REPORT TO THE
LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS

RECRUITMENT OF SUPERIOR GRADUATE STUDENTS COMPONENT
OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND
FY 2013-14 COMPETITION FOR AWARDS TO BEGIN IN FY 2015-16

Dr. John Mayfield, Chair
Professor
Iowa State University

Dr. Charles Ambler
Former Dean of the Graduate School
University of Texas at El Paso

Dr. Roger Chalkley
Senior Associate Dean for Biomedical Research Education and Training
Vanderbilt University Medical School

Dr. Suzanne Ortega
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
University of North Carolina
INTRODUCTION

The panel urges applicants to read the summary critiques, included in this report, relating to each submitted proposal. Most summaries offer specific suggestions to help applicants design proposals for future competitions of the Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students Program.

The review panel for the Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students Program met in Baton Rouge on February 15 and 16, 2014 to discuss and make funding recommendations relative to proposals submitted in the FY 2013-14 competition for awards to begin in FY 2015-16. Members of the panel were Dr. John Mayfield (Chair), Iowa State University; Dr. Roger Chalkley, Vanderbilt University Medical School; Dr. Charles Ambler, University of Texas at El Paso; and Dr. Suzanne Ortega, University of North Carolina.

Ten (10) institutions submitted a total of thirty-three (33) proposals within the disciplines eligible for this year's competition in the Traditional Graduate Fellows Program. One (1) university submitted a total of one (1) proposal in the Graduate Fellowships for Teachers Program. In some cases two or more departments within an academic unit submitted a single proposal.

Prior to arriving in Baton Rouge, consultants individually read and evaluated each proposal according to the guidelines provided by the Louisiana Board of Regents in the FY 2013-14 Graduate Fellows Request for Proposals. Each consultant assigned a preliminary rating to each proposal before the February meeting. Preliminary composite scores were then computed and facilitated discussions at the panel meeting.

After thorough assessment of the merits of each proposal, the consultants established a rank order for all proposals and recommended monetary levels for awards according to established criteria. Recommendations were made consistent with the limits of available funding as determined by the Board of Regents. Final composite scores assigned to the proposals ranged from 69.8 to 82.2 out of a maximum of 100. The panel did not recommend funding for those proposals receiving scores of less than 77.5. A total of $573,500 in first-year monies was recommended for expenditure.

The total amount of first-year funds requested in the Traditional Graduate Fellows Program was $2,889,000. The Graduate Fellowships for Teachers proposal requested first-year funds of $120,000. Consultants were advised that $460,000 was allocated for the Traditional Graduate Fellows Program and $115,000 for the Graduate Fellowships for Teachers Program. The panel was also advised that any funds not committed to proposals submitted for the latter program should be recommended for expenditure under the Traditional Graduate Fellows Program, assuming that a sufficient number of meritorious proposals had been submitted in Traditional GF to warrant the transfer.

The panel recommends that twelve (12) of the thirty-three (33) proposals submitted under the Traditional Graduate Fellows Program be funded in the amounts specified in Appendix A; the single proposal submitted under the Graduate Fellowships for Teachers Program is not recommended for funding. Appendix B consists of brief narrative summaries of the panel's assessment of each proposal and Appendix C contains a listing of all proposals submitted under each program.

The cumulative requests substantially exceed the total amount of funding available. This year there were several proposals that the panel deemed worthy of support but for which there were insufficient funds. Reviewers sought to ascertain the degree to which each award could bring about the successful recruitment of superior graduate students, consistent with the Support Fund goals of enhancing the overall quality of higher education in and the social, cultural and economic development of Louisiana. Moreover, panel members
considered in each case whether the dollar value of the requested fellowship stipend would ensure each program's competitiveness with comparable institutions and accord with past recruiting efforts.

Once again, the four panel members commend all involved in this ongoing endeavor to elevate the level of graduate study in Louisiana’s institutions of higher education.

**Panel Comments, Recommendations and Suggestions:**

1. Applicants must complete the required tables correctly. Though data reporting has improved in most proposals, there continue to be mistakes, omissions, and misinterpretations of the data requested. These data are very important to the panel’s understanding of graduate programs’ strengths and challenges, so incomplete or error-filled data tables can have serious consequences in panel deliberations.

