, and support the priorities of the university to enhance its national profile as a leader in transdisciplinary scholarship.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (Continued)			
Idean Ettekal Associate Professor Educational Psychology	8	Spring 2027	Dr. Ettekal's leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas, and the University at Buffalo in Buffalo, New York. During his leave, he will collaborate with faculty at the Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention and conduct data analyses using the Adolescent Brain and Cognitive Development study. The leave will enable Dr. Ettekal to expand his research program on adolescents' digital technology use and mental health outcomes, co-author peer-reviewed journal articles, prepare a grant application with his collaborators, and facilitate graduate student access to this large-scale national dataset at Texas A&M.
Wen Luo Professor Educational Psychology	12	Spring 2027	Dr. Luo's leave will take place in College Station, Texas and at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She will complete a federally funded project by developing and disseminating a statistical software tool, collaborate on future grant proposals, and begin creating an artificial intelligence-based virtual assistant to support student learning in statistics. The leave will enhance her research in single-case methodology, improve instructional accessibility for graduate students, and advance Texas A&M's goals in research impact and innovative teaching.
Steven Riechman Professor Kinesiology & Sports Management	20	Fall 2026	Dr. Riechman's leave will take place in Lubbock, Waco and Stephenville, Texas, Fayetteville, Arkansas, and South Carolina. He will present seminars, integrate lab protocols, collaborate on manuscripts, and engage in grant planning to advance the Southern Heat Initiative – a multi-institutional network studying thermoregulation and human performance in extreme environments. The leave will generate preliminary data, strengthen collaborations, and support grant submissions, benefiting Dr. Riechman's research program, student training, and the strategic goals of Texas A&M in health, performance, and climate resilience.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (Continued)			
Hope Gerde Professor Teaching, Learning & Culture	4	Spring 2027	Dr. Gerde's leave will occur in Washington, District of Columbia, Tallahassee, Florida, Atlanta, Georgia, and Kansas City, Kansas. She will visit four leading institutes to collaborate with faculty and leadership, studying models of development, funding, partnerships, and dissemination. The leave will support the creation of a 10-year advancement plan for her institute, including innovative research and outreach initiatives, expanded funding strategies, and multimedia dissemination. These efforts will increase the international visibility and impact of her institute, Texas A&M, and the field of Early Childhood.
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING			
Paul Cizmas Professor Aerospace Engineering	27	Fall 2026	Dr. Cizmas' leave will take place at the National University of Science and Technology "Politehnica" Bucharest in Bucharest, Romania and Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. In Romania, he will collaborate with faculty in the Department of Aerospace Engineering to develop a computational model of hydrogen combustion in a jet engine to be used in a funded experimental project and at Texas A&M he will complete his book on computational fluid dynamics. The leave will increase the international visibility of Texas A&M in the field of hydrogen propulsion.
Jean-Briac le Graverend Associate Professor Aerospace Engineering	11	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. le Graverend's leave will take place at Mines Paris-PSL in Paris, France. During his leave, Dr. le Graverend will work on the contribution of defects in the storage of deformation memory in metallic materials using additive manufacturing. The new skills obtained will contribute to Texas A&M's strategic and high-impact area towards research excellence and industrial leadership and benefit the students who will be exposed to the recent progress made in the field of metallurgy, materials science, and mechanics.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Continued)			
John Criscione Professor Biomedical Engineering	24	Spring 2027	Dr. Criscione's leave will take place at Driscoll Children's Hospital in Corpus Christi, Texas. As part of a biodesign immersion, he will observe current best practices in the diagnosis, management, and treatment of congenital heart defects. This leave will enable Dr. Criscione to shift his research focus in cardiovascular devices from adult heart disease to pediatrics, positioning the Department of Biomedical Engineering to further establish leadership in pediatric device innovation and generate discoveries that improve care for an underserved patient population.
Wonmuk Hwang Professor Biomedical Engineering	21	Fall 2026	Dr. Hwang's leave will take place in College Station, Texas, Bethesda, Maryland, and Seoul, South Korea. During his leave, Dr. Hwang will develop and implement next-generation biomolecular simulation and analysis algorithms, involving collaboration with a researcher at the National Institutes of Health and discussions with researchers at the Korea Institute for Advanced Study. The leave will result in new grant proposals and enhance his undergraduate and graduate courses with the new computational methods and theoretical analyses developed during his leave.
Alex Walsh Associate Professor Biomedical Engineering	6	Fall 2026	Dr. Walsh's leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. During her leave, she will explore gaps in quantum biology and women's health that can be addressed through optical technologies, collect preliminary data, and strengthen collaborations with faculty in the Department of Biomedical Engineering. This leave will enable Dr. Walsh to launch two new research directions, prepare competitive grant proposals, and enhance Texas A&M's visibility in the interdisciplinary field of biophotonics.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Continued)			
Feng Zhao Professor Biomedical Engineering	5	Spring 2027	Dr. Zhao's leave will take place at the Institute of Biosciences and Technology (IBT) in Houston, Texas and Michigan Technological University in Houghton, Michigan. She will collaborate on studies in cardiac and lymphatic regeneration, expand validation of vascular grafts, and advance development of a bioreactor system for producing extracellular matrix materials. This leave will strengthen her research and funding program, accelerate the translation of regenerative technologies into clinical applications, and elevate the reputation of the Department of Biomedical Engineering and Texas A&M in the field of biomedical innovation.
Jeetain Mittal Professor Chemical Engineering	4	Fall 2026	Dr. Mittal's leave will take place at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, the University of California San Diego, and Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. During his leave, he will collaborate with Professors Nicholas Fawzi and Galia Debelouchina on joint research projects, prepare grant proposals, and explore new directions that integrate artificial intelligence and machine learning into biomolecular simulations. The leave will strengthen research collaborations, enrich student training, and elevate Texas A&M's visibility through high-impact publications, new grants, and expanded partnerships across Texas.
Sreeram Vaddiraju Associate Professor Chemical Engineering	16	Spring 2027	Dr. Vaddiraju's leave will take place at the Air Force Research Laboratory in Dayton, Ohio. During his leave, he will collaborate with Dr. Ajit Roy of the Air Force Research Laboratory on the design, fabrication, and characterization of nanowire-assembly-based memristors for both low- and high-temperature operation. This leave will enable Dr. Vaddiraju to explore new research directions in nanowire-based memory device design and generate preliminary data, laying the foundation for sustained collaboration between Texas A&M and the Air Force Research Laboratory. The outcomes are expected to support external funding opportunities and enhance graduate student education at Texas A&M.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Continued)			
Eun Kim Professor Computer Science & Engineering	22	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. Kim's leave will take place at Seoul National University in Seoul, South Korea and in College Station, Texas. She will collaborate with Professors Jung Ho Ahn and Hyojin Sung on co-designing artificial intelligence accelerator hardware and compiler/runtime software, while also developing proposals for external research funding. This leave will help generate preliminary results, enrich her teaching with cutting-edge insights, and strengthen Texas A&M's global presence in advanced computer architecture.
Dimitri Loguinov Professor Computer Science & Engineering	23	Fall 2026	Dr. Loguinov's leave will take place in College Station, Texas. During this leave he will advance research in big-data computing, scalable analytics, high-performance optimization, and networked systems. These efforts will strengthen Texas A&M's competitiveness for external funding, support high impact publications, enrich computer science curricula, and better prepare students for a data-driven future. The leave will also help attract undergraduates to the Computer Science & Engineering Ph.D. program and elevate the university's research reputation.
Huilin Gao Professor Civil & Environmental Engineering	13	Spring 2027	Dr. Gao's leave will take place in College Station and Austin, Texas, with multiple visits to the Texas Water Development Board and Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. During this time, she will collaborate with the Texas Water Development Board and Oak Ridge National Laboratory, submit new proposals to federal and state agencies, publish manuscripts in high-impact journals, and develop course materials. These efforts will benefit Texas A&M by expanding funded research, strengthening the training of future researchers, and enhancing Dr. Gao's leadership role in the field of hydrology.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Continued)			
Zachary Grasley Professor Civil & Environmental Engineering	19	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. Grasley's leave will take place at Circle Concrete Tech, Inc. in Bryan, Texas. He will investigate the viability of using Plient recycled steel fibers as a replacement for traditional rebar reinforcement in concrete pavements and floors. This research aims to confirm the commercial potential of Plient fibers to reduce construction costs and enhance infrastructure sustainability. The outcomes of this leave are expected to financially benefit The Texas A&M University System through intellectual property royalties and elevate the College of Engineering's visibility through an impactful innovation.
Ali Mostafavi Professor Civil & Environmental Engineering	9	Fall 2026	Dr. Mostafavi's leave will take place at the Texas A&M Institute for a Disaster Resilient Texas in Houston, Texas. He will establish a disaster artificial intelligence initiative and collaborate with international partners including the Pacific Disaster Center and the Dutch- and Singapore-Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Centres. His work will focus on building national and international research collaborations, launching a university–industry consortium, and advancing lab innovations for deployment. These efforts will strengthen scholarship, integrate disaster artificial intelligence into teaching and research, and foster lasting partnerships, enhancing Texas A&M's visibility and impact in artificial intelligence-enabled disaster resilience.
Robert Balog Professor Electrical & Computer Engineering	16	Fall 2026	Dr. Balog's leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. He will advance his patented technologies on electrical arc fault detection and power system quality compensation through lab work and industry outreach. The leave will support development of demonstration prototypes, cultivation of industry partnerships, and data collection from test deployments. These efforts will enhance the societal impact and commercial viability of his technologies while increasing Texas A&M's visibility in the field of electrical power.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Continued)			
Ulisses Braga-Neto Professor Electrical & Computer Engineering	18	Fall 2026	Dr. Braga-Neto's leave will take place at the Oden Institute for Computational Engineering and Sciences at the University of Texas at Austin in Austin, Texas. Hosted by Dr. Karen Wilcox, an international leader in the field of scientific computation, he will collaborate on joint grant proposals and scientific publications with her group and other University of Texas at Austin researchers. The leave will advance his scholarship in machine learning and scientific computation, benefiting students and colleagues while strengthening Texas A&M's reputation as a hub for engineering and computational research.
Nicholas Duffield Professor Electrical & Computer Engineering	11	Fall 2026	Dr. Duffield's leave will take place at the University of Colorado in Boulder, Colorado. He will collaborate with faculty in the College of Engineering and Applied Science and the Institute of Behavioral Science to develop preliminary results for research proposals on artificial intelligence and its applications in physical infrastructure. The research will explore self-calibrating transferability, which uses multiple datasets to provide partial ground truth for training other datasets. He will also begin creating training materials in interdisciplinary artificial intelligence and build connections with university, federal, and industry labs. These efforts will support future research, expand educational resources, and strengthen Texas A&M's position as a leader in artificial intelligence-driven infrastructure innovation.
Xiaoning Qian Professor Electrical & Computer Engineering	12	Fall 2026	Dr. Qian's leave will take place at the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington. He will collaborate with Dr. Shuai Huang in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering to develop Bayesian reasoning and causal discovery methods in the context of artificial general intelligence focusing on high-stakes decision-making applications such as healthcare. This work will support collaborative proposals, strengthen long-term research partnerships, and generate academic and commercial impact by bridging statistical learning, causal inference, and artificial intelligence. The research will be integrated into his teaching, directly benefiting students and enhancing Texas A&M's visibility in advanced data science and intelligent systems.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Continued)			
Alfredo Garcia Professor Industrial & Systems Engineering	7	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. Garcia's leave will take place at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, Minnesota and Imperial College London in London, England. He will collaborate with Professor Mingyi Hong on their joint project funded by the National Science Foundation, focusing on inverse reinforcement learning. He will also initiate collaboration with the Dyson School of Design Engineering at Imperial College London. This leave will support ongoing research, benefit Dr. Garcia's doctoral students funded by the project, and foster new international collaborations, enhancing the visibility of Texas A&M in the fields of machine learning and design engineering.
Lewis Ntaimo Professor Industrial & Systems Engineering	21	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. Ntaimo's leave will take place at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana and Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. He will collaborate with industrial and systems engineering faculty on research in natural disaster management and write a textbook on systems thinking and engineering. The leave will help restart his research after six years as department head, supporting development of preliminary models and algorithms, joint grant writing, and textbook preparation. These efforts will benefit future Texas A&M students and strengthen the university's visibility in systems engineering and disaster management.
Iman Borazjani Professor Mechanical Engineering	7	Fall 2026	Dr. Borazjani's leave will take place at the University of São Paulo, Brazil and the University of Pittsburgh in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He will develop computational and machine learning tools for precision medicine and collaborate with scholars on quantum computing codes for fluid and structure equations. The leave will support preliminary data generation, grant writing in quantum computing, and enhance Texas A&M's international visibility through the prestigious Fulbright award.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Continued)			
James Edward Hubbard, Jr. Professor Mechanical Engineering	7	Fall 2026	Dr. Hubbard's leave will take place at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina and in College Station, Texas. During this leave, he will complete two major research manuscripts. One focuses on his adaptive digital twin framework for modeling cognitive state dynamics from data, and the other involves motion capture and statistical parametric mapping to assess Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy in canines. Both projects integrate engineering and neuroscience to produce translational impact. These publications will enhance Texas A&M's research leadership in neuroengineering and strengthen future funding opportunities in cognition, biomedicine, and human-machine systems.
Waruna Kulatilaka Professor Mechanical Engineering	11	Spring 2027	Dr. Kulatilaka's leave will take place at the University of Duisburg-Essen in Duisburg, Germany and Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. He will collaborate on novel optical and laser diagnostic methods for combustion studies and develop a handbook for teaching optical techniques to engineering students. The leave will support the invention of new sensing tools for high-pressure, chemically reacting flows and generate content for a future textbook. These efforts will advance his research program and increase Texas A&M's international visibility in cutting-edge propulsion and energy research.
Sivakumar Rathinam Professor Mechanical Engineering	16	Fall 2026	Dr. Rathinam's leave will take place at the Air Force Institute of Technology and Integrated Solutions for Systems in Dayton, Ohio and Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. He will collaborate with researchers on autonomy challenges, participate in field experiments, and publish scientific articles and book chapters on autonomous vehicles. The leave will support preliminary data generation and major proposal development for the Air Force, Navy, and United States National Laboratories, advancing his research and enhancing Texas A&M's visibility in autonomous systems.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Continued)			
Linda Katehi Professor Electrical & Computer Engineering	6	Fall 2026	Dr. Katehi's leave will take place at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, California. She will collaborate with Professor Joshua Yang's group to design and test memristor-based intelligent receivers, advance joint publications, and develop a competitive National Science Foundation Mid-Scale Research Infrastructure-1 proposal focused on novel memory devices and cloud-connected facilities. The leave will accelerate her research program, provide Texas A&M students with access to advanced infrastructure and mentorship, and enhance Texas A&M's visibility as a national leader in intelligent radio frequency systems and memory technologies.
Svetlana Sukhishvili Professor Materials Science & Engineering	10	Spring 2027	Dr. Sukhishvili's leave will take place at the Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology in Hautcharage, Luxembourg and Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. She will collaborate with scholars on translational research focused on reconfigurable polymers and in the application of artificial intelligence in the development of antibiofilm coatings. This will enable her to establish new collaborations, generate preliminary data for two grant proposals, and enhance the international visibility of Texas A&M in the field of polymer materials.
Freddie Witherden Associate Professor Ocean Engineering	6	Fall 2026	Dr. Witherden's leave will take place at Tohoku University in Sendai, Miyagi Prefecture, Japan and Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. During his leave, he will collaborate with faculty in the Institute of Fluid Science at Tohoku University to further his development of new techniques for simulating combustion and focus on the completion of his graduate book on Modern Numerical Methods. The leave will allow Dr. Witherden to learn from and interact with the world-class combustion experts at Tohoku University and finish his book which will be used by graduate students at Texas A&M.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Continued)			
George Moridis Professor Petroleum Engineering	8	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. Moridis's leave will take place at the National University of Singapore in Singapore and the Politecnico di Torino in Turin, Italy. During his leave, he will conduct numerical simulations to analyze data on carbon dioxide sequestration using hydrates and assess the feasibility of gas recovery from oceanic methane hydrates in Asia. He will participate in advanced European studies on geothermal energy and hydrogen storage and continue work on his book on the numerical simulation of coupled processes. This work will generate groundbreaking methodologies that enhance the global reputation of Texas A&M.
BUSH SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC SERVICE			
Fritz Bartel Associate Professor International Affairs	6	Fall 2026	Dr. Bartel's leave will take place in College Station, Texas, Argentina, and South Africa, where he will conduct archival research in support of his book, The Age of Transitions – a global history of the political, economic, and legal transitions that shaped international relations in the late 20th century. During his leave, Dr. Bartel will review diverse global sources and complete a full draft of the manuscript. This work will enhance Texas A&M's research impact among both academic scholars and the broader public by contributing to global historical scholarship and public understanding of international transitions.
Carmela Garritano Associate Professor International Affairs	11	Fall 2026	Dr. Garritano's leave will take place in Ghana, in the cities of Accra, Tema, Kumasi, and Tamale. During her leave, Dr. Garritano will conduct archival and interview-based research on plastics for her book on the cultural history of plastics in Ghana. The leave in Ghana is necessary for Dr. Garritano to perform the research that will enable her to complete her book, the publication of which supports the land, sea, and space grant mission of Texas A&M. This research will also be used in future courses that Dr. Garritano teaches to undergraduate students at Texas A&M.

BUSH SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC SERVICE (Continued)			
Robert Goidel Professor Political Science	11	Fall 2026	Dr. Goidel's leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. He will analyze political advertisements for nostalgic appeals, conduct experiments to assess their effectiveness, and study survey data on nostalgia's impact on views of democracy and political violence. The leave will support completion of his book manuscript, Longing for the Good Old Days: The Political Consequences of Nostalgia, and several co-authored articles with graduate students. These efforts will advance research in political psychology and public opinion while enhancing Texas A&M's visibility in the field.
Hyeran Jo Associate Professor Political Science	17	Fall 2026	Dr. Jo's leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas and the Bush School DC site in Washington, DC. She will work on an edited volume titled Small Powers in Great Power Politics, supported by a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, and organize a one-day policy workshop in Washington, DC. These activities will engage international scholars, policymakers, and representatives from think-tanks and international organizations, enhancing the visibility of Texas A&M in international affairs and policy research.
Heng Qu Associate Professor Public Service & Administration	9	Fall 2026	Dr. Qu's leave will take place in College Station and Houston, Texas. She will collaborate with colleagues at peer institutions to build a large-scale dataset linking nonprofit workforce demographics to financial and community characteristics and explore how workforce composition shapes financial outcomes and resource allocation. She will also analyze national and state-level data on nonprofit nursing homes to assess financial resilience and community access under policy changes and fiscal pressures. This leave will advance her multi-year research agenda, support competitive grant proposals, enhance classroom learning, and strengthen the research visibility of Texas A&M in nonprofit management and philanthropy.