2. As noted above, the panel relies heavily on and carefully analyzes data submitted in the proposals. If data suggest problems with recruitment, retention, time to degree, minority participation, or other elements of a graduate program, the proposal should specifically address the problem(s) in the narrative and indicate what the program is doing or will do to respond. For example, if large numbers of students leave without the intended degree, explain this trend.

3. Recruitment plans that have been in place for many years and are not yielding results, particularly those related to increasing enrollment of underrepresented minority students, should be reevaluated. This panel sometimes sees the same proposals putting forth the same plans with the same results year after year and wonders why plans do not evolve or change, particularly when performance is stagnant or in decline. Convincing proposals will include an evaluation of what has worked, what has not and what concrete changes are proposed to address deficiencies.

4. Proposals are enhanced by the inclusion of clear and systematic mentoring plans coupled with meaningful benchmarks and timelines for satisfactory progress. Descriptions of resources available to students who fall behind or fail to meet benchmarks should be included in addition to the statements describing penalties. If applicable, proposals should discuss how mentoring procedures put in place for Board of Regents fellowship recipients have impacted the quality of mentoring for all students in the graduate program. The panel notes that the current section on Mentoring and Tracking is still not well addressed in most proposals.

5. Student outcomes following completion of the degree are an extremely important measure of a graduate program’s success, and proposals are significantly enhanced by the inclusion of quantitative data on the placement of program graduates and other measures of success, such as publications and conference presentations. Though anecdotal evidence may be included, it should supplement comprehensive, systematically presented data.

6. Programs that have received fellowship funding for more than a few years should document how those fellowships have led to the recruitment of talented and diverse graduate students and enhanced the overall quality of programs. The panel recommends that two required subsections be added to each proposal. These should be entitled 1: impact of the fellowships on the program and 2: student outcomes. Applications with no or few past fellows should clearly identify the expected impact on the students and the program.
7. Economic development is a specific goal of the Board of Regents Support Fund and the Graduate Fellows Program. Most proposals can be improved by providing specific examples in addition to generalities in their descriptions of economic development success and/or potential. Applicants should also include information on how program curricula prepare students for non-academic careers.

8. Though the terms of BoRSF fellowships (two years for academic master’s, three years for professional master’s, and four years for doctoral studies) are insufficient for many students to complete their studies, most proposals do not address the issue of funding for fellowship recipients after Board support concludes. Proposals can be enhanced by including plans or pledges regarding the level and duration of support after BoRSF fellowship support is exhausted.

9. Though this has improved in recent years, the panel continues to note that a few proposals provide names and personal information for students in and graduates of programs seeking funding. **This practice is inappropriate and does not strengthen the proposal in any way.** Applicants are urged to maintain the anonymity of students.

10. Though ETS guidelines clearly state that use of composite GRE scores is a misuse of test results and the panel has for several years urged applicants to provide only the scores most relevant to the graduate program for which funding is sought, a handful of proposals continue to provide composite scores. ETS’s most recent comments on use of scores may be found at [http://www.ets.org/s/gre/pdf/gre_guide.pdf](http://www.ets.org/s/gre/pdf/gre_guide.pdf). As in several recent competitions, this year the use of combined scores resulted in substantially reduced scoring by the reviewers.

11. There has been great improvement in proper use of the term “underrepresented minority”. The panel still reminds applicants that Asian Americans and non-citizens who do not have permanent resident status are not to be categorized as underrepresented in this competition. The panel continues to note a surprising number of Pacific Islanders and Native Alaskans cited as enrolled in Louisiana graduate programs and urges applicants to make certain that these students are appropriately listed as members of these ethnic categories.

12. The panel recommends that, consistent with NIH and NSF definitions and practices, the definition of underrepresented minorities be expanded to include students with disabilities.

13. Applicants are strongly discouraged from including lengthy appendices, which are rarely used by the review panel because they are generally over-filled and difficult to navigate. Material should be provided in appendices only when it specifically illustrates or documents points made in the proposal narrative.