COLLEGE OF MARINE SCIENCES & MARITIME STUDIES			
Thomas Earle Associate Professor Maritime Studies	6	Spring 2027	Dr. Earle's leave will take place in Austin, Texas, Seville, Spain, and Paris, France. He will conduct archival research at institutions holding records of national governments that sought to control Galveston Bay from the 1600s to the present. The leave will support the collection of primary sources for his third book, which explores the long history of Galveston Bay. This work will contribute to Texas A&M's College of Marine Sciences and Maritime Studies by advancing understanding of the relationship between human societies and the maritime world and enhancing Texas A&M's visibility in global maritime history.
NARESH K. VASHISHT COLLEGE OF MEDICINE			
Vytas Bankaitis Professor Cell Biology & Genetics	13	Fall 2026	Dr. Bankaitis' leave will take place at the Medical Research Council Laboratory of Molecular Biology in Cambridge, United Kingdom. He will be trained in sophisticated heavy isotope mass spectrometry as well as in the reconstitution and structural characterization of large protein complexes. The leave will allow Dr. Bankaitis to generate data relevant to his National Institutes of Health-funded research and expand his laboratory's research portfolio, enhancing its competitiveness for extramural funding. This opportunity will broaden the research capabilities and improve the quality of student training at Texas A&M, while elevating the university's international visibility in the biomedical research arena.
COLLEGE OF PERFORMANCE, VISUALIZATION, & FINE ARTS			
Kim Kattari Associate Professor Performance, Visualization & Fine Arts	11	Fall 2026	Dr. Kattari's leave will be based at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas and in Idanha-a-Nova, Portugal. She will conduct fieldwork to gather data on transcendent experiences at electronic music events and complete her book, Learning to Listen: The Transformative Impact of Electronic Music. This work will make a significant ethnomusicological contribution to popular music studies, enhance the visibility of Texas A&M scholarship, and expand educational opportunities for students pursuing research in this emerging field.

COLLEGE OF PERFORMANCE, VISUALIZATION, & FINE ARTS (Continued)			
Ann McNamara Professor Performance, Visualization & Fine Arts	17	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. McNamara's leave will take place at the University of Galway's School of Engineering and Centre for Creative Technologies in Galway, Ireland. During the leave, Dr. McNamara will conduct collaborative research on human-robot creative collaboration, developing autonomous creative systems, and exploring robotic applications in interactive art installations. The leave will establish Texas A&M as a pioneer in creative robotics research, enhance interdisciplinary curriculum development, create international partnerships in robotics and creative technologies, and advance the university's strategic goals in creative innovative applications.
Courtney Starrett Associate Professor Performance, Visualization & Fine Arts	6	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. Starrett's leave will take place at Texas A&M in College Station and Galveston, Texas. She will collaborate with faculty who research marine biology, coastal environmental sciences, and atmospheric sciences; collect coastal ecosystem data; and expand her visual art portfolio. This interdisciplinary work will advance her computational and artistic techniques, deepen data integration, and support new exhibitions. The leave will enhance both Dr. Starrett's and Texas A&M's visibility at the intersection of art, science, and technology, fostering broader dissemination and innovation across disciplines.
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH			
Ping Ma Associate Professor Health Behavior	8	Fall 2026	Dr. Ma's leave will take place at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, Minnesota and at local community clinics in Houston and Brazos County, Texas. She will acquire advanced skills in screen capture and artificial intelligence technologies to integrate with ecological momentary assessment for studying adolescent social media use, sleep patterns, and mental health. She will gain hands-on experience with integrated care models that address social determinants of health in underserved communities. This leave will strengthen her research program, enrich student learning through the use of innovative methodologies, and advance Texas A&M's commitment to community-based health research.

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH (Continued)			
Rebecca Fischer Associate Professor Epidemiology & Biostatistics	7	Fall 2026 - Spring 2027	Dr. Fischer's leave will take place in Houston, Texas, Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, Kandy, Sri Lanka, and Bangalore, India. She will analyze data from her Latin American cohort, publish scientific manuscripts in international health, and expand her research on emerging tropical diseases to South Asia. The leave will support dissemination of research with Emory collaborators, development of international partnerships, and preparation of a grant proposal to expand her research efforts in South Asia. These activities will enhance Texas A&M's visibility and impact in global health and emerging diseases at both national and international levels.

Agenda Item No. 7.30

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Thomas D. Williams, Interim President
Texas A&M University

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Maritime Operations 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 at Galveston (TAMUG) leading to a Bachelor of Science in Maritime Operations (B.S. MARO), 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 B.S. MARO will be housed in the Department of Maritime Transportation within the College of Marine Sciences & Maritime Studies at TAMUG. It will be a 120-semester credit hour degree program that will provide a solid background in near coastal and inland vessel operations, cargo handling between vessel to shore, port security (including cybersecurity), and port infrastructure operations.

The first-year curriculum for the proposed B.S. MARO will mirror the first-year curriculum for the B.S. in Maritime Transportation (MART), including a summer sea term with shipboard and practical experience of life at sea or an applied internship (for students who either choose or are not qualified for a sea-going experience). The overlapping first year will allow students to explore the options in maritime education and then choose either the shoreside (B.S. MARO) or sea-going (B.S. MART) program without losing credit hours or delaying graduation. Following the first year, the remainder of the proposed B.S. MARO program will include maritime business, inland waterways, ports, logistics, and safety courses, as well as flexibility to pursue coursework in cybersecurity, entrepreneurship, or a breadth of transportation offerings.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The proposed B.S. MARO program will be supported by the reallocation of time across 16 existing faculty members within the college; no new faculty members will be required. There are no anticipated new costs over the first five years of the program, and the anticipated new revenue generated over the first five years is $2,532,263.

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. Students will leave the A&M System as responsible and engaged citizens prepared for successful careers in a global economy.

Agenda Item No. 7.30

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 6, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Maritime Operations 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 at Galveston leading to a Bachelor of Science in Maritime Operations.

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,

[SIGNED BY]

Thomas D. Williams
Interim President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]
Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]
Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]
James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]
R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]
Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Texas A&M University

Bachelor of Science with a major in Maritime Operations
(CIP 49.0309.01)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Maritime Transportation within the College of Marine Sciences & Maritime Studies at Texas A&M University at Galveston

The proposed 120-semester credit hour (SCH) Bachelor of Science in Maritime Operations (B.S. MARO) at Texas A&M University at Galveston (TAMUG) will provide a solid background in near coastal and inland vessel operations, cargo handling between vessel to shore, port security (including cybersecurity), and port infrastructure operations.

The proposed B.S. MARO will focus on knowledge needed for near coastal, inland, and port operations. These careers support the sea and ocean-going vessels as port captains, port engineers, cargo operators for ports, freight forwarders, ship agents, port facility operators, maritime service operations, vessel husbandry, and other positions found within the shoreside maritime industry.

The proposed B.S. MARO program will prepare students to:

- apply sound and safe seamanship practices and cargo-handling skills;
- apply business, transportation, and logistics concepts needed to serve as a maritime-related shoreside professional with the foundation to rise to senior levels;
- employ leadership and teamwork skills needed to serve as a maritime-related shoreside professional;
- lead with integrity, competence, and high ethical standards;
- preserve and enhance security aboard vessels and maritime-related shoreside facilities;
- use communication skills, both oral and written, needed to serve as a maritime-related shoreside professional;
- use information technology skills needed by a maritime-related shoreside professional; and
- utilize problem solving and critical thinking skills required by a maritime-related shoreside professional.

The proposed B.S. MARO will assist the state of Texas in filling ports and inland waterways with competent maritime experts to ensure safe and secure operations of dock and cargo operations.

The proposed B.S. MARO program includes 42 SCH of university-required core curriculum courses, 58 SCH of required major courses, 16 SCH of prescribed electives, and 4 SCH of internships/external learning (sea term or applied internship).

The proposed implementation date is fall 2026.

Texas A&M certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117 regarding need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards, and costs.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

The proposed B.S. MARO will assist the state of Texas in filling ports and inland waterways with competent maritime experts to ensure environmentally safe and secure operations of dock and cargo operations. For every mariner aboard a ship, an estimated three to four people are working ashore in supporting roles. Expansion of global trade, advancements in shipping technology, and stricter environmental regulations will increase the demand for skilled professionals across all sectors. Graduates of the proposed B.S. MARO program will form a skilled workforce essential to keeping vessels operational, ensuring the safety of their crews, and bridging the management and operations between the ocean-going vessel officers and business and leadership ashore.

Maintaining a full workforce is critical to the operational efficiency of ports, which are key to the functioning of global maritime transportation systems, as well as to the larger logistics systems and the industries they support. The 13 Texas ports alone handle 616.2 million tons of foreign and domestic cargo annually and generate $449.6 billion of total economic value for the state of Texas, representing 25% of Texas' gross domestic product (GDP).

A shortage of skilled workers at one or more ports can affect cargo handling operations, competitiveness, and even the efficiency of international trade. A modern Marine Transportation System is critical to national and economic security. About 99% of U.S. overseas trade, by weight, enters or leaves the U.S. by ship. This waterborne cargo and associated activity contribute more than $500 billion annually to the U.S. GDP and sustains over 10 million U.S. jobs. Prioritizing safety, security, education, and training alongside growing and promoting the workforce are integral to advancing Texas and U.S. economic growth.

B. Projected Enrollment

Texas A&M is committed to pausing undergraduate enrollment growth on the College Station campus to right-size Texas A&M to better support the student experience. However, the proposed program will be offered at TAMUG where one priority is growth for the Galveston campus. The following table shows the estimated cumulative headcount (based on new enrollment in the university) for the first five years of the program.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Total New Students	12	12	12	12	12
Attrition	-	1	1	1	1
Cumulative Headcount	12	23	34	45	45
Graduates	0	0	0	11	11

The proposed B.S. MARO will likely attract at least 12 new students per year for the first five years. Enrollment is expected to stabilize at 45 FTE students by year five.

The proposed B.S. MARO is not expected to negatively impact enrollment in the current B.S. in Maritime Transportation (MART) at TAMUG. The two programs will provide students with distinctly different career paths. Students enrolling in B.S. MART typically seek a U.S. Coast Guard unlimited oceans merchant mariner license to serve aboard an ocean-going vessel. In contrast, the proposed B.S. MARO will focus on shoreside operations to facilitate the cargo transfer of ocean-going vessels to shoreside intermodal systems and ensure secure operations of port facilities. Students in the B.S. MART program who find themselves no longer able to qualify for the license will be able to seamlessly transition into the proposed B.S. MARO and will still be able to graduate on time. Both programs will be synergistic with one another as well as with the B.S. in Maritime Business Administration (MBAU) at TAMUG. All three programs fulfill distinct and unique needs in the maritime sector.

C. Existing State Programs

Currently, there are no other B.S. MARO programs in Texas. There are various degrees in specific niches of maritime security, licensing, or business. These degrees do not directly create knowledge-based degrees in ports and inland waterways operations.

Programs offered within the College of Marine Sciences and Maritime Studies are the most closely related programs in Texas to the proposed B.S. MARO. This proposed program will complement existing programs and utilize a great deal of the current infrastructure and course offerings. The proposed degree will fall neatly between the B.S. MBAU and the B.S. MART. It will not be a business degree (requiring 45+ SCH of business courses) nor will it meet the criteria for a Merchant Marine Officer. Instead, it will serve as another pathway for students who find either of those programs incompatible with their background or goals or, in some cases, issues that prevent completion of the B.S. MART.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

No new faculty members will be required to support the proposed program during the first five years. There will be 3.15 FTE dedicated to the delivery of the proposed B.S. MARO, representing a student-to-faculty ratio of 14:1 by the fifth year of the program.

B. Program Administration

Captain George Edenfield, Department Head and Professor of Practice, will serve as the program coordinator/administrator for the proposed B.S. MARO.

C. Other Personnel

No new personnel will be required to support the proposed program.

D. Supplies, Materials

No additional supplies or materials are required to support the proposed program.

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

There are no anticipated new capital equipment, facilities, improvements, additions, or renovations needed to support the proposed new program.

G. Accreditation

There is no national accrediting body at the undergraduate level.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS			**NEW SOURCES OF FUNDING**	
Faculty	$0		Formula Income	$86,506
Program Administration	$0		Statutory Tuition	$137,300
Graduate Assistants	$0		Designated Tuition	$1,605,605
Supplies & Materials	$0		Student Fees	$702,852
Library & IT Resources	$0			
Equipment, Facilities	$0			
Staff	$0			
Other	$0			
Estimated New 5-Year Costs	$0		**Estimated New 5-Year Revenues**	$2,532,263

Agenda Item No. 7.31

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Thomas D. Williams, Interim President
Texas A&M University

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Coaching and Teaching in Secondary Education 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 Science in Coaching and Teaching in Secondary Education (B.S. CTSE), 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 B.S. CTSE will be housed in the Department of Kinesiology and Sport Management. It will be a 120-semester credit hour (SCH) degree program that will be delivered on the College Station campus. The proposed program will prepare undergraduates to immediately enter the teacher-coach profession in public and private school settings. This proposed degree will address essential knowledge and skills through multi-disciplinary coursework provided by Kinesiology and Sport Management and the Department of Teaching, Learning, & Culture. The curriculum will focus on three pillars of teacher-coach education: pedagogy (both classroom and sport-specific), teaching field preparation, and experiential learning. Students will choose a certification content field (math, science, social studies, or history) during their first year and complete 12-15 SCH of undergraduate coursework in their chosen field as required for certification by the Texas Education Agency. The proposed B.S. CTSE will culminate with a clinical teaching semester at a secondary school during the student's last semester. Students will work with a supervising teacher in their content field to gain valuable teaching experience. Students will also be paired with a cooperating coach who will provide opportunities for observation and student coaching during the semester sport season.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Estimated new costs over the first five years of the program are $894,077 and will be funded from a reallocation of funds in the College of Education & Human Development.

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. Students will leave the A&M System as responsible and engaged citizens prepared for successful careers in a global economy.

Agenda Item No. 7.31

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 6, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Coaching and Teaching in Secondary Education 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 Science in Coaching and Teaching in Secondary Education.

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,

[SIGNED BY]

Thomas D. Williams
Interim President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Texas A&M University

Bachelor of Science with a major in Coaching and Teaching in Secondary Education
(CIP 13.1314)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Kinesiology and Sport Management within the College of Education & Human Development

The proposed 120-semester credit hour (SCH) Bachelor of Science in Coaching and Teaching in Secondary Education (B.S. CTSE) will prepare students to immediately enter the teacher-coach profession in public and private school settings.

This proposed degree will address essential knowledge and skills through multi-disciplinary coursework provided by the departments of Kinesiology and Sport Management and Teaching, Learning, & Culture. The curriculum will focus on three pillars of teacher-coach education: pedagogy (both classroom and sport-specific), teaching field preparation, and experiential learning.

Students will choose a certification content field (math, science, social studies, or history) during their first year and complete 12-15 SCH of undergraduate coursework as required for certification by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) in the selected content field.

The proposed B.S. CTSE program will prepare students to:

- demonstrate content and pedagogy related to secondary education teaching and coaching;
- apply critical thinking skills to classroom teaching and coaching;
- apply stakeholder-appropriate communication skills;
- model professional and ethical behavior;
- apply social and cross-cultural competencies to educational contexts;
- demonstrate self-reflection related to secondary education teaching and coaching; and
- work collaboratively with stakeholders.

The proposed B.S. CTSE program includes 42 SCH of university-required core curriculum courses, 48 SCH of required major courses, 24 SCH of prescribed electives, and 6 SCH of a final project/capstone.

The proposed program will culminate with a clinical teaching semester at a secondary school during the students' last semester. Students will work with a supervising teacher in their content field to gain valuable teaching experience.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2026.

Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117 regarding need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards, and costs.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

As Texas reduces or removes health and physical education requirements in secondary schools, teachers certified only in physical education struggle to find jobs – even though there are widespread teacher shortages. Due to the teacher shortage, school districts have been forced to hire non-certified teachers. A record high of 34% of newly hired teachers in Texas were non-certified in 2024. Retention rates, especially in the crucial first three years, for non-certified or alternatively certified teachers are lower than those of traditionally prepared teachers. The TEA reports that alternatively certified teachers negatively impact their students' achievements in math and reading. The proposed new degree program offers a creative and effective solution by integrating a certification content field in science, social studies, history, or mathematics. Mathematics, specifically, is a declared teacher shortage area in secondary schools by the TEA (2024-2025).

By incorporating coaching education, graduates will also serve the state by addressing the coach shortage. The Texas High School Coaches Association (via the MyCoachingTree job board) reported on May 1, 2025, that there was a 5% increase in the number of coaching positions posted in the first four months of 2025 when compared to the same period in 2024. At the start of May 2025, there were 1,820 open coaching positions in Texas secondary schools, each linked to a corresponding teaching role.

The Thornton-McFerrin Coaching Academy (TMCA) at Texas A&M receives requests from Texas school districts seeking to recruit Texas A&M graduates to fill vacant teacher-coach positions. These requests increase each year, and the current supply of teacher-coaches simply cannot meet the demand. Graduates are hired by school districts prior to beginning an alternative-certification program, which leads to a challenging first year of teaching and coaching, and a lower likelihood of persisting in the profession.

B. Projected Enrollment

The following table represents those students admitted to the College of Education & Human Development who are anticipated to enroll in the proposed program. Given the institution's commitment to pausing undergraduate enrollment growth on the College Station campus, student projections reflect current undergraduates who would choose the proposed program over an existing major (e.g., the B.S. in Kinesiology), rather than an increase in new student enrollment. By offering a clear path toward secondary education teacher certification and coaching for interested students, it is anticipated that some students will transition from the B.S. in Kinesiology – Exercise and Sport Science track and pursue the proposed B.S. CTSE once available. The new major will incorporate additional pedagogy, communication, and sport-specific education, as well as clinical student teaching.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Total New Students	**15**	**20**	**20**	**20**	**25**
Attrition		3	5	5	6
Cumulative Headcount	**15**	**32**	**47**	**62**	**69**
Graduates				12	15

Between changes of major and transfer students, the department anticipates approximately 15 students at the start of the program, and a projected cumulative headcount of 69 by the fifth year of the program.

C. Existing State Programs

Midwestern State University, which offers a Bachelor of Science in Education (B.S.E.) in Physical Education, is the only public institution in the state with a degree in this CIP Code (13.1314; Physical Education Teaching and Coaching). While there are 19 private institutions that use this CIP Code designation, only one (Wayland Baptist) offers the unique multi-disciplinary coursework of the proposed B.S. CTSE.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

During the first five years, one additional faculty member will be required to support the proposed program. One assistant professor will join the 10 faculty members already in the Department of Kinesiology and Sport Management, resulting in 2.61 FTE dedicated to the delivery of the proposed B.S. CTSE, representing a student-to-faculty ratio of 26:1 by the fifth year of the program.

B. Program Administration

Dr. Paul Keiper, Clinical Associate Professor, will serve as the program administrator for the proposed B.S. CTSE.

C. Other Personnel

A new support staff will be required to support the proposed program.

D. Supplies, Materials

The proposed B.S. CTSE has budgeted $4,152 for two workstations necessary for the new faculty and staff.

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

There are no anticipated new capital equipment, facilities, improvements, additions, or renovations needed to support the proposed new program.