14. Successful graduate programs generally have multiple sources of funding and the intent of the BoRSF Graduate Fellows Program is to supplement and enhance other sources of student support. Due to this intent and necessarily limited Board of Regents funding, the reality is that awards of more than three fellowships are unusual. Thoughtful proposals should address how only one or two fellowships will augment other funding streams and positively benefit the graduate program under review.
APPENDIX A

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUNDING
TABLE I
PROPOSALS RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING

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COMMENTS ON PROPOSALS SUBMITTED UNDER THE BOARD OF REGENTS
SUPPORT FUND PROGRAMS FOR TRADITIONAL GRADUATE FELLOWS AND
GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS FOR TEACHERS

001GF-15    LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE
“Graduate Fellows in Physics and Astronomy”
Requested:  4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended:  2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years = $240,000 TOTAL

LSU’s Physics Department is one of the largest and strongest on the campus, with substantial external grant support and long and successful history of graduate student training. The ratio of research assistants to teaching assistants is healthy, indicative of adequate grant funding to support the graduate program. The PhD program is growing rapidly while maintaining high admission requirements. The dropout rate is relatively low, though time to degree seems somewhat long (the proposal mentions six years, but admissions and graduation data suggest it might be longer). Four elements caused the panel some concern: a weak demonstration of the department’s impact on the State’s economy, lack of success in underrepresented minority recruitment, the missing Table 12-GF part 2 (which prevents assessment of the external funding balance among the faculty), and the continued use of combined GRE scores for student evaluation. The case for how BoRSF fellowships can make a significant difference in recruiting is much improved from last year’s proposal. The panel notes that medical insurance is not paid by the department and believes that this may make it more difficult to recruit the best students. Finally, the program is congratulated for an excellent recruiting strategy: a focus on not just those students who participated in summer REU programs, but on all students who applied to the programs. The medical physics program seems to be thriving, which suggests that the Board’s early investment was worthwhile. The $3,000 supplement to fellowship stipends is applauded. Funding is recommended for two four-year doctoral fellowships at $30,000 each per year.

002GF-15    LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE
“Recruiting Superior Computer Science Doctoral Students in Big Data Analytics”
Requested:  3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $25,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended:  - 0 -

The Computer Science and Engineering Division in the School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science was reorganized and renamed in 2012, with most of the faculty coming from the previous Department of Computer Science. The unit cites a National Research Council ranking in the top 30, reports considerable external funding, and calculates a time to PhD degree of 6.5 years. The ratio of students supported on research funds to teaching assistantships is healthy. Problem areas are the long time to degree, an apparently high non-completion rate, and lack of success in recruiting minority students. In addition, the panel believes that making it more difficult for PhD students to switch to the MS program is a poor strategy for improving retention in the PhD program. The department faces a unique opportunity with the recently announced LSU-IBM partnership and the accompanying promise to double the number of faculty in five years. Though the focus of the State initiative is on producing more undergraduate majors, faculty growth will demand a larger PhD program. The panel believes that Board of Regents fellowships can play a role in this growth, but the program must make a more convincing case that it can increase the U.S. applicant pool, decrease the time to degree, decrease the dropout rate, and successfully recruit quality underrepresented minority students. The panel does not recommend funding at this time.
Recommended: - 0 -

This proposal is for support of a large program in Biological Sciences at LSU. The student body appears to be quite heavily international in composition. The program seems to have addressed issues with student attrition, which is a positive development; however the time to degree as calculated from the proposal’s data tables is, at six to seven years, still overly long. Further, the panel notes that data related to underrepresented minority students suggest that the program’s ability to recruit these students has substantially declined over the past seven years. The results with the BoRSF fellows are reasonable, though time to degree for this population is also excessive. Mentoring practices presented in the proposal indicate appropriate concern about time to degree, but the tables would seem to indicate that so far the results may not be quite as positive as indicated in the narrative. Overall this program seems to be improving over time, though some technical issues seem to interfere with students’ timely completion of the degree. Given the reduced funds available this year, the panel does not recommend funding.