G. Accreditation

There is no national accrediting body at the undergraduate level.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

There will be no new revenue for the university, given there will be no increase in new undergraduate students on the College Station campus. New costs associated with the proposed B.S. CTSE will be covered by the reallocation of funds within the College of Education & Human Development.

NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS			**SOURCES OF FUNDING**	
Faculty	$581,175		Formula Income	
Program Administration	$0		Statutory Tuition	
Graduate Assistants	$0		Designated Tuition	
Supplies & Materials	$0		Student Fees	
Library & IT Resources	$0		Reallocation of resources within the College of Education & Human Development	$894,077
Equipment, Facilities	$4,152			
Staff	$308,750			
Other	$0			
Estimated New 5-Year Costs	$894,077		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$894,077

Agenda Item No. 7.32

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Thomas D. Williams, Interim President
Texas A&M University

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Environmental and Sustainability 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 Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) leading to a Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Sustainability Studies (B.S. ESST), 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 interdepartmental B.S. ESST will be housed in the College of Arts & Sciences. It will be a 120-semester credit hour degree program that will be delivered on the College Station campus. Courses required for this degree will include the university core curriculum, required courses about the environment and courses aligning with one of the seven themes (students' choice) that will equip students with the proficiency, capabilities and self-efficacy necessary to tackle pressing environmental and sustainability challenges. Graduates of the program will be well-prepared for careers addressing ecological, economic and social connections.

The proposed B.S. ESST is the result of a curricular redesign of the B.S. in Environmental Studies, resulting in two separate and distinct degrees offered at Texas A&M. The addition of the proposed program will provide more focused alternatives for students interested in entering the rapidly changing and expanding sustainability workforce.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The proposed B.S. ESST program will be supported by the reallocation of time across 21 existing faculty members within the department. The anticipated new costs over the first five years of the program are $75,000, and the funding resources will be reallocated funds from the College of Arts & Sciences.

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. Students will leave the A&M System as responsible and engaged citizens prepared for successful careers in a global economy.

Agenda Item No. 7.32

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 6, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Environmental and Sustainability 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 Texas A&M University leading to a Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Sustainability Studies.

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,

[SIGNED BY]

Thomas D. Williams
Interim President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Texas A&M University

Bachelor of Science with a major in Environmental and Sustainability Studies
(CIP 30.3301)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: College of Arts & Sciences

The proposed 120-semester credit hour (SCH) Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Sustainability Studies (B.S. ESST) at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) will prepare students interested in cultivating a solutions-oriented approach emphasizing long-term impacts of environmental change and sustainability interventions.

The proposed interdepartmental B.S. ESST program addresses a critical gap in the current market by equipping graduates with the proficiency, capabilities, and self-efficacy necessary to tackle pressing environmental and sustainability challenges. The curriculum's key competencies align with sustainability studies' national standards. Students will learn to analyze environmental changes with a diverse analytical toolkit that integrates ecology and earth systems science knowledge with human behavior, governance, and ethical considerations to develop innovative solutions or strategies to address sustainability issues, incorporating cutting-edge research and best practices.

The proposed B.S. ESST program will prepare students to:

- assess how environmental shifts are likely to affect human and non-human systems (e.g. agricultural output, water availability);
- evaluate the effectiveness, feasibility, and ethical implications of different sustainability initiatives;
- evaluate the role that different environmental knowledge systems play in understanding and managing the environment;
- evaluate different environmental ethical views and frameworks in the context of real-life decision making;
- apply systems-thinking concepts and tools to analyze real-world environmental conditions; and
- analyze environmental phenomena using appropriate data and documentation.

The proposed B.S. ESST program includes 42 SCH of university-required core curriculum courses, 50 SCH of required major courses, 25 SCH of prescribed electives (including 15 SCH for a chosen theme: energy and environment, environment in the humanities, environmental analytics, environmental health and justice, environmental change and sustainability, environmental policy and law, or urban environment) and 3 SCH of a final project/capstone.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2026.

Texas A&M certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117 regarding need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards, and costs.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

The proposed B.S. ESST program will offer students premier learning opportunities and transformative experiences both inside and outside the classroom, preparing them as a highly skilled workforce ready to contribute meaningfully to society as environmental and sustainability professionals. The program addresses the strategic priority of fostering interdisciplinary research and education, positioning the university as a leader in educating the next generation of environmental and sustainability professionals to fill a growing workforce need.

Organizations must make their operations and business models more sustainable across multiple workstreams, and a skilled workforce is critical to address this need. The requisite scale of transformation will require a global workforce that spans economic sectors and geographies, trained in the right skills, knowledge, and capabilities to develop, implement, scale, and evaluate the new tools, technologies, and processes needed for the world to make this transition to sustainable production systems.

The sustainability workforce is experiencing rapid growth and transformation, driven by increasing environmental challenges and policy shifts. Recent data reveals significant trends in green employment (jobs that contribute to environmental sustainability by promoting activities that reduce pollution, conserve natural resources and minimize waste): sustainability-related job postings have surged significantly since 2020 with environmental science employment projected to grow by 6% by 2032, and LinkedIn reporting a median 12.3% increase in green talent (individuals who possess a combination of green skills, knowledge and values needed to support environmental sustainability and promote a low-carbon economy) from 2022-2023. The Inflation Reduction Act sparked immediate job creation, with 100,000 clean energy jobs created in six months post-legislation. BlueGreen Alliance predicts clean energy jobs will reach nine million by 2032. The analysis by Microsoft/BCG and other research organizations highlights a growing workforce gap in sustainability professionals. As environmental challenges intensify and policy support increases, the demand for green skills continues to outpace the current talent pool, signaling significant opportunities in the sustainability sector. This trend underscores the critical need for workforce development and skills training in environmental and sustainable technologies.

B. Projected Enrollment

Given the institution's commitment to pausing undergraduate enrollment growth on the College Station campus to right-size Texas A&M to better support the student experience, the following table does not represent an increase in new undergraduate students entering the university, but rather the number of students electing to pursue the proposed program once available rather than an alternative major. This projected enrollment does not represent an increase in the undergraduate student population on the College Station campus but will provide students in the College of Arts & Sciences with an additional choice of majors.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Total New Students	**40**	**40**	**40**	**40**	**40**
Attrition		4	4	4	4
Cumulative Headcount	**40**	**76**	**112**	**148**	**148**
Graduates	0	0	0	36	36

The proposed B.S. ESST will likely attract at least 40 new students per year for the first five years. The enrollment is expected to stabilize at 148 students by year five.

C. Existing State Programs

Currently, there are three institutions in the state that offer a bachelor's degree with the same CIP Code designation as the proposed B.S. ESST program (30.3301, Sustainability Studies): Stephen F. Austin State University, The University of Texas at Austin, and The University of Texas at Dallas.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

The proposed B.S. ESST will be supported by 21 current faculty members representing 7.0 FTE allocated to the delivery of the program and resulting in a student-to-faculty ratio of 23:1 by the fifth year of the program.

B. Program Administration

Dr. Wendy Jepson, Professor and Director of Environmental Programs, will serve as the program coordinator/administrator for the proposed B.S. ESST.

C. Other Personnel

No new personnel will be required to support the proposed program.

D. Supplies, Materials

No additional supplies or materials are required to support the proposed program.

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

There are no anticipated new capital equipment, facilities, improvements, additions, or renovations needed to support the proposed new program. Current space allocated to the College of Arts & Sciences is sufficient to support the proposed program.

G. Accreditation

There is no national accrediting body at the undergraduate level.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

There will be no new revenue to the university given the expectation that there will be no increase in new undergraduate students on the College Station campus. The new costs noted below represent costs associated with student enrichment, student programming, operations, high-impact learning program marketing, etc. needed to support the proposed program. These new costs associated with the proposed program will be covered by the reallocation of funds in the College of Arts & Sciences.

NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS			**SOURCES OF FUNDING**	
Faculty	$0		Formula Income	$0
Program Administration	$0		Statutory Tuition	$0
Graduate Assistants	$0		Designated Tuition	$0
Supplies & Materials	$0		Student Fees	$0
Library & IT Resources	$0		Reallocated Funds from the College of Arts & Sciences	$75,000
Equipment, Facilities	$0			
Staff	$0			
Other (student enrichment, student programming, operations, high-impact learning, program marketing, etc.)	$75,000			
Estimated New 5-Year Costs	**$75,000**		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	**$75,000**

Agenda Item No. 7.33

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Thomas D. Williams, Interim President
Texas A&M University

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Cybersecurity and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

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

Background Information:

The proposed M.S. CYBR program will equip students with advanced knowledge and practical skills in safeguarding digital infrastructures against fast evolving cyber threats. This program will provide a rigorous curriculum that combines theoretical foundations with hands-on experience in areas such as computer security, network security, cryptography, ethical hacking, risk management, incident response, and secure software development. Students will gain expertise in recognizing vulnerabilities, protecting critical assets, and implementing cybersecurity solutions in diverse settings.

Graduates of the proposed M.S. CYBR program will have the technical knowledge to develop and deploy secure servers and networks or evaluate and enhance security of existing systems. They will have advanced knowledge of cybersecurity principles and best practices in a changing landscape. M.S. CYBR graduates will be uniquely qualified and competitive for positions such as developers of security products, application programmers, security analysts, penetration testers, vulnerability analysts, and security architects.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

A portion of two new faculty and one new staff member will be allocated to support the proposed program. The anticipated new costs over the first five years for the M.S. CYBR are $1,598,442. Total anticipated new revenue generated over the first five years is $3,581,181.

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. Students will leave the A&M System as responsible and engaged citizens prepared for successful careers in a global economy.

Agenda Item No. 7.33

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 6, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Cybersecurity and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

> **"The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University leading to a Master of Science in Cybersecurity.**
>
> **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,

[SIGNED BY]

Thomas D. Williams
Interim President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Texas A&M University

Master of Science with a major in Cybersecurity
(CIP 11.1003.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Computer Science and Engineering within the College of Engineering

The proposed 30-semester credit hour (SCH) Master of Science in Cybersecurity (M.S. CYBR) will equip students with advanced knowledge and practical skills in safeguarding digital infrastructures against fast evolving cyber threats. Students will gain expertise in recognizing vulnerabilities, protecting critical assets, and implementing cybersecurity solutions in diverse settings. Graduates of the proposed M.S. CYBR program will have the technical knowledge to develop and deploy secure servers and networks or evaluate and enhance security of existing systems. They will have advanced knowledge of cybersecurity principles and best practices in a changing landscape. The proposed M.S. CYBR aligns with institutional goals and addresses both the growing demand for cybersecurity professionals in the state of Texas and nationally and accommodates the interests of students eager to enter this high-demand field.

The proposed M.S. CYBR program will prepare students to:

- analyze computer systems and networks and identify security risks and weaknesses;
- conduct threat modeling, risk assessments, and vulnerability analyses for complex infrastructures;
- design software/algorithmic or hardware-based methods to enhance the security of such systems;
- develop advanced data analytics techniques to make automated decisions related to cybersecurity; and
- identify and assess the legal and ethical responsibilities of securing sites and user data and understand the implications of security breaches.

The proposed M.S. CYBR includes 9 SCH of prescribed core electives, 15 SCH of prescribed cybersecurity electives, and 6 SCH of prescribed computer science electives. The proposed program will be face-to-face on the College Station campus and online.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2026.

Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117 regarding need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards, and costs.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

There is a great demand for graduates with strong foundational and practical knowledge related to ensuring security of computers and networks, including Internet applications and cloud computing. The demand for cybersecurity professionals continues to exceed the supply, driven by the rapid growth of digital technologies and increasing threats to information security. According to industry reports, there is a global shortage of cybersecurity professionals, with over 3.5 million unfilled positions anticipated in 2025[1]. Additionally, regional labor market analysis reveals a high concentration of cybersecurity job postings, with a projected growth rate of 31% from 2021 to 2031[2], significantly higher than the national average for all occupations. Healthcare, finance, government, and critical infrastructure organizations face growing cyber threats, driving urgent demand for skilled cybersecurity professionals – who remain in short supply.

The need in Texas for professionals who are specifically skilled in cybersecurity is evidenced by the large number of open positions in companies across the state. In May 2025, LinkedIn listed over 2000 newly posted open cybersecurity full-time on-site positions in Texas (not including remote work), of which 286 open positions offer starting salaries of $100,000 or more. During just the last two weeks in May 2025, indeed.com listed over 100 open full-time positions at the M.S. level for cybersecurity professionals across Texas.

The proposed M.S. CYBR program aims to fill this workforce gap by producing graduates with advanced technical and leadership skills to protect digital assets, manage cyber risks, and respond to emerging threats. The program will also meet the increasing demand for professionals capable of navigating the complex regulatory and compliance landscape related to data protection and cybersecurity.

B. Projected Enrollment

Although the university is committed to pausing undergraduate enrollment growth on the College Station campus to better support the student experience, Texas A&M is also committed to strategic growth of the graduate student population by prioritizing the expansion of graduate education to address increasing demands for more skilled and advanced professionals across the state. The addition of these graduate students to the proposed program will not negatively impact services being provided to undergraduate students in the department. The projected enrollments provided below reflect 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	**26**	**40**	**40**	**40**	**40**
Attrition		2	2	2	2
Cumulative Headcount	**26**	**64**	**78**	**78**	**78**
Graduates		24	38	38	38

[1] https://cybersecurityventures.com/jobs/
[2] https://bluetree.digital/cybersecurity-market-growth/

The proposed M.S. CYBR will likely attract 26 students in the first year and then 40 new students per year for the following four years (20 face-to-face and 20 online). The projected cumulative headcount provided above for the first five years of the program is based on students completing the program within two years and an average attrition between 5 and 10%, consistent with the M.S. in Computer Science. Student enrollment is expected to stabilize at 78 FTE students by year five.

C. Existing State Programs

There are 11 public universities (Sam Houston State University, University of Texas at Austin, Stephen F. Austin State University, Texas A&M University-San Antonio, University of Texas at Dallas, University of Texas at San Antonio, University of Texas at Tyler, University of Houston, Texas A&M University-Victoria, University of North Texas, and West Texas A&M University) offering a master's program with the CIP Code designation of 11.1003; Computer and Information Systems Security/Auditing/ Information Assurance. Three of these institutions offer it as a Business School program (University of Texas at Tyler, and West Texas A&M) or target it specifically to business managers (Texas A&M University-Victoria). Two institutions offer their program as a policy, government, and society program (University of Texas at Austin and University of Texas at Dallas). One program focuses on digital forensics (Sam Houston State University).

In comparison, the proposed M.S. CYBR program will lead to an advanced Engineering degree. It is primarily technical in nature, with a focus on advanced computer systems and network and software security and cryptography. Six programs were identified that are somewhat similar in terms of technical orientation (Sam Houston State University – two programs, Texas A&M University-San Antonio, University of Texas at San Antonio, University of Houston, and University of North Texas). The proposed M.S. CYBR program is positioned to contribute toward meeting the demand for technically sophisticated cybersecurity graduates across the state and the nation.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

A portion of time of 11 current faculty and two new faculty members will be allocated to support the proposed M.S. CYBR. The resulting 5.58 FTE dedicated specifically to the delivery of the proposed program will represent an acceptable student-to-faculty ratio for a graduate program of 6:1 by the fifth year of the program.

B. Program Administration

Dr. Nitesh Saxena, Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, will serve as the program administrator for the proposed M.S. CYBR.

C. Other Personnel

The proposed program will require one additional staff member to support the proposed program. This person will support admission, advising existing students, and ongoing assessment of the program. In addition, the proposed program will have one teaching

assistantship awarded annually to provide support to instructors of courses in the proposed program. Estimated five-year costs include a stipend for the graduate teaching assistant as well as funds to cover their tuition and fees.

D. Supplies, Materials

No additional supplies or materials are required to support the proposed program.

E. Library

The proposed program will not require additional library resources as current library holdings in the Texas A&M Libraries include all the required materials needed to support the proposed program.

F. Equipment, Facilities

No additional equipment or facilities are required to support the proposed program.

G. Accreditation

The proposed M.S. CYBR will not seek accreditation.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS			**SOURCES OF FUNDING**	
Faculty	$1,084,747		Formula Income	$693,111
Program Administration	$0		Statutory Tuition	$123,750
Teaching Assistantships	$201,695		Designated Tuition	$903,162
Supplies & Materials	$0		Student Fees	$1,652,508
Library & IT Resources	$0		Board Authorized Tuition	$208,650
Equipment, Facilities	$0			
Staff	$312,000			
Estimated New 5-Year Costs	**$1,598,442**		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	**$3,581,181**

Agenda Item No. 7.34

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Thomas D. Williams, Interim President
Texas A&M University

Subject: Establishment of the Center for Applied Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Proposed Board Action:

Establish the Center for Applied Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CAEI) within Mays Business School at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M).

Background Information:

CAEI is a forward-looking initiative designed to expand the educational and research impact of Mays Business School while advancing Texas A&M's mission to develop innovative leaders who drive economic and societal progress. Entrepreneurship and innovation are foundational to business – they are not only academic disciplines but powerful forces that shape technology, organizations, and communities.

CAEI will build targeted excellence around entrepreneurship and innovation within Mays Business School, where the integration of business strategy, finance, marketing, operations, and leadership creates a unique platform for applied learning and research. The center will serve as the hub for business-focused entrepreneurship and innovation, connecting Mays Business School expertise with university-wide and external partners to translate ideas into scalable ventures and measurable impact.

Through applied coursework, experiential programs, research-driven commercialization, and industry engagement, CAEI will prepare students to become founders, innovators, and leaders who can navigate rapid technological change and drive growth across sectors. Collaboration will be central to this mission, with CAEI coordinating closely with the McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship, Meloy Engineering Innovation & Entrepreneurship Program, Texas A&M Innovation, Texas A&M colleges and schools, and industry and government partners throughout the Central Texas Triangle and beyond.

CAEI represents a proactive investment in Mays Business School's future. By expanding the school's applied entrepreneurship and innovation capacity, the center will deepen experiential learning, enhance faculty research relevance, and accelerate commercialization and venture creation that strengthen Texas A&M's role as a national leader in business education and economic development.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Start-up funding for CAEI will be provided through existing Mays Business School resources. The center's anticipated initial annual operating budget is approximately $500,000, growing to a steady-state annual budget of $1–2 million after the three- to five-year start-up phase. During this period, CAEI will be supported by base budget allocations and reallocated internal funds from

Mays Business School, ensuring a stable foundation without requiring central university or subsidy from The Texas A&M University System (A&M System).

Currently, Mays Business School is prepared to allocate $366,491 in recurring funds to CAEI, consisting of $322,000 in university-allocated base funding and $44,491 in estimated annual endowment income from existing endowments that support entrepreneurship at Mays. In addition, Mays Business School holds a cash balance of $234,265 which will support initial start-up and operational costs. Mays Business School has committed to providing additional college funds as necessary during the early years to ensure operational continuity and program launch.

Long-term sustainability will be achieved through a diversified funding model that includes philanthropic endowments (including a gift to name the center), corporate sponsorships, competitive grants, and earned program revenue. Mays Business School's proven record of securing major gifts – such as the Flippen Leadership Institute and other endowed centers – demonstrates its ability to attract sustained private investment.