Recommended: - 0 -

The College of Music and Dramatic Arts at LSU, comprising the Department of Theatre and the School of Music, offers highly regarded programs at all academic levels as well as a vibrant schedule of public programming in both theater and music. Swine Palace, with its regional and national reputation, in particular, plays an integral role in the education of students enrolled in theater programs; and these students benefit from regular involvement in a highly professional series of productions, notable for the innovative ways that they speak to the Louisiana experience. Music performances are likewise at a high level, and the university has recently invested in the development of state-of-the-art facilities for performance and teaching. More than 200 graduate students are enrolled in four programs: the PhD in Music and Theatre, the Doctor of Music Arts, the MFA in Theatre and the Master’s in Music. The multiple programs included in this proposal make it difficult to evaluate the nature and quality of each, a situation exacerbated by the apparent lack of data for the doctoral programs. The record of minority recruitment appears reasonable, and the use of creative programming and recruitment of visiting artists to promote an artistic commitment to diversity has undoubtedly contributed to that success. The proposal would benefit from a more systematic presentation of faculty artistic activities (in addition to their publications) and a more effective case should be made for the economic development potential of these programs. The panel was not persuaded that fellowships, spread across these programs, would contribute significantly to elevating their quality. Future proposals might focus on one area or develop stronger arguments for the value of funding fellowships across multiple areas as part of a cohesive strategy to build quality. The panel does not recommend funding.
The proposal from the LSU Department of Chemistry shows renewed vigor as well as careful attention to and use of data collected by the department to drive program improvements. The principal investigator and department have clearly invested time and effort in not only this proposal, but the doctoral program as a whole. Attrition among BoRSF fellows is much improved, as are attention to mentoring and graduate student support. Underrepresented minority recruitment, support and retention, long strong components of this application, continue to be impressive. Funding is recommended for two four-year doctoral fellowships at $30,000 each per year.

This is a proposal for the support of two graduate fellows in the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. Program faculty seem to be well funded, even in these difficult times. The student body consists of 33 students, 18 of whom are U.S. citizens. The program is centralized in its early stages, then the students move into a range of research areas. Recruiting is web-based and strong candidates are brought to campus for final consideration. The data in Table 10-GF are hard to square with this broad approach as the program appears to make offers to a very small number of students from an already small pool of applicants. Interpreting from the data submitted, selectivity is low and this reduces the number of top-quality students eligible for BoRSF fellowships. Though success in recruitment of underrepresented minority students is limited, the program has enrolled a small number of minority students and faculty have visited at least one HBCU (Tuskegee) to recruit. The attrition rate is relatively low, though time to degree appears to be somewhat high. Given the reduced funds available this year, the panel does not recommend funding.

As this proposal makes clear, the programs of the Departments of Oceanography & Coastal Sciences, Geology & Geophysics, and Environmental Sciences at LSU are positioned to take advantage of research opportunities related to Louisiana’s natural resources and to make a strategic contribution to environmentally sustainable economic growth. The proposal narrative makes a case for the relevance of these programs to the economic development of the State, and the argument for the need for master’s-prepared graduates is especially compelling. The three departments each offer master’s and doctoral programs, although the PhD in Environmental Sciences has just been established. With a combined faculty of 42 members, these are relatively small programs, but they are research active: faculty have strong records of publication and acquisition of external funding. The panel remains concerned that pools of applicants are limited, notwithstanding a two-stage application process. The proposal details the national context of minority recruitment, but gives less thought to articulating strategies for changing the current
situation. Future proposals might detail the ways in which students are actually trained to pursue careers. Funding is recommended for one two-year master’s level fellowship at $25,000 per year.

008GF-15  LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE
“Board of Regents Fellowships in Engineering 2015-2020”
Requested:  3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years
           2 Master’s-Level Fellowships at $20,000/annum for 2 years

Recommended:  2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years
               2 Master’s-Level Fellowships at $20,000/annum for 2 years
               TOTAL: $320,000

The LSU College of Engineering has a well-funded, research-active faculty, with approximately $259,000 of extramural funding per faculty FTE. The number of new proposal submissions continues the slight decline noted in the preceding year. Coupled with plans to significantly increase undergraduate enrollment, planned new faculty hires will be important in ensuring the continued research and doctoral mentoring capacity of the program. Strong departmental ties to industry and the requirement that graduate applicants submit a statement outlining how their research interests align with economic development opportunities ensure that new fellowship recipients will be trained in areas and ways that directly link to State economic development priorities. The program has developed a method for tracking satisfactory progress that should help students stay on course for timely graduation as well as make certain they are very competitive in academic and industry labor markets. There is an encouraging increase in domestic applications over the past year, although the numbers of applications from potential underrepresented minority students are essentially flat. Nevertheless the program is thinking creatively about ways to increase the diversity of the student body. Attrition from the program is highly troubling, particularly for underrepresented students enrolled in doctoral programs. The importance of this program to the university and the college is evident in the significant institutional cost share. Funding is recommended for two four-year doctoral fellowships at $30,000 each per year and two two-year master’s fellowships at $20,000 each per year.

009GF-15  LSU HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER – NEW ORLEANS
“Graduate Training in Integrative Pharmacological Sciences”
Requested:  3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $28,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended:  1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at $28,000/annum for 4 years = $112,000 TOTAL

This small PhD program in integrative pharmacology involves about 15 research-active faculty and 15 to 20 doctoral students. Students, a number of whom are also pursuing MD degrees, are closely mentored and completion rates are high, including for previous BoRSF fellows. The LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans is a major economic engine in Louisiana. There is an active program in pharmacology to promote commercialization and to build links to industrial partners. In a small program such as this, with a very limited pool of U.S. applicants, it is a challenge to develop effective recruiting strategies. The proposal does not really make clear how BoRSF fellowships will leverage the expansion of these pools. In these circumstances, the program has also had limited success recruiting minority students. The collaborations with Loyola University New Orleans and the University of New Orleans, bringing undergraduate students into the labs and developing joint advanced degree programs, seem promising, as does the proposed joint PharmD/PhD program being developed with Xavier University of Louisiana. Funding is recommended for one four-year doctoral fellowship at $28,000 per year.
LSU HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER – NEW ORLEANS
“Recruitment of Superior Doctoral Students in Public Health Sciences 2015-2020”
Requested: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $26,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: - 0 -

LSUHSCNO’s School of Public Health offers five master’s and three PhD degrees. The PhD degrees are all relatively new. Each of the programs seems to have become well established, with good students enrolled and a small but workable pool of new applicants. Minority recruitment across all three programs has been exemplary. The Biostatistics program has now graduated seven students, and it would have been helpful to an understanding of the program’s impact and success to include the post-graduation outcomes for these students. The panel does note with concern the rather high dropout rate for Biostatistics PhD students. The arguments for economic development benefits to the State could be more forceful. Extramural funding data provided in Table 2 are badly out of date; information related to funding trends over the past several years would be more helpful. The proposal could also make a stronger case for the impact of BoRSF fellowships on the growth and development of these new programs. Given the reduced funds available this year, the panel does not recommend funding.

LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY
“Computational Analysis and Modeling Doctoral Graduate Fellows 2015-19”
Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $25,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at $25,000/annum for 4 years = $100,000 TOTAL

Computational Analysis and Modeling (CAM) is one of three PhD programs in the College of Engineering and Science at Louisiana Tech and most research occurs in four centers of excellence. The innovative administrative structure of the university means that all graduate programs in the sciences and engineering are interdisciplinary, which is a major benefit. The program seems to do a remarkable job with the limited assets provided by the State. The well-documented impact on economic development describes activities of the college as a whole rather than being limited to CAM; it would be helpful to see the specific contributions of the program under review. The size of the PhD program has declined in recent years, but this may be a positive development that brings program size in line with funding. The small size of the application pool is surprising considering the high scores and grades of the newly matriculated students. Does the program have a pre-screening procedure that reduces the formal number of applications? The number and ratio of U.S. students in the program has doubled over the past six years, suggesting an increase in efforts to recruit U.S. students. The number of minority students (five of twelve U.S. students) is very impressive, though the panel notes that one minority student dropped out last year and none has graduated in the past six years. The $5,000 fellowship supplement is a very positive feature of the proposal. The proposal clearly indicates that BoRSF fellowship support would likely have a positive impact on the quality of this program and directly support Louisiana’s information science focus. Funding is recommended for one four-year doctoral fellowship at $25,000 per year.

LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY
“Superior Graduate Fellows Supporting Five Centers of Excellence in Engineering FY 2013-14”
Requested: 4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $25,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: - 0 -

The connections this proposal outlines between Louisiana Tech faculty, graduate students, and regional employers provide clear evidence of the opportunities for the program and fellowship recipients to contribute to statewide
economic development. To date, however, the program does not seem to have developed vehicles, such as professional development seminars, courses, or other intentional organizational linkages, to explicitly prepare students for careers in industry or as entrepreneurs. With respect to funding for graduate students, it appears that a significant number of current federal grants will expire during 2014, suggesting potential difficulties in maintaining or growing the size of the doctoral program. The program and the university will need to carefully consider strategies for bridge funding to ensure that current graduate students stay on course for timely graduation. The program’s recruitment strategy of focusing on Louisiana Tech undergraduates, particularly those concurrently enrolled, appears to have yielded good results, with applications from U.S. citizens doubling from the preceding year (although only now reaching 2009 levels). Unfortunately, there has been no comparable progress in increasing applications or enrollments from underrepresented minority students. Traditional recruitment strategies are clearly not working and require a bold new approach. The university and the program are to be commended for continuing to provide a fellowship supplement. Given the reduced funds available this year, the panel does not recommend funding.

013GF-15  McNEESE STATE UNIVERSITY
“MSU’s Grad Fellow for M.S. in Environmental & Chemical Sciences”
Requested:  2 Master’s-Level Fellowships at $15,000/annum for 2 years
Recommended:  - 0 -

The Department of Environmental Science and Chemistry at McNeese State University is seeking support for its small master’s-level program. Overall the program has recruited a modest number of students and has a reasonable ratio of U.S. citizens to international students. The data indicate low selectivity in admissions, though the final yield is acceptable. Retention and graduation of BoRSF fellows has been reasonable, though attrition across the program has historically been higher. The program appears to have had success in recruiting, retaining and graduating underrepresented minority students. Mentoring strategies and evaluation are routine, essentially requiring that students achieve certain performance metrics, and should be better developed. Given the reduced funds available this year, the panel does not recommend funding.

014GF-15  NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY
“Enhancement of Marine and Environmental Biology Student Recruitment through Graduate Study”
Requested:  3 Master’s-Level Fellowships at $15,000/annum for 2 years
Recommended:  1 Master’s-Level Fellowship at $15,000/annum for 2 years = $30,000 TOTAL

The master’s program in Marine and Environmental Biology at Nicholls State has, over more than a decade, built a strong reputation by tailoring its education and research programs to the particular needs of the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary, economically the most important wetlands in the United States. Nicholls faculty members have established links to regional industries (notably sugar, oil, and fishing) and regional research facilities associated with universities and agencies; these relationships greatly enhance a solid training program. Given the focus of the program, the proposal should detail ways in which the curriculum prepares students for work in the private sector. Nicholls’ master’s students are engaged in a range of research projects addressing local environmental, ecological, and commercial issues. Many faculty members have impressive professional profiles, including substantial records of publication and significant external funding. The program has grown gradually and the numbers of applicants have increased. The department seems to have been successful in reducing levels of attrition. It likely makes sense to focus recruitment around the identification of specific candidates, but for a program located in a community with a substantial African American population, a greater effort should be made to
identify promising minority students. Funding is recommended for one two-year master’s fellowship at $15,000 per year.

**015GF-15**  
**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE – BATON ROUGE**  
“SUBR-MPMEd Grad Fellowship”  
**Requested: 4 Master’s-Level Fellowships at $20,000/annum for 2 years**  

**Recommended: - 0 -**

Southern University and A&M College educates large numbers of mostly minority students from Louisiana. This places a great responsibility on the university to identify and nurture students whose abilities will allow them to thrive in industry and academia. The wonderful successes of top undergraduates passing through the TIMBUKTU program illustrate the potential. The graduate program in Physics and Mathematics, however, seems to be struggling to find a similar niche. The proposal indicates new funding for ten students, but no details are given. A clear funding picture would be very helpful for the panel to understand how BoRSF fellowships would augment and complement existing funding streams. Lack of financial support by the university has clearly been an historical problem; one $9,000 departmental assistantship is an insufficient base on which to build a vibrant program. A serious weakness of the proposal as written is the lack of attention to filling out Tables 10-GF and 11-GF, the tables which should allow the panel to obtain a quantitative picture of a program. Most data for year 2012-13 are missing, and it is not possible for the panel to determine how many of the U.S. students in the program are underrepresented minorities. Table 10-GF suggests that none of ten new students admitted in 2012-13 are minority and also suggests that all ten students who applied were admitted to and matriculated in the program. Table 11-GF part B indicates that six of ten students are U.S. Pacific Islanders. If this is accurate, it deserves special comment in the narrative given the relative rarity of such concentrations of this ethnic group. Economic development contributions of the program are also not well represented. The best economic development argument for the program would seem to be the placement of graduates in doctoral programs and Louisiana industry, yet relatively few graduates seem to pursue such careers outside of Southern University itself. Funding is not recommended.