This diversified and historically proven approach ensures that CAEI will remain financially independent, scalable, and sustainable – without imposing ongoing financial obligations on the A&M System or central university resources.

Strategic Plan Imperatives this Item Advances:

Approval of this agenda item will advance several of the A&M System's strategic imperatives. Specifically:

- *Strategic Imperative 1: All qualified students will find a place in the A&M System and will have an array of pathways to pursue their ambitions and interests.* CAEI will provide a new pathway for students at Texas A&M to pursue their ambitions and interests in entrepreneurship & innovation.

- *Strategic Imperative 3: Our students will leave the A&M System as responsible and engaged citizens prepared for successful careers in an increasingly global economy*. CAEI will develop educational experiences, experiential opportunities, and service opportunities our students need to succeed post-graduation in a global economy.

- *Strategic Imperative 4: The A&M System will increase its prominence by building a robust and targeted research portfolio.* CAEI will encourage cross-institution and cross-disciplinary research and collaboration.

- *Strategic 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.* CAEI will strengthen Texas and its economy by providing meaningful opportunities for students to develop into entrepreneurship & innovation leaders.

Agenda Item No. 7.34

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
November 10, 2025

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

Subject: Establishment of the Center for Applied Entrepreneurship and Innovation

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

> **"The Center for Applied Entrepreneurship and Innovation is hereby established as an organizational unit of Texas A&M University within Mays Business School."**

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Thomas D. Williams
Interim President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Center for Applied Entrepreneurship and Innovation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Rationale for the Creation of the Center for Applied Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Entrepreneurship and innovation are central to the mission of every leading business school. They are not just academic disciplines; they are foundational to business and powerful drivers of economic, technological, and societal advancement. For Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) – and Mays Business School in particular – fostering entrepreneurial capacity is essential to preparing integrity-led entrepreneurial leaders who make a positive difference in the communities where they live, work, and serve.

The rationale lies in building targeted excellence and clarity around entrepreneurship and innovation within Mays Business School, where the unique integration of business strategy, finance, accounting, marketing, operations, and leadership are taught. Leading business schools are defined by their entrepreneurial impact. The Center for Applied Entrepreneurship & Innovation (CAEI) represents a new and forward-looking initiative that will deepen the academic and research excellence of Mays Business School while enhancing the experiential and applied learning opportunities available to students and faculty. It is designed not as a response to any organizational change, but as an intentional and innovative undertaking that strengthens the educational and research mission of Mays Business School.

The new center will be characterized by deep academic integration at Mays Business School and will create a focused, rigorous program to train students to become founders, innovators, and leaders capable of navigating the accelerating pace of business transformation. The center will also intersect with the world-class research and scholarship that Mays Business School is known for on the topics of entrepreneurship and innovation, translating insights from faculty research into real-world impact through commercialization, venture creation, and industry collaboration.

Importantly, CAEI will embrace a bold and inclusive definition of entrepreneurship and innovation – one that spans small and medium-sized enterprises, established corporations seeking to innovate from within, and high-growth startups. By doing so, CAEI will serve as a catalyst for entrepreneurial impact across all sectors of the economy, providing a collaborative platform for students, faculty, and partners to transform research and ideas into real-world outcomes. In awarding the 2025 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences to Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion, and Peter Howitt, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences emphasized that *"Technology advances rapidly and affects us all, with new products and production methods replacing old ones in a never-ending cycle. This is the basis for sustained economic growth, which results in a better standard of living, health and quality of life for people around the globe"* (Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Press Release, October 13, 2025).

CAEI represents a proactive and strategic investment in the future of Mays Business School. It will strengthen the school's capacity to educate the next generation of entrepreneurial leaders, expand interdisciplinary research, and drive innovation that fuels economic and societal advancement in Texas and beyond.

2. General Description of the Center and its Mission and Goals

Proposed Name: Center for Applied Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Responsible Administrative Unit: Mays Business School

CAEI will serve as the flagship for all entrepreneurship/innovation education, research, and venture support at Mays Business School.

Mission: Developing transformative, entrepreneurial leaders by integrating rigorous academic training, hands-on experience, cutting-edge research, mentorship, and access to capital, all within the context of a preeminent business school.

Goals:

- Become the hub for business-focused entrepreneurship and innovation programming at Mays Business School and offer business-focused expertise to the rest of Texas A&M.
- Catalyze and support new venture creation and an entrepreneurial mindset among students, alumni, and faculty of Mays Business School and Texas A&M, with a strong focus on supporting the entrepreneurship ecosystem in the Central Texas Triangle.
- Support the broader Texas A&M efforts on entrepreneurship and innovation from the McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship and colleges/schools across Texas A&M with a Mays Business School-led model of applied entrepreneurship and innovation, including expertise on commercialization.
- Prepare Mays Business School students for multiple pathways into entrepreneurship, including starting ventures as students, joining ventures after graduation, and acquiring and running existing businesses via entrepreneurship through acquisition (ETA) with investor-backed search funds of existing companies.
- Serve as a center of thought leadership for entrepreneurship and innovation research. Engage industry partners and the Aggie Network to provide real-world mentorship, funding, and development opportunities.

A distinctive hallmark of the center will be its emphasis on experiential learning. Research consistently shows that hands-on, immersive learning strengthens creativity, critical thinking, and entrepreneurial capability. Mays Business School has a long tradition of offering such transformative, applied experiences through programs like Aggies on Wall Street, Titans of Investing, Aggies in Tech, Business Fellows, Commercial Banking, and the Trading, Risk & Investments Program. These initiatives share a common principle: students learn best by engaging directly with real-world challenges – testing ideas, working in teams, and receiving feedback from industry mentors and executives. Building on this foundation, the new center will create interdisciplinary learning laboratories where students ideate, prototype, and scale solutions that address business and societal needs. In doing so, it will extend Mays Business School's legacy of developing leaders who learn by doing and who drive innovation through purposeful, applied impact.

3. Potential Faculty Associated with the Center and Potential Intrasystem and Other Collaborations

The center will leverage the depth and diversity of Mays Business School's renowned faculty and staff, including experts in strategic management, finance, marketing, organizational behavior, and entrepreneurship. Current contributors include:

- Faculty with research, teaching, and industry experience in the areas of entrepreneurship and innovation
- Mays Business School alumni entrepreneurs and business leaders
- Industry partners seeking collaborations with innovative Aggie talent
- Adjunct and clinical faculty with startup and investment backgrounds
- Former student founders and guest mentors

The center will embody a partnership mindset – both within and across business disciplines and across other entrepreneurship and innovation efforts at the McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship and in other colleges/schools at Texas A&M. The McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship is focused on developing entrepreneurial mindsets across all disciplines on campus and serving as a catalyst for entrepreneurial success within the Aggie community and beyond through a wide variety of programs and mentorship. CAEI will focus on building immersive entrepreneurial and innovation programs primarily for Mays Business School students and faculty who are interested in turning an idea into a business. CAEI will facilitate the development of specific entrepreneurial skill sets that are needed to realize the full potential of the entrepreneurial endeavors of the Aggie community. Because true innovation emerges at the intersection of existing ideas, CAEI will seek to support cross-campus collaborations by sharing our business focused approach to applied entrepreneurship and innovation and our expert business faculty.

Executive Director

CAEI will be led by an Executive Director who is a full-time staff member with deep experience with entrepreneurship and innovation.

Faculty Affiliates and Industry Affiliates

CAEI will operate without dedicated center faculty. It will be supported by a network of affiliated faculty from the academic departments at Mays Business School. A core principle of the center is to foster cross-college/school collaboration, including with the McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship and the Meloy Engineering Innovation and Entrepreneurship Program. The center will also serve as a resource for students from other centers who require business expertise. The center's collaborative nature will also be enhanced by its planned integration with ongoing curriculum redesign efforts at Mays Business School.

4. Potential Activities

CAEI will offer a wide array of activities beyond research collaboration. These will include formal academic offerings, such as support for a potential future certificate program and support for existing programs in the Department of Management at Mays Business School: the Entrepreneurial Leadership Track within the B.B.A. in Management and the M.S. in Entrepreneurial Leadership. A key component will be experiential learning through programs like the Creative Destruction Lab (CDL), the applied entrepreneurship class that started at Mays Business School in 2025, and business competitions. Other activities include workshops, conferences, and service provision. The center will proactively integrate emergent and transformative forces shaping the modern economy – such as artificial intelligence – into its programming. This ensures that students and faculty alike remain at the forefront of entrepreneurial and innovative practice.

Some of the activities of the center include:

- Applied, hands-on entrepreneurship courses at undergraduate and graduate levels (curricular and co-curricular)
- University-wide and national pitch competitions (e.g., AI-focused business plan competition)
- Incubator and accelerator programming for student ventures
- Startup mentoring and venture funding ecosystem development
- Research seminars and practitioner speaker series on entrepreneurship and innovation
- Industry-sponsored venture projects and networking events
- Support for commercialization of research and technology in partnership with other colleges/schools and with Texas A&M Innovation
- Outreach and partnerships with entrepreneurs, with a particular focus on the Central Texas Triangle

5. Impact on Education and Training of Students

Students will benefit from experiential learning that includes:

- Expertise in finance, operations, marketing, and leadership applied directly to startup and innovation scenarios
- World-class mentorship, alumni engagement, and industry partnerships unique to Mays Business School
- Access to resources, funding, and market networks for scaling ideas
- A home for business-focused entrepreneurial students aspiring to found, join, or consult for new ventures
- Enhanced placement and career outcomes for students pursuing startup, venture capital, or entrepreneurial corporate tracks
- Distinctive, high-impact experiential learning culminating in the creation of Aggie companies and jobs

The center is designed to significantly impact the education and training of students. It will focus on three primary student segments: current Mays Business School students seeking high-impact entrepreneurial experiences, non-business students wanting deeper business-focused entrepreneurial learning, and providing a pathway for deeper business support for student entrepreneurs and innovators from other colleges/schools who need business expertise beyond the resources offered by McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship and other colleges. CAEI will work closely with McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship and other colleges/schools to extend our resources, programming, and faculty to best support their efforts and the students they serve who can benefit from the additional deeper business support that CAEI will provide. The center's activities will encompass opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate students.

6. Resource Requirements

Faculty and Staff: CAEI will be led by an Executive Director with strong entrepreneurial credentials. The leadership structure will include a program coordinator who will support the Executive Director. Faculty affiliates from Mays Business School and other colleges/schools will also support the center's operations, help develop educational programs, conduct research initiatives, help manage partnerships, and facilitate student engagement activities.

Facilities and Technology: CAEI's eventual physical location will be in a new building in planning for construction currently called "Mays Building 3". The CAEI will have access to up to 10,000 square feet allocated for co-working and incubator/accelerator space in the new Mays Building 3. Until the new building opens, the CAEI will use existing space in Mays Business School. This includes collaboration space in the recently opened Wayne Roberts '85 Building and additional space as needed in the Wehner Building. The Executive Director will have an office in the Dean's suite. Tools for virtual incubator, mentorship, and funding platforms, and resources for prototyping, customer discovery, and business validation will be utilized. Access to technology, including computers, audiovisual equipment, software tools, and research resources, is essential for supporting teaching, research and administrative functions within the center. Mays Business School is committed to providing the needed technology and equipment.

Funding and Budget: The anticipated initial annual operating budget for CAEI is approximately $500,000, growing to a steady-state annual budget of $1–2 million after the initial three- to five-year startup phase. During this period, CAEI will be supported by existing funds within Mays Business School and will expand its operating budget and programming only as additional fundraising milestones are achieved.

Mays Business School has a proven record of securing endowed gifts and corporate sponsorships to support major initiatives, including the Flippen Leadership Institute and other strategic centers and programs. This history of philanthropic success provides a strong foundation for CAEI's long-term sustainability and fundraising goals.

Currently, Mays Business School is prepared to allocate $366,491 in annual recurring funds to CAEI. Of this amount, $322,000 represents University-allocated base funding, and $44,491 represents estimated annual endowment income from existing endowments to support entrepreneurship. In addition, Mays Business School holds a current endowment cash balance of $234,265 which will be used to support initial startup and operational expenses.

Mays Business School has also committed to providing additional funds as needed during the startup phase to ensure the center's early success. This recurring base funding, combined with the existing cash balance, and other available resources, provides a solid foundation for CAEI's launch and early operations while the center builds endowed resources and external partnerships to sustain growth during the 3- to 5-year development period.

This diversified funding model ensures that CAEI will remain financially independent, scalable, and sustainable, without requiring supplemental support from central university resources.

Partnerships and Collaborations: CAEI will actively collaborate with a broad network of partners across Texas A&M and beyond to amplify impact and leverage shared resources. Within the university, CAEI will coordinate closely with the McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship, Meloy Engineering Innovation and Entrepreneurship Program, Texas A&M Innovation, and programs within the Colleges of Agriculture & Life Sciences, Arts & Sciences, Architecture, and others, to integrate business expertise into interdisciplinary venture creation, commercialization, and innovation initiatives.

CAEI will also pursue strategic partnerships with industry organizations, nonprofit entities, and government agencies that align with the university's mission and the center's applied focus. These relationships will include opportunities for sponsored venture projects, internships, joint research initiatives, executive education, and startup mentorship. Mays Business School faculty will lead

the business modeling, market strategy, and leadership components of these collaborations, while partners contribute domain expertise, technology, and real-world challenges that enrich the applied learning environment for students.

Externally, CAEI intends to build alliances with other business-focused academic institutions and innovation ecosystems throughout Texas and nationally – particularly within the Central Texas Triangle (College Station–Houston–Austin–Dallas) – to promote knowledge exchange, applied research, and venture acceleration. Through these partnerships, CAEI will strengthen Texas A&M's position as a leader in business-driven innovation and entrepreneurial education.

Marketing and Outreach: The center will receive strong support for marketing and communications from the Mays Business School Marcomm team.

7. Sources and Future Expectations of Financial Support

- Initial university commitment from Mays Business School internal sources and philanthropy
- A naming gift, endowments, and annual fund campaigns targeting alumni and Aggie entrepreneurs
- Corporate sponsorships for competitions, student fellowships, and thought leadership events
- Grants from state, federal, and private foundations supporting economic development, venture creation, and entrepreneurship education
- Event and program revenue (e.g., competitions, workshops)
- Potential revenue from equity participation or royalties where appropriate

Long term, the center's activities will be supported primarily by private funds that are raised externally. The center will receive internal administrative financial support and a portion of initial start-up funding from Mays Business School. A significant fundraising goal of a $100M+ endowment has been established to provide substantial and sustainable support for CAEI. Additional revenue streams will include corporate sponsorships and partnerships.

8. Governance and Advisory Structure

The center's governance will be led by a designated Executive Director who reports directly to the Dean of Mays Business School. An External Advisory Board (EAB) will be created, following The Texas A&M University System (A&M System) and Texas A&M requirements, to support the Executive Director, who will be responsible for its recruitment. The EAB will provide strategic advice, counsel, and networking opportunities to support the center's mission and objectives. EAB members may also assist with fundraising, program development, and advocacy efforts. The EAB will be composed of distinguished entrepreneurs, innovators, scholars, and alumni with expertise in entrepreneurship and innovation. The EAB will meet at least once per year.

9. Mechanisms for Periodic Review

The center 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*).

The center's Executive Director will produce an annual report to ensure that the center's operations are consistent with the approved proposal. The report will cover governance and oversight, fiscal operations and budget, funding sources, and research and educational activities. In addition, the Dean of Mays Business School may develop further annual report guidelines and requirements consistent with this goal. The report will be forwarded to the Dean of Mays Business School or the Dean's designee, who will forward it to the Vice President for Research. The Dean of Mays Business School, as the responsible administrative official, will annually evaluate the performance of the center and its Executive Director to ensure that the center fulfills its purposes. The review will also be used by the Dean of Mays Business School and the Vice President for Research to ensure that the center's Executive Director and staff comply with all applicable laws, A&M System policies and regulations, and university rules and procedures.

Every five years, the Dean of Mays Business School will initiate a periodic review by requesting that the center's Executive Director produce a report on the center's operations during the review period and convene a review committee. The Executive Director's report will cover governance and oversight, fiscal operations and budget, funding sources, and research and educational activities. A review committee will consist of a subset of the EAB who will participate in the review process. The review committee will be able to provide recommendations to the Dean and Executive Director about the center's performance. The Dean of Mays Business School will review the review committee's report and evaluate the center's performance. The Dean of Mays Business School will then provide a written report to the Vice President for Research, summarizing the review and making recommendations as to the continuation, revision, or dissolution of the center. The Vice President for Research or their designee will provide a written decision to the Dean of Mays Business School on their recommendations, and the Dean of Mays Business School will then inform the center's Executive Director. The final report of the periodic review will be submitted to the A&M System Office of Academic Affairs and A&M System Office of Research by the Vice President for Research. Subsequent ongoing monitoring and periodic reviews will also evaluate, to the extent necessary, the center's progress in implementing changes approved by the Vice President for Research.

The evaluation could include the following:

- Annual outcomes reporting: number and success of ventures launched, student placements, competition results, research output, and engagement metrics
- Benchmarking against leading peer institutions
- Student and alumni surveys to assess program value, network growth, and career impact
- Impact tracking for fundraising, sponsorship, and earned revenue
- University-level reviews in line with A&M System requirements for all centers and institutes

Agenda Item No. 7.42

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Thomas D. Williams, Interim President
Texas A&M University

Subject: Appointment of Dr. Tim R. Turner and Dr. Glenn Rogers to serve on the Rural Veterinary Incentive Program Committee

Proposed Board Action:

Appoint Dr. Tim R. Turner and Dr. Glenn Rogers to serve on the Rural Veterinary Incentive Program Committee.

Background Information:

The Rural Veterinary Incentive Program (RVIP) was established by the Texas Legislature in 1999 to encourage veterinarians to practice in rural areas in Texas by providing financial support toward their student loans in exchange for practicing in rural areas across the state. However, the program was not funded and, as a result, did not have any participants. During the 87th Legislative Session, the Legislature updated the enabling statutes to address the rural veterinarian shortage, including establishing parameters for eligibility to participate in the program, establishing a RVIP account to be administered by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and allowing for additional methods of funding of the account. The RVIP will receive $5 million in funding from the legislature during the next biennium.

The RVIP is administered by the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) in accordance with rules adopted by the RVIP Committee. The membership of the committee consists of: the executive director, or designee, of the TAHC; the executive director, or designee, of the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners; the dean, or designee, of each accredited college of veterinary medicine located in Texas; a veterinarian with a mixed animal practice and a veterinarian with a large animal practice representing each university system located in Texas with an accredited college of veterinary medicine, appointed by the respective board of regents; and a practitioner of veterinary medicine who serves as a commissioner of TAHC, appointed by the chair of the TAHC.

The College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) is accredited and recommends the appointment of Dr. Tim R. Turner, ’74, ’77, and Dr. Glen Rogers, ’78, both of whom are Outstanding Alumni of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, to serve on the RVIP Committee on behalf of The Texas A&M University System (A&M System).

Dr. Tim Turner lives on his ranch in San Angelo, Texas. Dr. Turner is a visionary veterinarian, innovative entrepreneur, and passionate advocate for rural veterinary medicine. A leader in his field, Dr. Turner has dedicated his life to advancing the livestock industry, mentoring young professionals, and serving his community. Inspired by his father’s veterinary career, Dr. Turner pursued the same profession at Texas A&M, earning a bachelor’s degree in finance in 1974, a bachelor’s degree in veterinary science in 1976, and a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM)

degree in 1977. After completing his studies, Dr. Turner returned to his family ranch, combining his education and entrepreneurial spirit to address gaps in the livestock industry. In 1980, he purchased Southwestern Livestock Mineral Co., a company that develops custom mineral supplements that have revolutionized livestock nutrition. Dr. Turner's leadership goes beyond his entrepreneurial success. He has held pivotal roles in organizations such as the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association, the Texas Veterinary Medical Association, and the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, through which he tackled industry challenges and advocated for agricultural communities. Dr. Turner was recognized as an outstanding alumnus of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences in 2025.

After graduation from Texas A&M with his DVM in 1980, Dr. Glenn Rogers practiced for 11 years in Graham and Graford, Texas where he owned and operated two rural, mixed practices. Dr. Rogers received his master's degree from Kansas State University in 1993 focusing on Beef Production Medicine. From 1993-2000 he was on the faculty at North Carolina State University where he was a tenured associate professor in Ruminant Production Medicine. Dr. Rogers has been a Diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners in Beef Cattle since 1995. From 2001 until 2013, Dr. Rogers was a technical veterinarian for Pfizer Animal Health. From 2010-2013 he was a Senior Manager in Beef Technical Services, providing veterinary technical support for Texas and surrounding states and managing Beef Technical Services colleagues in the western United States. In 2007, Dr. Rogers was honored with the Pfizer W.E. Upjohn Award for innovation. Dr. Rogers is the owner and operator of Holt River Ranch, near Graford, Texas, where he operates a heifer development business and manages several other ranch-related enterprises. Dr. Rogers is passionate about ranching and range management. In 2017, he received the Conservation Rancher of the year award for the State of Texas. Dr. Rogers is an active member of the American Association of Bovine Practitioners (AABP), NCBA, TSCRA and several other beef and veterinary organizations. Dr. Rogers was awarded the AABP Distinguished Service Award in 2015. He has served the AABP as Director (representing Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana), Foundation Chairman, and recently completed his term as President. In 2018, Dr. Rogers was honored as "Consultant of the Year" by the Academy of Veterinary Consultants. Dr. Rogers serves as a Trustee of the Send A Cow organization which supports agriculture sustainability projects in six African countries. Dr. Rogers was a member of the Texas House of Representatives, representing District 60. He assumed office on January 12, 2021 and left office on January 14, 2025. Dr. Rogers was recognized as an outstanding alumnus of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences in 2022.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

None.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Approval of this agenda item will advance A&M System strategic imperative numbers 2 and 5. More specifically, the appointment of Dr. Turner and Dr. Rogers to the RVIP Committee will further the mission of the RVIP, which in turn will offer financial assistance to students pursuing a DVM degree at Texas A&M and provide incentive to students to work in rural areas of the state of Texas, where there is a shortage of veterinary medical care.

Agenda Item No. 7.42

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Office of the President
December 19, 2025

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

Subject: Appointment of Dr. Tim Turner and Dr. Glenn Rogers to Serve on the Rural Veterinary Incentive Program Committee

I recommend the adoption of the following minute order:

"The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System appoints Dr. Tim Turner and Dr. Glenn Rogers to serve on the Rural Veterinary Incentive Program Committee."

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Thomas D. Williams
Interim President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Agenda Item No. 7.44

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

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

Subject: Approval of a New Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program with a Major in Data Science and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (A&M-Corpus Christi) leading to a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree Program with a Major in Data Science**,** authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval, and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information:

A&M-Corpus Christi is proposing to offer a new Ph.D. with a Major in Data Science. The proposed Ph.D. program will study, develop, and teach new tools and methods to respond to large and complex data sets, such as those in genomics, coastal and marine systems, satellite remote sensing, and climate systems monitoring. The proposed program will collaborate with other doctoral programs and campus research institutes focused on unmanned autonomous systems, coastal and marine science, Gulf studies, and other interdisciplinary opportunities. Students will be recruited from bachelor's programs, including mathematics, physics, and computer science, and the existing master's in data science.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

The program will be funded through tuition and fees generated from projected enrollment and formula funding. There are no broader financial implications for The Texas A&M University System (A&M System).

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed program addresses several goals of the A&M System's strategic plan, particularly imperative five, responding to the needs of Texas and contributing to the state's economy, and imperative four, building a robust and targeted research portfolio. Occupational growth for data scientist professionals remains at an estimated 35% growth. Ph.D.-level data scientists can lead innovation, security analytics, and production optimization. Preparing these data scientists for the workforce will strengthen Texas as a hub for national and global innovation and research.

Agenda Item No. 7.44

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI
Office of the President
November 7, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program with a Major in Data Science and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

> **"The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi leading to a new Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program with a Major in Data Science.**
>
> **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."**

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Kelly M. Miller
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved For Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

[SIGNED BY]

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

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

New Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program
with a Major in Data Science
(CIP 30.7001.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Mathematics and Statistics in the College of Science

The proposed Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree program in Data Science provides an interdisciplinary curriculum that integrates foundational principles in data science, numerical algorithms, artificial intelligence and high-performance computing to tackle large and complex data sets, such as those in genomics, coastal and marine systems, satellite remote sensing, and climate systems monitoring. This interdisciplinary application leverages a student's existing domain knowledge in disciplines such as mathematics, statistics, engineering, computer science, natural sciences, social sciences, business, or other areas, with the goal of enabling advanced research and discovery.

This innovative program will leverage the expertise of the existing faculty in data science who are currently supporting the master's degree program. The proposed program will collaborate with other doctoral programs and campus research institutes focused on unmanned autonomous systems, geospatial computing, coastal and marine science, Gulf studies, and other interdisciplinary opportunities. An optional internship will connect theoretical and applied learning. Mathematics and statistics play a foundational role because these disciplines provide the framework for the program. However, data science problems involve more than mathematics and statistics: they involve data wrangling, communication, algorithmic problem-solving, group work and contextual reasoning. The proposed curriculum integrates all these components into the proposed program degree requirements.

The proposed Ph.D. program requires students to complete a total of 54 semester credit hours (SCH) beyond the master's degree. Students will complete 30 SCH of required courses and prescribed electives in data science, statistics, and applied mathematics, followed by 24 SCH of research or dissertation research courses.

Students will be recruited from bachelor's programs including physics, mathematics, and computer science, as well as from the existing master's program. In addition, the program will provide support to doctoral students in computer science, coastal and marine systems science, and marine biology. The proposed program will significantly contribute to workforce development and foster sustained growth within our community. The proposed implementation date is fall 2027.

A&M-Corpus Christi certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.146 regarding need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards, and costs.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

Occupational growth for data scientist professionals remains high at an estimated 35% growth in Texas (Hanover). Ph.D.-level data scientists can lead innovation, security analytics, and production optimization. Preparing data scientists for the workforce will strengthen Texas as a hub for national and global innovation and research.

B. Projected Enrollment

A&M-Corpus Christi will begin recruiting students from undergraduate and master's degree programs. Additional interest is anticipated for a smaller number of out-of-state and international students. There is interest among the existing graduate student population. Local corporate partners listed in the proposal are supportive of the program.

Enrollment	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Full-Time					
In-state	4	8	10	10	10
Out-of-state	2	4	6	6	6
Out-of-country	0	0	2	2	2
FTSE Semester Credit Hours	108	216	288	288	288
Part-Time					
In-state	1	2	3	3	3
Out-of-state	1	2	3	3	3
Out-of-country	0	0	0	0	0
FTSE Semester Credit Hours	18	36	54	54	54
Total New Students	**8**	**16**	**24**	**24**	**24**
Total FTSE Semester Credit Hours	**126**	**252**	**342**	**342**	**342**
Attrition Headcount		8	14	14	14
Graduates	0	0	0	0	0
Cumulative Headcount	**8**	**16**	**26**	**36**	**46**

C. Existing State Programs

There are six existing doctoral programs in data science in Texas. The proposed program at A&M-Corpus Christi will provide unique opportunities to collaborate with campus research institutes focused on unmanned autonomous systems, geospatial computing, coastal and marine science, and Gulf studies.

Degree Title & Designation	University	CIP Code
Statistics	Texas A&M University	27.0501
Information Science, Ph.D.	University of North Texas	11.0401
Statistical Science, Data Science Concentration, Ph.D.	Baylor University	27.0601
Data Science and Statistics, Ph.D.	University of Texas at Dallas	27.0501
Data Science, Ph.D.	Southern Methodist University	30.7001
Data Science, Ph.D.	University of Texas at El Paso	27.0503

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

One new tenure-track and two professional track faculty members will be hired in year three, dependent upon sufficient enrollment and funding, for a total three-year cost of $805,726. The professional track faculty will cover the reduced teaching loads of new and existing tenure/tenure-track faculty teaching and supervising students in the doctoral program.

B. Program Administration

A half-time program coordinator will be hired from the existing faculty. The position will require reassigned time but not an additional position. Total five-year costs for research and teaching assistantships are based on enrollment estimates and total $646,800. Research assistantships will be supported by $348,000 in anticipated grant funding.

C. Other Personnel

No new staff positions are needed for this program. It will be supported by the existing departmental administrative and business staff.

D. Supplies, Materials

No additional supplies and materials are needed for this program. See Section G of the proposal.

E. Library & Instructional Technology

The university will subscribe to the Journal of Computational Science, which has an initial first-year cost of $1,875 and an estimated 5% increase each year in subsequent years, for a total five-year cost of $10,363. The instructional technology portion comprises items for a new lab, including a server, monitors, smartboards, software, printers, desks, and chairs in year three of the proposed program at an estimated cost of $165,000 with $25,000 in upkeep in subsequent years, for a total five-year cost of $215,000.

F. Equipment, Facilities

No additional equipment or facilities are needed for this proposed program.

G. Accreditation

No accreditation will be sought for this program.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW FIVE-YEAR COSTS			SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	$805,726		Formula Income	$890,088
Program Administration	$0		Statutory Tuition	$0
Graduate Assistants*	$646,800		Reallocation	$0
Supplies & Materials	$0		Designated Tuition	$773,376
Library & IT Resources	$225,360		Other Funding: *Includes Graduate tuition and fees	$474,580
Equipment, Facilities	$0		Federal Grant Funding (in hand only)	$0
Other (Student Scholarships/Funding)	$0		Anticipated Grant Funding	$348,000
Other (Clerical/Staff)	$0			
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$1,677,886		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$2,486,044

*Student assistantships/scholarships are dependent on available funding, including external funding.

Agenda Item No. 7.46

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Dr. Robert Vela, President
Texas A&M University-Kingsville

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Agribusiness and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Kingsville (Texas A&M-Kingsville) leading to a Master of Science (M.S.) in Agribusiness, authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval, and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information:

The proposed M.S. in Agribusiness will provide advanced training to students and professionals in agriculture and agricultural business, natural resource management, and related professions dealing with the management of people, finances, and resources. Agribusiness is a diverse field that integrates skills across agricultural science and business administration. Agribusiness graduates are prepared to work in a wide range of professions. Graduates become employed in farm/ranch cooperatives, seed, fertilizer, or other input suppliers, banking and finance, general and agricultural insurance industries, as well as public service professions such as those in the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The M.S. Agribusiness degree will include thesis and non-thesis options. All options will require completion of at least 30 semester credit hours (SCH). The thesis option will require 6 SCH of thesis credit. In order to provide a broad foundation of professional preparation in agribusiness management, all students will be required to complete 15 SCH of core courses focusing on strategic management, marketing, financial and risk management, agribusiness leadership, and agribusiness systems analysis.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Institutional funds will be used to support the program. New costs over the first five years are estimated to be $256,500 with estimated five-year revenue of $805,876. No new faculty FTE will be required during the first five years.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed M.S. aligns with The Texas A&M University System strategic plan imperative 3 by preparing students for long-term careers in a fast-growing field.

Agenda Item No. 7.46

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE
Office of the President
November 10, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science Degree Program with a Major in Agribusiness and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

"The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Kingsville leading to a Master of Science in Agribusiness.

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

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Dr. Robert Vela
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Texas A&M University-Kingsville

Master of Science
with a major in Agribusiness
(CIP 01.0101.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Agriculture, Agribusiness, and Environmental Sciences within the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

The proposed M.S. Agribusiness program at Texas A&M University-Kingsville (Texas A&M-Kingsville) will provide advanced training to students and professionals in agriculture and agricultural business, natural resource management, and related professions dealing with the management of people, finances, and resources. Agribusiness is a diverse field that integrates skills across agricultural science and business administration. Agribusiness graduates are prepared to work in a wide range of professions. Graduates become employed in farm/ranch cooperatives, seed, fertilizer, or other input suppliers, banking and finance, general and agricultural insurance industries, as well as public service professions such as those in the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

According to the THECB online Program Inventory, the undergraduate Agribusiness program at Texas A&M-Kingsville is the third oldest in the state and has been continuously accredited since 1990. In a 2022 ranking by CollegeFactual, the undergraduate Agribusiness program was ranked 4th in the state and 1st by economic value[1]. Texas A&M-Kingsville's undergraduate enrollment in agribusiness has doubled in the last five years from 80 to more than 160 students. Currently, there are two master level Agribusiness programs in Texas[2]. Many other universities offer students opportunities to take agribusiness or agricultural economics courses within a general M.S. Agriculture degree, similar to the existing Texas A&M-Kingsville model[3]. In these cases, students take a diversity of general agriculture courses, supplemented by electives in agribusiness/agricultural economics, and graduate with a MS degree in Agriculture Science. However, the strong job market and a need for skilled management professionals warrants MS specialization opportunities in Agribusiness. The proposed M.S. Agribusiness program seeks to fill this need.

The M.S. Agribusiness will include thesis and non-thesis options, and both will require students to complete 30 SCH. The thesis option will require 6 SCH of thesis credit. In order to provide a broad foundation of professional preparation in agribusiness management, all students will be required to complete 15 SCH of core courses focusing on strategic management, marketing, financial and risk management, agribusiness leadership, and agribusiness systems analysis. The remaining SCH may be selected from elective options in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (e.g., Plant and Soil Science, General Agriculture, Environmental Science, Animal Science, Range and Wildlife Science) or the College of Business (e.g., Accounting, Information Systems, etc.) to best fit students' long-term

[1] 2022 Best Value Colleges for Agribusiness/Agricultural Business Operations (Income $75-$110k) in Texas. https://tinyurl.com/ynn2sa7d
[2] Texas A&M (established 1998) and Texas Tech (established 2006)
[3] For example, Sam Houston State, West Texas A&M, East Texas A&M, and Angelo State

career and professional goals. The elective course options already exist, and new courses will be created to establish the core courses, which will be taught by existing faculty.

After completing the M.S. in Agribusiness degree, master's graduates will demonstrate the following skills:

- Design and manage increasingly complex projects and evaluate their trade-offs and impacts from financial, production, and human resource perspectives.
- Analyze and navigate advanced strategic management challenges in diversified agribusiness organizations
- Formulate solutions to advanced production, resource, and financial challenges and opportunities, and conduct research related to agricultural markets and Industries.
- Communicate professionally at multiple levels – with ownership, executives, line managers, and staff.

The proposed implementation date is spring 2027.

Texas A&M-Kingsville certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Chapter 2, Subchapter F, Rule 2.117 regarding need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards, and costs.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

The proposed M.S. Agribusiness program will be a valuable addition to the graduate degree offerings in South Texas. Undergraduate agribusiness degrees open doors to diverse careers within the agricultural industry; however, individuals who hold an advanced degree such as a Master of Agribusiness, are elevated in salary and position at the hiring stage. Agribusiness employers are looking for candidates with an extra blend of business acumen, technical skills, innovative thinking, and practical experience, along with a strong understanding of the industry's evolving landscape. They value graduates with advanced degrees who can demonstrate theoretical knowledge and have the ability to apply it in practical, real-world agricultural settings.

According to a recent report from Feeding the Economy, agricultural industries now account for more than 20% of U.S. economic activity and 15% of all U.S. employment. An educational background focused on agribusiness allows graduates to use their skills in a wide variety of private and public sectors. Changes in technology and increasing use of scientific implementation in agribusiness have created more competition among college graduates and raised the bar in employment efficacy for those with advanced degrees. Now, more than ever, an M.S. in Agribusiness is a valuable asset that offers not only a return on the investment but significant career opportunities in finance, supply-chain management, economic analysis, leadership, strategy, marketing, and production operations management. Because of the diversity of professions related to Agribusiness, narrowing down specific job market indicators is difficult. The following table shows estimates from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) pertaining to a range of professions graduates are likely to pursue.

BLS occupational category	Job market growth 2024-2034	Rate of growth compared to all occupations
Financial management	15%	Faster
Agricultural and food science	6%	Faster
Financial Analysts	6%	Faster
Advertising, Promotions, and Marketing Managers	6%	Faster
Purchasing Managers, Buyers, and Purchasing Agents	5%	Faster
Sales managers	5%	Faster
Insurance Sales Agents	4%	Same
Wholesale and Manufacturing Sales Representatives	1%	Slower
Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	0 to -1%	Slower or decline

Most professional career paths in financial services sectors (including agricultural finance, insurance, and analysis) as well as functional professional positions common to input or service providers, cooperatives, or corporate agribusiness firms throughout the value chain (including marketing or purchasing management, sales) are growing faster or at least at the same rate as the general economy. Although production sector careers may experience flat to declining growth, demand is expected to persist due to several factors that are not easily projected in BLS estimates. First, BLS notes that about 85,500 openings for agricultural managers are projected on average each year from 2024 to 2034 due to the need to replace an aging agricultural workforce. Second, it is estimated that as existing managers age out of the workforce, nearly 350 million acres of agricultural land ownership will be transferred. As new capital acquires land as an investment asset, it is expected to bolster demand for agricultural management as investors seek reliable returns from land resource-based enterprises. Finally, emerging industries not well captured by BLS, such as "agritech" (e.g., satellite, remotely-sensed, and unmanned aerial vehicle monitoring systems, virtual fencing, precision watering and feeding, robotics, etc.) are estimated to grow >14% in employment and market capitalization from 2025 to 2030. Students with advanced agribusiness training will be well positioned to pursue successful management careers in these fields.

Support for the proposed M.S. Agribusiness is also qualitatively reasoned based on departmental experience over the past two decades. Dozens of undergraduate Agribusiness graduates have gone on to pursue graduate degrees from other institutions simply because Texas A&M-Kingsville did not offer an educational pathway for them to matriculate into. There are many more potential students that simply have not pursued graduate degrees elsewhere due to the perceived barriers/challenges of beginning a career and/or supporting a family outside of South Texas to pursue graduate education. Texas A&M-Kingsville is strategically and geographically well-situated to capitalize on this unmet need in South Texas.