**016GF-15**  
**TULANE UNIVERSITY**  
“Recruiting Superior Graduate Students in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology”  
**Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $32,000/annum for 4 years**  

**Recommended: - 0 -**

The proposal for Tulane’s Ecology and Evolutionary Biology program well articulates the value of BoRSF fellowship funding, indicating it would enable the department to leverage existing extramural research funding to expand graduate training opportunities. Support from the program would boost Ecology and Evolutionary Biology’s ability to recruit nationally competitive students capable of conducting highly innovative and interdisciplinary research. Collaborations between faculty and BoRSF fellows would subsequently allow faculty to leverage grant support (at lower cost) from federal agencies including NSF, DOE, and DOD, which will become an increasingly important consideration if the current economic downturn continues to result in reduced federal research budgets. This is a small and selective program which has shown measurable success, but current data raise serious concerns related to student completion and time to degree. All of the students receiving BoRSF fellowships over the past seven years are still in the program. In the program as a whole, over the past three years, the data indicate that only two of more than 20 students have graduated and two have left the program. The proposal outlines a detailed mentoring program, and the panel hopes this will help to address what could become a significant problem. Given the reduced funds available this year, the panel does not recommend funding.
TULANE UNIVERSITY

“Recruiting Superior Graduate Students in Biomedical and Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering”

Requested: 4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years = $240,000 TOTAL

Tulane’s small but well-funded Engineering faculty have made a clear commitment to recruiting and supporting highly qualified and talented students. Faculty research is clearly linked to major State and regional workforce needs and the development of next-generation products and companies. The bioinnovation IGERT is clearly designed to give students the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to succeed in either the academy or private-sector business and industry. While the proposal suggests that new BoRSF fellows will have the opportunity to participate in all aspects of the program as IGERT affiliates, to ensure the broadest possible impact of fellows on statewide economic development the program should consider requiring participation in at least some facets of the program. Despite the program’s strengths, it continues to struggle to secure a robust U.S. applicant pool and a healthy number of underrepresented minority applicants. Data displayed in Table 11-GF are inconsistent but it appears that attrition remains a problem, with 45 doctoral degrees having been conferred since 2006 and 21 students during the same time period dropping out of the program without having achieved the intended degree. While the proposal outlines a revitalized recruitment effort, it does not appear to be particularly innovative, relying instead on devoting more energy to strategies that have not proven effective in the past. While efforts to connect with Louisiana HBCUs make sense on the surface, they clearly are not working. The recruitment process needs to be totally re-engineered, perhaps in part by making use of the many new social media tools that are now available. Funding is recommended for two four-year doctoral fellowships at $30,000 each per year.

TULANE UNIVERSITY

“Graduate Fellows in Psychology”

Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $26,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $26,000/annum for 4 years = $208,000 TOTAL

This is a strong proposal from the relatively small, diverse faculty in Tulane’s Psychology Department. Research expertise is well aligned with emerging health and education needs in Louisiana, and the proposal clearly argues that addressing these needs will contribute to the human capital and educational infrastructure necessary to attract and keep business and industry in the State. Faculty and doctoral student research may also connect to emerging biomedical and health corridor businesses in the region; however, the proposal does not outline specific steps the program will take to help connect fellows to these industries and prepare them with the skills necessary to work effectively with and in the private sector. Program faculty have historically been well funded, but it appears that very few current grants extend beyond 2014. If this is accurate, the program and the institution must think carefully about the development of bridge and other funds to ensure that newly admitted and current doctoral students stay on course for timely graduation. The program has a deep and diverse applicant pool. Data in Table 11-GF suggest that there may be a significant attrition problem, with nearly as many students leaving without the intended degree in many years as graduating. In addition, three Pacific Islanders are included in the tables documenting program diversity. Given the very small number of ethnic Pacific Islanders who matriculate into graduate programs in the continental U.S., these numbers require some elaboration in the proposal. Finally, data indicate that 18% of current doctoral students are supported on BoRSF fellowships. The proposal should discuss ways in which Board of Regents support complements and leverages other graduate student funding streams. Funding is recommended for two four-year doctoral-level fellowships at $26,000 each per year.
019GF-15  TULANE UNIVERSITY
“Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Chemistry”
Requested:  3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended:  2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years = $240,000 TOTAL