B. Projected Enrollment

Projected Enrollment

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Students Returning from Previous Year		2	3	4	6
New Students	6	6	9	12	14
Total Number of Students	6	8	12	16	20
FTSE	5	6	9	10	12
Attrition Following Current Year	0	1	1	1	1
Graduates During Current Year	0	3	4	7	9

C. Existing State Programs

There are two Texas public universities with similar programs, one at Texas A&M University and one at Texas Tech University. Enrollment in these programs has grown and stabilized, at between six to 15 master's students graduating per year since 2015. Meanwhile, undergraduate enrollment growth in Agribusiness at Texas A&M-Kingsville, as well as across the state, has steadily increased. Strong undergraduate enrollment increases suggest an unmet demand for agribusiness skillsets in the marketplace, and a growing pool of prospective students seeking graduate training in their field of study to help advance their careers. Currently, our undergraduate students who wish to continue their education at the master's level enroll in either the M.S. Agriculture program or online MBA program at our institution (six students in the past five academic years). Recent graduates as well as those from other institutions residing and working in South Texas would have an attractive option for an M.S. Agribusiness strategically located at Texas A&M-Kingsville.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

Four current faculty members will dedicate at least 25% effort to the program. Additional faculty needs will be evaluated as the program grows.

B. Program Administration

The M.S. in Agribusiness will be administered in the Department of Agriculture, Agribusiness, and Environmental Sciences within the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources with no additional administrative costs anticipated.

C. Other Personnel

The program will rely on current staff support. No additional staff positions will be required.

D. Supplies, Materials

The program anticipates costs of $19,000 for unique supplies and materials.

E. Library

Existing library resources will be sufficient. No additional library resources are anticipated.

F. Equipment and Facilities

The equipment costs are estimated at $12,500.

G. Accreditation

There is no program-level accreditation for Agribusiness.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS			SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	$0		Formula Funding	$376,659
Program Administration/Staff	$0		Non-Formula Tuition	$269,676
Supplies & Materials	$19,000		Required Fees	$159,542
Library & IT Resources	$0			
Equipment, Facilities	$12,500			
Other: Graduate Assistantships	$210,000			
Other: Scholarships	$15,000			
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$256,500		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$805,877

Agenda Item No. 7.47

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Dr. Robert Vela, President
Texas A&M University-Kingsville

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science in Nursing Degree Program and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Kingsville (Texas A&M-Kingsville) leading to a Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.), 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:

Texas A&M-Kingsville is seeking approval to offer an M.S.N. The proposed program is designed to provide a seamless academic-practice pathway from the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) to advanced roles in the nursing profession. The 34-semester credit hour curriculum is specifically designed to support working nurses in obtaining an advanced degree that qualifies them for additional opportunities in the profession.

The program is designed with two possible concentrations. One focuses on nursing education and is meant to help address the shortage of qualified nursing educators in Texas. The second focuses on healthcare leadership and will provide training for nurses who are seeking to take on higher administrative or leadership roles. Students will integrate their clinical experience with business, informatics, and strategic management knowledge. Both concentrations support Texas A&M-Kingsville's mission to foster academic excellence, professional development, and regional engagement. The program emphasizes interprofessional collaboration, innovation, and community partnerships, reflecting the program's commitment to preparing practice-ready graduates who can address health disparities and promote healthcare access across South Texas and beyond.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Institutional funds will be used to support the M.S.N. New costs over the first five years are estimated to be $530,000, with estimated five-year revenue of $19,829. New costs include one additional faculty.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed M.S.N. aligns with The Texas A&M University System strategic plan imperative 3 by preparing students for long-term careers in a fast-growing field.

Agenda Item No. 7.47

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE
Office of the President
November 10, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Master of Science in Nursing Degree Program and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

> **"The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Kingsville leading to a Master of Science in Nursing.**
>
> **The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University-Kingsville's new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met."**

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Dr. Robert H. Vela
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

James R. Hallmark
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Texas A&M University-Kingsville

Master of Science
with a major in Nursing
(CIP 51.3203.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Clinical Health Sciences within the College of Arts and Sciences

The Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) program at Texas A&M University–Kingsville (Texas A&M-Kingsville) is committed to providing a seamless academic-practice pathway from the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) to advanced roles in the Nursing profession. The 34-semester credit (SCH) curriculum is specifically designed to support working nurses in obtaining an advanced degree that qualifies them for additional opportunities in the profession.

The program is designed with two possible concentrations. An education concentration prepares advanced generalist nurses to assume academic and clinical teaching roles by developing competencies in curriculum design, teaching strategies, learner assessments, and program evaluation, core elements of the National League for Nursing (NLN) Nurse Educator Competencies and American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Essentials (2021) advanced level competencies. Graduates will be qualified to serve as clinical instructors, simulation specialists, faculty in pre-licensure nursing programs, and nursing professional development educators in health care facilities.

A second Healthcare Leadership concentration responds to the growing complexity of healthcare delivery systems and the increasing emphasis on leadership competencies in nursing practice. Healthcare organizations are seeking nurses who can manage interdisciplinary teams, lead quality improvement initiatives, and use data-driven decision making to enhance patient outcomes and operational efficiency. This program concentration aligns with the American Organization of Nurse Leaders Nurse Leader Competencies and AACN Essentials (2021) advanced level competencies particularly in Domain 7 (Systems-Based Practice) by preparing graduates to integrate clinical expertise with business, informatics, and strategic management knowledge. Interprofessional education is supported by including two courses from the MBA core courses in the degree plan. Graduates will be equipped to assume roles such as nurse manager, quality coordinator, clinical director, and healthcare operations leader.

Both M.S.N. concentrations support Texas A&M -Kingsville's mission to foster academic excellence, professional development, and regional engagement. The program emphasizes interprofessional collaboration, innovation, and community partnerships, reflecting the program's commitment to preparing practice-ready graduates who can address health disparities and promote healthcare access across South Texas and beyond.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Incorporates nursing and related perspectives in the planning, delivery, and evaluation of care while leading others to incorporate innovation in practice.
2. Model and guide engagement with the patient and their family utilizing person-centered evidence-based practice guidelines to meet health care needs.

3. Incorporate social determinants of health, policy advocacy, partnership expansion, and public health considerations through collaborative activities in providing care for populations in various settings and situations.
4. Participate in quality improvement and evidence-based practice activities to generate, synthesize, translate, apply and disseminate nursing knowledge to improve health and transform health care.
5. Utilize principles of safety and improvement science to guide care and enhance system effectiveness.
6. Design collaborative activities to optimize care, enhance the health care experience and strengthen outcomes (client and system).
7. Coordinate resources, establish partnerships, and advocate for quality healthcare within complex health care systems and settings for all.
8. Utilize information and communication technologies and processes to provide care, guide decision making, and support professional development for health team members as established by professional and regulatory standards.
9. Demonstrate formation of a professional nursing identity that incorporates educator/leader characteristics and values.
10. Participate in activities that promote personal growth and health to support nursing expertise and leadership at the master's level.

The program will require students to complete 34 SCH. There are 12 SCH of core nursing requirements for both concentrations and 18 SCH of prescribed electives that are specific to each concentration. Finally, four SCH of internships are required.

The proposed implementation date is spring 2027.

Texas A&M-Kingsville certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 2, Subchapter F, Rule §2.117 regarding need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards, and costs.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

Multiple data sources were analyzed to assess the need for the program, including:

- Lightcast Market Analysis (Fall 2025)
- AACN Annual Report (2023)
- Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Data (2024)

National and state data consistently indicate a shortage of qualified nurse educators, which directly limits undergraduate nursing program enrollment capacity. The AACN reports that thousands of qualified nursing applicants are turned away annually due to faculty shortages. The Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies identifies a "limited qualified applicant pool" as the number one barrier academic programs face in filling vacant nursing educator positions. It identifies this gap as one of the top barriers to expanding the state’s nursing workforce.

Rural healthcare entities often have limited graduate prepared nurses to fill leadership positions. Rural hospitals in the region report that most registered nurses (RN) in leadership positions highest level of preparation is the BSN. This program will address the shortage

of graduate-prepared nurse leaders in regional rural healthcare settings. The program is specifically developed for BSN-prepared nurses currently serving in or preparing for hospital leadership roles, directly addressing the regional need reported by rural facilities.

Currently, the percentage of doctoral and M.S.N. prepared nurses in the Coastal Bend region, which is made up of predominantly rural counties, is substantially lower compared to Texas's statewide rate and to metro counties in Texas such as Fort Bend, Harris, Hidalgo, and Bexar. These graduate prepared nurses represent the current pool for nursing faculty and health care leaders in the South Texas region.

County/Region	**Total RNs**	**Doctoral RNs***	**MSN RNs**	**Total (%) Graduate Prepared**
Nueces	6,398	60	729	789 (12.33%)
San Patricio	948	3	94	97 (10.23%)
Kleberg	263	1	24	25 (9.51%)
Bee	261	0	23	23 (8.81%)
Jim Wells	454	0	35	35 (7.71%)
Aransas	278	3	47	50 (17.99%)
Refugio	67	0	4	4 (5.97%)
Live Oak	73	0	3	3 (4.11%)
Victoria	1,715	5	172	177 (10.32%)
Coastal Bend Regional Total	10,957	72	1,131	1,203 (10.98%)
Texas Statewide	498,816	2,291	60,122	62,413 (12.52)
Bexar	33,816	339	3,778	4,117 (12.18)
Hidalgo	8,946	111	1,077	1,188 (13.28)
Fort Bend	23,971	310	3,690	4,000 (16.70)
Harris	58,768	815	7,102	7, 917 (13.47)

TAMUS AI CHAT analyzed TBON RNs by County and Highest Degree
*Number includes nurses with PhD in Nursing, DNP in Nursing, Doctoral Nursing Other, and Doctoral Other Field

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that employment positions for M.S.N. qualified individuals will grow by almost 30% in Texas by 2033.

Since 2019, M.S.N. conferrals from university programs in Texas have grown by 24%, reflecting a strong student demand for this degree.

B. Projected Enrollment

Projected Enrollment

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Students Returning from Previous Year		3	3	2	2
New Students	8	8	10	12	13
Total Number of Students	8	11	13	14	15
FTSE	7	9	11	13	14
Attrition Following Current Year	0	1	1	2	2
Graduates During Current Year	0	4	7	9	10

C. Existing State Programs

There are 14 public universities across Texas that offer the M.S.N. using the same CIP code. These programs focus primarily on Nursing Education. In South Texas, there are only two programs at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

Regional clinical partners have expressed verbal and written support for the proposed M.S.N. degree with tracks in nursing education and healthcare leadership. Many staff educators for our clinical partners are baccalaureate prepared or less. Nursing leaders, including the chief nursing officer, are also maximum baccalaureate prepared in many rural facilities. Community college Associate of Applied Science (AAS) programs and university BSN programs report faculty vacancies that graduates from the proposed program could fill. To meet the needs of the South Texas service region, it is imperative to educate regional nurses to fill the vital educator and administrator roles.

When discussing possible program options with area programs and healthcare facilities, the nursing leadership expressed the need for their staff. Nurse leaders reported they would encourage and support staff returning for formal graduate education. Nurses in the region reported interest in a program that addresses the workforce needs in their own community. Providing financial support to nurses who serve as preceptors in Texas A&M University-Kingsville's new BSN program is an important incentive for enrollment in the M.S.N. program. This support can be offered in the form of scholarship dollars based on the number of hours served as a preceptor.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

One current faculty member will dedicate full-time effort to the program. One new faculty member will be hired prior to program launch. Additional practice based adjunct faculty will be hired as needed to help teach clinical based courses.

B. Program Administration

The M.S.N. will be administered in the Department of Clinical Health Sciences within the College of Arts and Sciences with no additional administrative costs anticipated.

C. Other Personnel

The nursing program already has an administrative coordinator that will provide administrative support and will assist with clinical placement and admissions. No additional staff positions will be required.

D. Supplies, Materials

The institution has allocated $25,000 for unique supplies and laboratory item upkeep. The bulk of the cost for laboratory items has been allocated under equipment and facilities, and the upkeep and replacement of consumable items (i.e. tubing, flow meters, heating elements, etc.) has been allocated here. In addition, a student fee of $20 per semester will cover student costs such as malpractice insurance and clinical placement software.

E. Library

The library currently has access to an extensive range of supporting literature from areas in the life sciences. No additional costs will be needed in support of the MSN.

F. Equipment and Facilities

This program will rely on facilities and equipment planned as part of the implementation of our new BSN program. No additional costs will be needed for the M.S.N.

G. Accreditation

The program will seek CCNE accreditation, with an initial site visit in 2029-2030 academic year.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS			SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	$475,000		Formula Income	$135,117
Program Administration/Staff	$0		Non-Formula Tuition	$267,179
Supplies & Materials	$25,000		Required Fees	$147,533
Library & IT Resources	$0			
Equipment, Facilities	$0			
Other: Scholarship Support	$30,000			
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$530,000		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$549,829

Agenda Item No. 7.48

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Dr. Robert Vela**,** President
Texas A&M University-Kingsville

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

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Kingsville (Texas A&M-Kingsville) leading to a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Construction Management, authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval, and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information:

Texas A&M-Kingsville is seeking approval to offer a B.S. in Construction Management. The proposed program is designed to prepare graduates for professional practice in construction-related fields, with a strong focus on the planning, management, coordination, and control of materials, labor, costs, and schedules involved in construction projects. Students will gain the skills needed to manage day-to-day operations and make strategic decisions within construction organizations across industries such as commercial and residential construction, infrastructure, manufacturing, public works, and government agencies.

The curriculum integrates technical knowledge with practical management training, ensuring that graduates are equipped to take on roles such as construction manager, project manager, estimator, scheduler, and site supervisor.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Institutional funds will be used to support the B.S. in Construction Management. One new full-time faculty member will be added during the first year and another during the fourth year of the program. The new costs for the first five years will not exceed $2 million.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed B.S. in Construction Management aligns with The Texas A&M University System strategic plan imperative 3 by preparing students for long-term careers in a fast-growing field.

Agenda Item No. 7.48

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE
Office of the President
November 10, 2025

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

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

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Dr. Robert Vela
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]
Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]
Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]
James R. Hallmark, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]
R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]
Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Texas A&M University-Kingsville

Bachelor of Science
with a major in Construction Management
(CIP 52.2001.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: Department of Industrial Management within the College of Engineering

Texas A&M University-Kingsville (Texas A&M-Kingsville) proposes the launch of a new Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Construction Management (CMGT). This program will be offered in both face-to-face and fully online modalities, providing flexibility and access to a broad range of students.

The program is designed to prepare graduates for professional practice in construction-related fields, with a strong focus on the planning, management, coordination, and control of materials, labor, costs, and schedules involved in construction projects. Students will gain the skills needed to manage day-to-day operations and make strategic decisions within construction organizations across industries such as commercial and residential construction, infrastructure, manufacturing, public works, and government agencies.

The curriculum integrates technical knowledge with practical management training, ensuring that graduates are equipped to take on roles such as construction manager, project manager, estimator, scheduler, and site supervisor.

A key component of the program is a 3-semester credit hour (SCH) capstone course, designed to be completed in the final year. This course will challenge students to apply the knowledge and skills acquired throughout their academic journey to a comprehensive, real-world project. The capstone emphasizes critical thinking, problem-solving, teamwork, and professional communication, serving as a culminating experience that demonstrates students' readiness to enter the workforce.

Student Learning Outcomes

1) Teamwork
2) Professional communication in verbal and written formats
3) Interpretation of drawings and blueprints
4) Application of data to make informed decisions
5) Construction scheduling and planning, to include employee supervision
6) Effective application of existing construction methods
7) Effective application of new and emerging construction technologies
8) Optimization of construction operations, methods, and labor conditions.
9) Use of relevant industry software and state-of-the-art tools
10) Identification and resolution of ethical problems and dilemmas
11) Advanced problem-solving in the field of construction management

The program will require 120 SCH and the major field of study will consist of 18 SCH of lower-level courses, 33 SCH of upper-level required courses, and includes a Business Administration minor comprising 3 SCH of lower-level courses and 15 SCH of upper-level courses.

The proposed implementation date is spring 2027.

Texas A&M-Kingsville certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under Title 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117 regarding need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards, and costs.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

A labor market analysis conducted by Lightcast indicates a strong and growing demand for construction management professionals. In 2017, there were 13,244 construction management positions in Texas, with annual job openings estimated at 2,420. The median hourly wage for these roles is $41.74, and the field is projected to experience significant growth of 95.1% by 2033.

The report also analyzed job postings, revealing that construction management accounts for 31,041 postings, representing 29% of total postings in the field, with an 18% growth in skill demand relative to the overall market. Key specialized skills in demand include project management, scheduling, planning, and construction leadership. Additionally, essential common skills such as communication, management, leadership, and writing were frequently highlighted. The report further emphasized the importance of software proficiency, particularly in Microsoft Office (Excel, PowerPoint, Project, Word) and AutoCAD. Industry-recognized certifications such as OSHA and project management credentials also ranked among the most sought-after qualifications.

These insights affirm that there is a clear and sustained demand for professionals with the competencies that the proposed B.S. CMGT program is designed to deliver. The curriculum has been thoughtfully crafted to align with industry needs and to prepare students not only for immediate employment as construction managers upon graduation but also to become future leaders and agents of innovation within the industry.

B. Projected Enrollment

Projected Enrollment

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Students Returning from Previous Year		7	20	37	42
New Students	7	15	20	20	20
Total Number of Students	7	20	37	42	47
FTSE	6	17	30	32	34
Attrition Following Current Year	0	2	3	5	5
Graduates During Current Year				10	10

C. Existing State Programs

Currently, there is only one public university in Texas offering a similar program with the same CIP code (CIP 52.2001.00): Stephen F. Austin University. However, there are nine universities in Texas with similar programs using a different CIP code (15.1001.00, Construction Engineering Technology/Technician) that focus more on engineering. These programs are offered by Prairie View A&M University, Sam Houston State University, Tarleton State University, Texas A&M University, Texas State University, Texas Tech University, University of Texas at Tyler, University of Houston, and University of North Texas. These programs are often called Construction Science, Construction Engineering Technology, or Construction Science and Management.

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

Three current faculty members will dedicate part-time attention to this program. One new faculty member, 100% focused on Construction Management, will be hired during the first year of the program and another during the fourth year. Both of these new hires will be faculty with real-world experience rather than a traditional research focus.

B. Program Administration

The B.S. in Construction Management will be administered in the Department of Industrial Management within the College of Engineering with no additional administrative costs anticipated.

C. Other Personnel

At least one graduate assistant will be required to help faculty with laboratory projects and other classroom administrative needs.

D. Supplies, Materials

The institution has allocated $70,000 for the first year and $25,000 for Years 2, 3, 4, and 5 for license maintenance, to support teaching software licenses for the Construction Management degree program. The bulk of software costs are allocated under equipment and facilities, while licenses required specifically for teaching purposes are allocated here. These include annual licenses for SolidWorks, AutoCAD, Minitab, Adobe Acrobat, Microsoft Office 365 (Visio and Project), and a cloud-based project management platform.

E. Library

The library provides a wide range of resources in construction management, including books, case studies, journal articles, and access to databases such as Engineering Village, ScienceDirect, Wiley Online Library, and ProQuest's SciTech Premium Collection. To support the construction management degree program, the program will allocate $3,000 toward acquiring additional materials.

F. Equipment and Facilities

Courses will utilize current classrooms and laboratories within the College of Engineering. One room in Gross Hall was recently upgraded and renovated with equipment to deliver online courses. Two additional rooms will be upgraded as well with the required technology at a cost of $50,000.

G. Accreditation

Faculty intend to apply for national accreditation through the American Council for Construction Education at the earliest opportunity.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS			SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	$560,000		Formula Income	$186,742
Program Administration	$0		Non-Formula Tuition	$706,200
Graduate Assistants	$64,000		Required Fees	$625,283
Supplies & Materials	$170,000			
Library & IT Resources	$6,000			
Equipment, Facilities	$50,000			
Other (scholarships/student worker positions)	$28,440			
Estimated 5-Year Costs	**$878,440**		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	**$1,518,225**

Agenda Item No. 7.49

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Dr. Robert. H. Vela, President
Texas A&M University-Kingsville

Subject: Authorization to Award an Honorary Degree to Mr. Bill C. Colston, Jr.

Proposed Board Action:

Authorize the president of Texas A&M University-Kingsville (Texas A&M-Kingsville) to award an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree to Mr. Bill C. Colston, Jr.

Background Information:

In accordance with Section 1.2 of System Policy 11.07, *Granting of Honorary Degrees*, Texas A&M-Kingsville submits this request to award an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree to Mr. Bill C. Colston, Jr. This recognition is in tribute to his distinguished career and for the positive and significant impact his lifetime of service has made on Texas A&M-Kingsville, the state of Texas, and the United States of America.

The nomination for this Honorary Doctor of Letters degree received the unanimous support of the University Honorary Degrees Committee, comprised of senior faculty and endorsed by the president of Texas A&M-Kingsville.

With Board authorization, this honorary degree will be presented to Mr. Colston at Texas A&M-Kingsville's commencement ceremony in May 2026.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

None.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

This request from Texas A&M-Kingsville to grant an honorary degree to Mr. Colston supports the Strategic Plan Imperative 5, which focuses on "services that respond to the needs of the people of Texas and contribute to the strength of the state's economy." Mr. Bill C. Colston, Jr. is a highly respected business leader and philanthropist. Through the development of his family-owned enterprise, he has demonstrated a strong commitment to innovation and strategic growth. His efforts have played a key role in advancing and expanding the telecommunications industry across Texas and the nation.

Agenda Item No. 7.49

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE
Office of the President
November 25, 2025

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

Subject: Authorization to Award an Honorary Degree to Mr. Bill C. Colston, Jr.

I recommend approval of the following minute order:

"The president of Texas A&M University-Kingsville is authorized to award an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree to Mr. Bill C. Colston, Jr."

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Dr. Robert H. Vela,
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Honorary Degree Candidate Summary

Mr. Bill C. Colston, Jr.
Candidate for Honorary Doctor of Letters

Mr. Bill C. Colston, Jr. is a highly distinguished business leader and philanthropist. In 1937, Mr. Colston's grandparents, Alton B. and Erma Colston, purchased the Riviera Telephone Exchange, and it remains family-owned and operated to this day. Over the years, Riviera Telephone Company has grown and expanded to become a leader in phone and communications technology and broadband, servicing over 1000 square miles. Under Mr. Colston's leadership, serving as President and General Manager of the company, Riviera Telephone Company has made a significant and lasting impact on the telecommunications and broadband industry in Texas. Though he has recently retired, he remains chairman of the board.

During his career, Mr. Colston served as a Texas Telephone Association (TTA) Board member for a total of 28 years. During his service to the TTA, he served as Board Chair from 2016-18, Vice Chair from 2014-16, Secretary from 2012-14, and Treasurer from 2010-12. During his time on the board he worked with the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association as well as the National Exchange Carrier Association to shape and secure the direction and future of universal service and its impact on the rural parts of our nation. Additionally, he remained involved in FCC policy development for rural America as well as advocating at the state level.

A lifelong South Texan, Mr. Colston has dedicated decades to serving his community through both philanthropy and industry leadership. For 32 years, he volunteered as an emergency medical services (EMS) responder, gaining firsthand insight into the challenges faced by EMTs and first responders during emergency calls. This experience deeply shaped his commitment to expanding healthcare access and strengthening emergency medical response efforts across the region. He has been involved in numerous philanthropic efforts, including significant contributions to Christus Spohn Hospital System and Halo Flight, while also serving on their boards.

In addition to his advocacy in healthcare, Mr. Colston has been a steadfast supporter of education, channeling his time and resources into initiatives that improve learning opportunities and outcomes for students. Riviera Independent School District, Kleberg Kenedy County Junior Livestock Show, and Texas A&M University-Kingsville, and those they serve have all been impacted by the dedication of Mr. Colston.

Mr. Colston is a lifelong outdoorsman with a deep-rooted passion for hunting and wildlife conservation. He is dedicated to preserving natural habitats and promoting sustainable land management practices. His commitment to responsible ranching and environmental stewardship reflects a broader effort to protect Texas's natural heritage for future generations. He is actively engaged with educational organizations such as the Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute and the King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management and supports Texas Game Wardens and law enforcement in their efforts to protect natural resources and public safety.

Mr. Colston's commitment to community outreach, healthcare, and education has remained unwavering. His consistent dedication to these causes reflects a deep sense of responsibility and service to others.

Agenda Item No. 7.51

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-TEXARKANA
Office of the President
November 24, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of Academic Tenure, February 2026
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 members at Texas A&M University-Texarkana as set forth in the exhibit, Tenure List No. 26-02."**

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Ross Alexander, Ph.D.
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

ITEM 7.51
EXHIBIT

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-TEXARKANA
BACKGROUND OF FACULTY
RECOMMENDED FOR ACADEMIC TENURE
TENURE LIST NO. 26-02

COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCES, AND EDUCATION

Name	Present Rank Department	Yrs. Towards Tenure* Univ.	 Other Inst.	Effective Date Tenure
Dr. Leslie Haas	Professor Education	0	<15	Upon Approval by the Board and Faculty Arrival
Ph.D. (2012)	East Texas A&M University (formerly Texas A&M University-Commerce)			
Fa 2012 – Sp 2013	Dallas Christian College	Assistant Professor		
Fa 2017 – Sp 2021	Buena Vista University	Assistant Professor		
Fa 2021 – Sp 2024	Xavier University of Louisiana	Associate Professor		
Fa 2024 – Sp 2025	New Uzbekistan University	Professor		
Fa 2025 – Present	Texas A&M University-Texarkana	Professor		

Dr. Leslie Haas has successfully taught a wide variety of courses at seven different universities in addition to 15 years of K-12 teaching experience. She is also licensed and/or certified to teach in Texas, Mississippi, and Iowa. Her scholarship has been impressive. She has published three books, 11 book chapters, and 22 journal articles appropriate for her discipline. She has also presented numerous papers, many with student co-authors at scholarly meetings. Additionally, Dr. Haas has made significant service contributions to her discipline and at each university at which she has been employed.

Dr. Leslie Haas'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 towards tenure based on his/her dossier.

Agenda Item No. 7.52

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Ross Alexander, Ph.D., President
Texas A&M University-Texarkana

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Chemical Engineering 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-Texarkana (A&M-Texarkana) leading to a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Chemical Engineering**,** 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-Texarkana is seeking approval to offer a B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering. The degree program is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to support the diverse needs of local manufacturing industries, including three major paper production facilities and over 30 forest product sites within a 260-mile radius. It will provide a strong foundation in core chemical engineering principles such as thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, and mass transfer.

Students will have the opportunity to explore topics relevant to modern manufacturing processes, materials science, and environmental sustainability, preparing them for careers in sectors such as forest products, petrochemicals, advanced materials, and beyond.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Institutional funds will be used to support the B.S. in Chemical Engineering. The degree program employs one core faculty member hired in fall 2025 with three additional support faculty members actively employed. One new full-time faculty member will be added by the fall 2026 semester with two additional core faculty members hired in fall 2029 and fall 2030. The new costs for the first five years will exceed $2 million.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed B.S. in Chemical Engineering aligns with The Texas A&M University System strategic plan imperative 3 by preparing students for long-term careers in a high-demand field.

Agenda Item No. 7.52

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-TEXARKANA
Office of the President
November 10, 2025

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

Subject: Approval of a New Bachelor of Science Degree Program with a Major in Chemical Engineering 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-Texarkana leading to a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering.

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

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Ross Alexander, Ph.D.
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Texas A&M University-Texarkana

Bachelor of Science
with a major in Chemical Engineering
(CIP 14.0701.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: College of Business, Engineering, and Technology, Division of Engineering

The Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree with a major in Chemical Engineering is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to support the diverse needs of local manufacturing industries. This program would provide a strong foundation in core chemical engineering principles such as thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, and mass transfer, alongside coursework tailored to address the specific demands of regional industries.

Students will have the opportunity to explore topics relevant to modern manufacturing processes, materials science, and environmental sustainability, preparing them for careers in sectors such as forest products, petrochemicals, advanced materials, and beyond. By creating this program, A&M-Texarkana aims to develop a highly skilled workforce to meet the growing demands of local industries, fostering economic growth and innovation in the region.

In the four-state region, A&M-Texarkana is strategically located near three major paper production facilities and more than 30 forest product sites within a 260-mile radius. This unique position offers an opportunity to integrate Pulp and Paper Technology into a chemical engineering degree program, preparing students to meet the workforce demands of local industries. Students may also enhance their qualifications by earning a standalone certificate in Pulp and Paper Technology, authorized specifically for A&M-Texarkana.

The pulp and paper industry continues to expand despite shifts in certain paper grade markets. The rise of online retailing has driven a significant increase in demand for paper-based packaging in the US. Reflecting this trend, Graphic Packaging International began a $1 billion greenfield paper mill project in Waco, Texas, in 2023, with production expected to ramp up in 2026. While more than 40 forest product sites operate across Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Arkansas, no institutions in these states currently offer certification programs or bachelor's degrees tailored to the pulp and paper sector or chemical engineering programs designed to support this critical industry.

Expected outcomes for students completing this program include: 1) Students will gain a comprehensive understanding of chemical engineering principles as they apply to the pulp and paper industry. 2) Students will be equipped with technical skills relevant to pulp and paper technology, such as process optimization, equipment design, and product quality control. 3) Students will enhance their problem-solving skills, learning to tackle challenges related to process improvement, environmental impact, and product quality. 4) Students will gain insights into the latest technologies, trends, and challenges within the pulp and paper industry. 5) The program may emphasize the importance of environmental sustainability in the pulp and paper industry, equipping students with the knowledge and tools to address environmental concerns associated

with the industry. 6) Students will have opportunities for internships, co-op experiences, and industry collaborations, allowing them to gain real-world experience and build professional networks within the pulp and paper industry.

The degree program is comprised of 124 semester credit hours (SCH), of which 42 SCH represent the core curriculum, 76 SCH represent required courses, with 6 SCH of electives.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2026.

A&M-Texarkana certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117 regarding need, quality, financial and faculty resources, standards, and costs. New costs during the first five years are estimated to exceed $2 million.

I. NEED

A. Employment Opportunities

Employment opportunities were reviewed in Texas and nationally. One of the strengths noted is our regional location and ability to provide employment across several states. While Texas is expected to experience average annual openings of 270 positions, nationally, Texas is producing fewer graduates (716 in 2022) than the 1,100 nationally projected openings yearly. The proposed B.S. degree will help fulfill the need in Texas and nationally.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates a 3% growth in the job outlook for this field. About 1,100 openings for chemical engineers are projected each year, on average, over the decade.

Projectionscentral.org indicates a 20.4% change in Texas over the next 10 years for this field. This will produce an average annual opening of 270 positions.

Many of those openings are expected to result from the need to replace workers who transfer to different occupations or exit the labor force, such as to retire.

B. Projected Enrollment

Enrollment is projected to grow each year, beginning with 10 students in year one and stabilizing with 40 students in year five.

Enrollment	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Full-Time					
In-state	6	7	12	17	24
Out-of-state	3	3	6	9	12
Out-of-country	0	0	0	0	0
Part-Time					
In-state	1	2	4	4	4
Out-of-state	0	0	0	0	0
Out-of-country	0	0	0	0	0
Total New Students	**10**	**12**	**22**	**30**	**40**

C. Existing State Programs

There are 10 public universities and two private universities that award the B.S. in Chemical Engineering. These programs are located across the state. The closest program to Texarkana is two hours away from the university. The following table shows the existing programs and the recent number of graduates.

Degree Title & Designation	University	CIP Code	Graduation Year 2021	Graduation Year 2022
Chemical Engineering, BS	University of Houston	14.0701.00	70	74
Chemical Engineering, BS	Lamar University	14.0701.00	58	46
Chemical Engineering, BS	Prairie View A&M University	14.0701.00	54	50
Chemical Engineering, BS	Rice University	14.0701.00	23	25
Chemical Engineering, BS	Texas A&M University-Kingsville	14.0701.00	40	29
Chemical Engineering, BS	Texas A&M University	14.0701.00	232	246
Chemical Engineering, BS	The University of Texas at Austin	14.0701.00	164	131
Chemical Engineering, BS	The University of Texas at Tyler	14.0701.00	0	1
Chemical Engineering, BS	The University of Texas Permian Basin	14.0701.00	N/A	5
Chemical Engineering, BS	The University of Texas at San Antonio	14.0701.00	16	13
Chemical Engineering, BS	Texas Tech University	14.0701.00	0	96
Chemical Engineering, BS	University of St. Thomas	14.0701.00	N/A	N/A

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

The degree program employs one core faculty member hired in fall 2025. Three additional support faculty members are actively employed. The program will hire one additional core faculty member in fall 2026 with two additional core faculty members hired in fall 2029 and fall 2030.

B. Program Administration

The degree program will not require new administration expenses.

C. Other Personnel

The degree program will require a staff member with salary and benefits totaling $300,000 over five years.

D. Supplies, Materials
The degree program requires supplies and materials totaling $45,000 over five years.

E. Library
The degree program will not require library expenses.

F. Equipment, Facilities
The degree program will require expenses for equipment and facilities totaling $647,320 for a pulp and paper lab and a chemical engineering lab.

G. Accreditation Page
The degree program will not seek accreditation.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS			SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	$1,040,000		Formula Income	$416,772
Program Administration			Statutory Tuition	
Graduate Assistants			Reallocation	
Supplies & Materials	$45,000		Designated Tuition	
Library & IT Resources			Other Funding:	
Equipment, Facilities	$647,320		Tuition	$1,073,080
Staff Salary & Benefits	$300,000		Fees	$362,402
Other			East Texas Rural Health Initiative *(formerly Better East Texas Initiative)*	$647,320
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$2,032,320		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$2,499,574

Agenda Item No. 7.53

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Ross Alexander, Ph.D., President
Texas A&M University-Texarkana

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

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Texarkana (A&M-Texarkana) leading to a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Radiologic Technology**,** authorize the submission of this degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval, and certify that all applicable THECB criteria have been met.

Background Information:

A&M-Texarkana is seeking approval to offer a B.S. degree in Radiologic Technology. The degree program is designed to equip students with the theoretical knowledge and hands-on clinical experience necessary to perform diagnostic imaging procedures with competence and compassion. Unlike the typical two-year associate degree in radiologic technology, which prepares graduates primarily for entry-level imaging positions, this in-depth program provides training in multiple imaging modalities (X-ray and fluoroscopy, computed tomography/CT, and magnetic resonance imaging/MRI), increasing employability and enabling graduates to obtain dual certifications.

The proposed program represents a strategic investment in workforce and economic development in Northeast Texas and the surrounding region. It aligns with A&M-Texarkana's mission to support regional health systems, address professional shortages, and improve healthcare outcomes.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Institutional funds will be used to support the B.S. in Radiologic Technology. A&M-Texarkana currently has one core faculty member who will be assigned full-time to the program and will hire two additional faculty in fall 2026, one faculty in fall 2027, and one faculty in fall 2028. The estimated cost of hiring the faculty members is $1,514,500 over the first five years. While Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology accreditation permits bachelor's-prepared instructors, the university will seek to recruit master's-prepared faculty to strengthen instructional quality, research capacity, and professional leadership. The new costs for the first five years will not exceed $2 million.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed B.S. in Radiologic Technology aligns with The Texas A&M University System strategic plan imperative 3 by preparing students for long term careers in a high demand field.

Agenda Item No. 7.53

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-TEXARKANA
Office of the President
November 10, 2025

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

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

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

> **"The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Texarkana leading to a Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Technology.**
>
> **The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University-Texarkana's new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met."**

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Ross Alexander, Ph.D.
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Texas A&M University-Texarkana

Bachelor of Science
with a major in Radiologic Technology
(CIP 51.0911.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: College of Nursing, Health, and Human Services, Division of Health Professions

The Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Radiologic Technology is designed to meet an urgent regional and statewide need for highly skilled diagnostic imaging professionals. This comprehensive four-year program will provide students with the theoretical knowledge and hands-on clinical experience necessary to perform diagnostic imaging procedures with competence and compassion. The curriculum integrates radiologic science, anatomy, patient care, radiation safety, and clinical practice to prepare graduates for immediate entry into the healthcare workforce.

Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit for certification examinations such as the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) and will possess the advanced knowledge and skills needed for employment in hospitals, urgent care facilities, outpatient imaging centers, and specialty practices.

Unlike the typical two-year associate degree in radiologic technology, which prepares graduates primarily for entry-level imaging positions, the proposed bachelor's program provides in-depth training in multiple imaging modalities, including X-ray and fluoroscopy, computed tomography (CT), and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). Additionally, students will complete multiple specialty clinical procedures required prior to graduation and initial licensure, increasing employability and enabling graduates to obtain dual certifications, which is a competitive advantage that meets the growing needs of healthcare systems.

This program represents a strategic investment in workforce and economic development in Northeast Texas and the surrounding region. It aligns with A&M-Texarkana's mission to support regional health systems, address professional shortages, and improve healthcare outcomes.
The proposed B.S. in Radiologic Technology program will:

- Address a critical need in the healthcare sector by producing graduates who are highly skilled and ready to meet the challenges of modern medical imaging.
- Prepare students for career opportunities, enhancing their employability in a growing field.
- Strengthen partnerships with local hospitals, clinics, and imaging centers, providing students with valuable clinical training and internship opportunities.

The educational objectives of this degree program include the graduate's successful completion of the AART certification on the first attempt. Graduates will obtain employment in the field within

the first 12 months after graduation. The graduation rate will meet or exceed the program benchmark.

This degree program is comprised of 120 semester credit hours (SCH) and includes six clinical experience courses.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2026.

A&M-Texarkana certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117 regarding need, quality, financial and faculty resources, and standards, and costs.

I. NEED

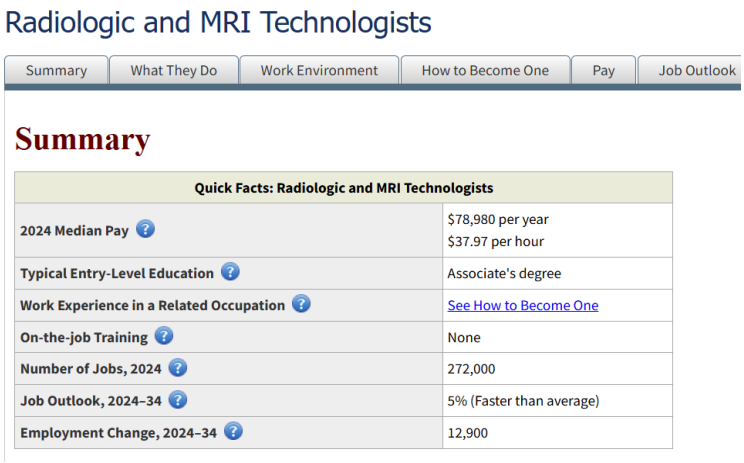
A. Employment Opportunities

Workforce shortages are acute and ongoing. Christus St. Michael Health System, a large regional hospital, reports a 22% shortage in radiologic technologists and unmet needs in related specialties such as CT and MRI. The hospital has expressed strong support for this program and has committed to serving as a clinical affiliate site, ensuring students gain hands-on experience in diverse imaging environments.

Currently, Texas has only two institutions offering the B.S. in Radiologic Technology, Midwestern State University (Wichita Falls) and the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center (Houston), both located more than four hours from Texarkana. In addition, the closest associate degree programs in radiologic technology are located nearly two hours away, requiring students from the Texarkana region to commute long distances or relocate to pursue their education. As a result, many prospective students either forgo the program entirely or relocate to other areas, reducing the likelihood that they will return to work in the Texarkana healthcare market. The proposed program at A&M-Texarkana directly addresses this gap by providing a local pathway for students to earn a radiologic technology degree, ensuring that graduates are more likely to remain in the region and contribute to the local workforce.

The proposed program will provide an opportunity for local and regional students to earn a bachelor's degree close to home, strengthening local healthcare infrastructure. Graduates will be eligible for dual certification in diagnostic radiology and specialty areas, significantly improving job placement rates and meeting urgent healthcare needs across rural and underserved communities.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (2024), employment of radiologic and MRI technologists is projected to grow 5% from 2023 to 2033, faster than the average for all occupations, with approximately 16,000 openings annually. The proposed program directly aligns with this projected demand.



Radiologic and MRI Technologists

Summary | What They Do | Work Environment | How to Become One | Pay | Job Outlook

Summary

Quick Facts: Radiologic and MRI Technologists	
2024 Median Pay	$78,980 per year $37.97 per hour
Typical Entry-Level Education	Associate's degree
Work Experience in a Related Occupation	See How to Become One
On-the-job Training	None
Number of Jobs, 2024	272,000
Job Outlook, 2024–34	5% (Faster than average)
Employment Change, 2024–34	12,900

B. Projected Enrollment

The proposed B.S. degree program will begin with an estimated enrollment of 15 students for years one and two and increase to 20 students in years three through five as additional faculty members are hired. The enrollment complies with programmatic accreditation standards that specify student-to-faculty ratios for clinical education.

A&M-Texarkana's advising office reports significant student demand, including numerous current and prospective students expressing interest in transferring into or enrolling in the proposed program. The College of Nursing, Health, and Human Services receives frequent inquiries regarding this program, reinforcing its strong market potential.

Recruitment will leverage local and regional partnerships, including hospital and clinic collaborations, high school outreach, university preview days, and community career fairs.

Enrollment	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Full-Time					
In-state	10	10	10	10	10
Out-of-state	4	4	9	8	8
Out-of-country	1	1	1	2	2
Part-Time					
In-state	0	0	0	0	0
Out-of-state	0	0	0	0	0
Out-of-country	0	0	0	0	0
Total New Students	**15**	**15**	**20**	**20**	**20**

C. Existing State Programs

There are two existing B.S. degrees in Radiologic Technology, both located more than four hours from A&M-Texarkana. The proposed A&M-Texarkana program will uniquely focus on both diagnostic and specialty imaging training, addressing the unmet workforce needs of healthcare providers in the Northeast Texas region.

Degree Title & Designation	University	CIP Code	Graduation Year 2022	Graduation Year 2023
Radiologic Technology, B.S.	Midwestern State University (Wichita Falls)	51.0911.00	114	127
Computed Tomography, B.S.	The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center (Houston)	51.0911.00	8	23

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

A&M-Texarkana currently has one core faculty member who will be assigned full-time to the program and will hire two additional faculty in fall 2026, one faculty in fall 2027, and one faculty in fall 2028. The estimated cost of hiring the faculty members is $1,514,500 over the first five years. While Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) accreditation permits bachelor's-prepared instructors, the university will seek to recruit master's-prepared faculty to strengthen instructional quality, research capacity, and professional leadership.

B. Program Administration

One Administrative Assistant is required for this degree program. This will be a shared position within the Division of Health Professions. The estimated portion of the salary paid for this position is $20,000 a year.

C. Other Personnel

This program will require support from academic advising. The program is estimating a shared cost for one additional advisor at $25,000 beginning in year three.

D. Supplies, Materials

The degree program will require $64,400 for a radiation table and energizer equipment, and a radiology wireless panel.

E. Library

The degree program will require $20,000 for the first five years for subscriptions to databases for the degree program.

F. Equipment, Facilities

The degree program will require $120,000 for construction of a radiation room, radiology accessories, and radiology dosimetry badges.

G. Accreditation Page

The degree program will seek programmatic accreditation with the JCERT at the earliest opportunity. Obtaining and maintaining JCERT accreditation is estimated five-year cost of $28,000.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS		SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	$1,514,500	Formula Income	$144,027
Program Administration	$175,000	Statutory Tuition	
Graduate Assistants		Reallocation	
Supplies & Materials	$64,400	Designated Tuition	
Library & IT Resources	$20,000	Other Funding:	
Equipment, Facilities	$120,000	Tuition	$1,370,080
Other – Student Scholarships/Funding	$9,370	Fees	$465,741
Other – Accreditation	$28,000		
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$1,931,270	**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$1,979,848

Agenda Item No. 7.54

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Ross Alexander, Ph.D., President
Texas A&M University-Texarkana

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

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Texarkana (A&M-Texarkana) leading to a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Information Technology (IT)**,** 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-Texarkana is seeking approval to offer a B.S. in IT. The degree program is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to install, support, and maintain IT systems and networks. Apart from skills built through general education courses, the coursework also focuses on skills in IT fundamentals, networking, computer programming, database fundamentals, and productivity-enhancing applications.

The uniqueness of the proposed program is the format of delivery – offered in a completely online fashion in addition to face-to-face modality (as needed) with some courses offered in the condensed eight-week format to facilitate student learning.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Institutional funds will be used to support the B.S. in IT. The proposed degree program currently employs one core faculty member and three support faculty members. Two additional core faculty members will be hired for fall 2026. The new costs for the first five years are estimated to total $1,224,000.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

The proposed B.S. in Information Technology aligns with The Texas A&M University System strategic plan imperative 3 by preparing students for long-term careers in a high-demand field.

Agenda Item No. 7.54

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-TEXARKANA
Office of the President
November 10, 2025

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

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

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

> **"The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Texarkana leading to a Bachelor of Science with a major in Information Technology.**
>
> **The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University-Texarkana's new degree program request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board have been met."**

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Ross Alexander
President

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

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

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Texas A&M University-Texarkana

Bachelor of Science
with a major in Information Technology
(CIP 11.0103.00)

Program Review Outline

BACKGROUND & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administrative Unit: College of Business, Engineering, and Technology, Division of Information Systems and Computing Technologies

The Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Information Technology (IT) degree program aims to serve the needs of businesses for IT professionals who can provide help in the peripheral areas such as IT tech support, installation, maintenance, troubleshooting, etc. The program equips students with the knowledge and skills needed to install, support, and maintain IT systems and networks. Graduates of the program can find jobs such as IT technicians, tech support specialists, etc. Apart from skills built through general education courses, the coursework also focuses on skills in IT fundamentals, networking, computer programming, database fundamentals, and productivity-enhancing applications.

The proposed degree program will be unique in the number and type of courses in the sequence, structure, and delivery of the content. The proposed program is focused on installation, maintenance, running updates, and troubleshooting by providing support to the information technology infrastructure. Further, the uniqueness of the proposed program is the format of delivery. It will be offered in a completely online fashion, in addition to the face-to-face modality (as needed), with some courses offered in the condensed eight-week format to facilitate student learning. Given the unique location of Texarkana, the proposed program will meet demands for students from Texas and Arkansas and beyond.

The expected outcomes of students completing this program include:

1) Understanding basic IT concepts and applications,
2) Ability to analyze, design, and implement solutions to install, maintain, and troubleshoot IT systems, and
3) Demonstrate effectiveness in technical written and verbal communication presented in text or visual format.

The proposed degree program is comprised of 120 semester credit hours.

The proposed implementation date is fall 2026.

Texas A&M University-Texarkana certifies that the proposed new degree program meets the criteria under the 19 Texas Administrative Code, Section 2.117 regarding 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 proposed degree is experiencing a national decline of 3% based on US Bureau of Labor Statistics. However, this source indicates 50,500 openings for this field each year due to retirement, transfer to other occupations, or exiting the labor force.

Over the next 10 years, Texas projects an average increase of 7,537 employment opportunities annually in the field.

State	Annual Openings	Percent Change
Texas	6390	23.4%

Source: projectionscentral.org for Texas

B. Projected Enrollment

The proposed degree program projects an increase in enrollment of 39% over the first five years.

Enrollment	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Full-Time					
In-state	8	12	16	20	22
Out-of-state	15	17	20	25	30
Out-of-country	8	7	10	12	15
Part-Time					
In-state	5	8	10	15	20
Out-of-state	10	15	20	25	30
Out-of-country	0	0	0	0	0
Total New Students	**46**	**59**	**76**	**97**	**117**

C. Existing State Programs

The degree program will be offered online with limited face-to-face offerings. The total number of graduates for all the programs in Texas does not meet the annual projected employment opportunities over the next 10 years, further illustrating the need for this degree program. The following table shows the existing public and private universities that currently offer a bachelor's degree in IT. Additionally, only four public universities offer the program 100% online: Tarleton State University, Texas A&M University-Central Texas, Texas State University, and University of North Texas.

Degree Title & Designation	University	CIP Code	Graduating Students 2022	Graduating Students 2023
Information Technology and Administration, BS	Abilene Christian University	11.0103.00	0	0
Information Technology, BS	McMurry University	11.0103.00	1	0
Information Technology, BS	Stephen F. Austin State University	11.0103.00	21	12
Information Technology, BS	Tarleton State University	11.0103.00	23	28
Information Technology, BS	Texas A&M University-Central Texas	11.0103.00	3	5
Computer Information Technology, BS	Texas Christian University	11.0103.00	2	2
Information Technology, BS	Texas Tech University	11.0103.00	100	114
Computer Information Systems and Technology, BS	The University of Texas at Dallas	11.0103.00	290	300
Information Technology, BS	The University of Texas at Tyler	11.0103.00	29	23
Information Technology, BS	University of Houston-Clear Lake	11.0103.00	13	21
Business Computer Information Systems; BS Information Technology, BS	University of North Texas	11.0103.00	169	141
Information of Technology, BS	University of North Texas at Dallas	11.0103.00	30	28
Information Technology, BS	American Intercontinental University – Houston	11.0103.00	11	2
Information Technology and Networking, BS	Devry University – Irving Campus	11.0103.00	1	2
Information Technology, BS	Strayer University-Texas	11.0103.00	25	25
Information Technology, BS	Wade College - Dallas	11.0103.00	0	0
Information Technology, BS	Oral Roberts University	11.0103.00	0	0
Information Technology, BS	Western Governors University Texas	11.0103.00	659	710

II. QUALITY & RESOURCES

A. Faculty

The proposed degree program currently employs one core faculty member and three support faculty members. Two additional core faculty members will be hired for fall 2026.

B. Program Administration

No additional program administration costs are required for this proposed degree program.

C. Other Personnel

The proposed degree program expects to hire an administrative assistant to support the growing programmatic needs of the division. This position consists of salary and benefits totaling $48,000 annually ($240,000 over 5 years).

D. Supplies, Materials

No additional supplies or materials are required for this proposed degree program.

E. Library

No additional library materials are required for this proposed degree program.

F. Equipment, Facilities

No additional equipment or facilities are required for this proposed degree program.

G. Accreditation Page

This proposed degree program will not seek programmatic accreditation.

III. NEW 5-YEAR COSTS & FUNDING SOURCES

NEW 5-YEAR COSTS			SOURCES OF FUNDING	
Faculty	$984,000		Formula Income	$1,689,782
Program Administration			Statutory Tuition	
Graduate Assistants			Reallocation	
Supplies & Materials			Designated Tuition	
Library & IT Resources			Other Funding:	
Equipment, Facilities			Tuition	$3,984,479
Other Personnel – Administrative Assistant	$240,000		Fees	$1,406,299
Estimated 5-Year Costs	$1,224,000		**Estimated 5-Year Revenues**	$7,080,560

Agenda Item No. 7.58

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Robert H. Bishop, Director
Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station

Subject: Removal of Building Name and Named Rooms and Spaces within the Mike and Beverly Rowlett Industrial Distribution Building at The Texas A&M University System RELLIS Campus.

Proposed Board Action:

Remove building naming and named rooms and spaces within the Mike and Beverly Rowlett Industrial Distribution Building at The Texas A&M University System RELLIS Campus.

Background Information:

In accordance with System Policy *51.06, Naming of Buildings, Geographical Areas and Academic Entities*, "It is the policy of the Board of Regents (board) of The Texas A&M University System (system) to honor or memorialize individuals who have made significant contributions to the system by naming buildings, definable portions of buildings, geographical areas or academic entities for such individuals, businesses and other entities."

The board previously approved the naming of the Mike and Beverly Rowlett Industrial Distribution Building (building) at The Texas A&M University System RELLIS Campus by Minute Order 054-2023 (Item 6.42) on February 9, 2023. The board also approved the naming of rooms and spaces within the building by Minute Order 133-2023 (Item 6.52) on May 18, 2023; Minute Order 197-2023 (Item 6.35) on August 16-17, 2023; and Minute Order 054-2024 (Item 6.34) on February 7-9, 2024.

The Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) recently transferred the building to Texas A&M AgriLife Extension. TEES is planning for construction of a new Engineering Technology and Industrial Distribution Building on the main campus of Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. Future board approval will be requested to appropriately recognize all current and future donors for the new building.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

Not applicable.

Strategic Plan Imperative(s) this Item Advances:

Approval of this agenda item will directly advance The Texas A&M University System Strategic Imperative 3. Our students will leave the A&M System as responsible and engaged citizens prepared for successful careers in an increasingly global economy. The Engineering Technology and Industrial Distribution Building will provide students with a building that will house classrooms, faculty offices, learning studios, technical labs, Talent Incubator, and Graduate Program Office.

Agenda Item No. 7.58

TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION
Office of the Director
January 2, 2026

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

Subject: Removal of Building Name and Named Rooms and Spaces within the Mike and Beverly Rowlett Industrial Distribution Building at The Texas A&M University System RELLIS Campus

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

> **"The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby authorizes the removal of the building naming and all named rooms and spaces within the Mike and Beverly Rowlett Industrial Distribution Building at The Texas A&M University System RELLIS Campus."**

Respectfully submitted,

[SIGNED BY]

Robert H. Bishop
Director

System Approval Recommended:

[SIGNED BY]

Glenn Hegar
Chancellor

[SIGNED BY]

Susan Ballabina
Executive Vice Chancellor

System General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

R. Brooks Moore
General Counsel

Board General Counsel Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[SIGNED BY]

Nichole B. Bunker
General Counsel

Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station

ATTACHMENT TO ITEM 7.58

January 15, 2026
MEMORANDUM

TO: Vickie Burt Spillers, Executive Director, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

THROUGH: Glenn Hegar, Chancellor
The Texas A&M University System

Susan Ballabina, Executive Vice Chancellor
The Texas A&M University System

R. Brooks Moore, General Counsel
The Texas A&M University System

FROM: Robert H. Bishop, Director [SIGNED BY]
The Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Removal of Building Name and Named Rooms and Spaces within the Mike and Beverly Rowlett Industrial Distribution Building at The Texas A&M University System RELLIS Campus

In November 2021, the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents approved construction of the Industrial Distribution Building No. 1 Project (No. 28-3230) at The Texas A&M University System RELLIS Campus. This was approved by Minute Order 187-2021. The building was a TEES capital project.

The Industrial Distribution (ID) Building was 100% donor funded through gift agreements that were facilitated through the Texas A&M Foundation. TEES requested Board of Regents approval for naming the building and several interior building rooms and spaces to recognize the donors. The donor namings were authorized as follows:

MINUTE ORDER 054-2023 (ITEM 6.42) - Naming of Building
MINUTE ORDER 133-2023 (ITEM 6.52) - Naming of Rooms and Spaces
MINUTE ORDER 197-2023 (ITEM 6.35) - Naming of Rooms and Spaces
MINUTE ORDER 054-2024 (ITEM 6.34) - Naming of Rooms and Spaces

Construction of the building was completed in late spring 2023. Over the first year of operations, ID program occupancy and activities within the building were minimal and the building was routinely vacant. In April 2025, Robert Bishop, Director of the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES), briefed A&M System leadership, including Chancellor Sharp, on the situation. By memorandum on April 7, 2025 (attached), TEES was directed to transfer the ID building to Texas A&M AgriLife Extension for reconfiguration for an alternate purpose. Funding was provided to TEES by the A&M System to restore the donor funds expended for construction and to support a future replacement building.

The Texas A&M Foundation has been assisting TEES with donor communications relating to the ID building transfer since April 7, 2025. Between April 2025 and November 2025, the Texas A&M Foundation attempted communication with all donors and established contact with the majority of these donors. Texas A&M Engineering is providing monthly progress reports to the full ID donor base.

In early fall 2025, Dr. Robert Bishop briefed new A&M System leadership on the ID Building history and the April 7, 2025 memorandum. TEES was directed to finalize transfer of the ID Building to Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, which was completed in November 2025. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is proceeding with renovations to the facility.

TEES, along with the Texas A&M College of Engineering and Texas A&M University, is in the early planning stages for a new Engineering Technology and Industrial Distribution (ETID) Building for location on the Texas A&M University campus in proximity to existing Engineering academic and research facilities. The future building is expected to be significantly larger and will include replacement of all contents of the former ID Building, plus new expanded capacity for ETID faculty and students. Once capital planning is finalized and approved, the Texas A&M Foundation will amend all written donor gift agreements. All donor naming gifts will be appropriately honored in the new building.

ITEM HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN

***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.**