The Department of Chemistry at Tulane has constructed an excellent narrative recording substantial past achievements and plans for the future. This is a well-documented proposal and the numbers presented certainly make a strong case for excellence. The program’s educational trajectory and the plans for recruiting are exemplary. The recent history of BoRSF fellows is good, with no recent attrition and 10% of fellowships awarded to underrepresented minority students. Data for the overall program show good selectivity, reasonable yield and a modest number of international students. Recruitment of underrepresented minority students has improved significantly over the past three years. The rate of graduation is appropriate and the level of attrition is low. This is clearly a strong program, which is working hard to maintain and build on its success. Funding is recommended for two four-year doctoral-level fellowships at $30,000 each per year.

020GF-15  TULANE UNIVERSITY
“Superior Graduate Students in Physics 2015-2020”
Requested:  2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended:  - 0 -

The Tulane Physics program’s ongoing reorganization seems to be yielding positive results for the department and staff turnover appears to be reinvigorating. Funding remains a serious problem, with only five of ten faculty with external funding and 17 of 27 students supported by teaching assistantships. The number of students the proposal indicates are unsupported in the summer is also troubling. Recruiting seems to have improved in 2012-13, with eight new students enrolling, but the lack of student support could have ongoing repercussions. The program has had one underrepresented minority student in the last six years and that individual left without the intended degree. Dual degree programs with Xavier University of Louisiana, Dillard University and Loyola University New Orleans should provide excellent opportunities for recruiting minority students, but no progress has been made to date. The dropout rate seems to have improved considerably in recent years and the ratio of graduations to dropouts is reasonable. The economic impact argument is much improved, though the impact described is modest. Given the reduced funds available this year, the panel does not recommend funding.

021GF-15  TULANE UNIVERSITY
“Superior Graduate Students in Neuroscience / 2015-2020”
Requested:  2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $28,500/annum for 4 years

Recommended:  1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at $28,500/annum for 4 years = $114,000 TOTAL

This interdepartmental/inter-college graduate major has a long history of support from the Board of Regents, with six current students supported by BoRSF fellowships. The program has been targeted for growth in Tulane’s ten-year plan and several new faculty have been added. Ultimately the program plans to expand to approximately 32 faculty and 32 PhD students. Research support in the program appears to have grown, with only nine students of 26 supported on teaching assistantships. The narrative states that a typical student is supported on a teaching assistantship for two years; the panel believes a goal should be for this support to last for only one year. A major advantage for this program is a funding stream from the master’s program. The panel notes with approbation that a declining fraction of the research mentors are not funded. Tentative plans to apply for training grants are encouraged, but the panel recognizes that such plans have been cited in proposals for years. Three of 26 students are
categorized as being underrepresented minorities, which is positive but could be improved. The number of applications has increased from 23 to 60 over the past six years, which is likely a sign of a growing reputation. The program seems to be invigorated and functioning well. Funding is recommended for one four-year doctoral-level fellowship at $28,500 per year.

022GF-15  TULANE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
“Global Impact of Interdisciplinary Graduate Training in Public Health Sciences”
Requested:  6 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $28,500/annum for 4 years

Recommended:  - 0 -

This is a very complex application in that it comes from multiple departments/programs, which have been merged to form an overarching entity in Health and Medical Sciences. As such they find themselves in the position of asking for six slots across the included programs. As a result of the recent restructuring, it is difficult to interpret the recruiting/graduating history of the group as a whole, except for the last two years. The proposal presents a training program which begins with broad interdisciplinary coverage and shifts into specific foci in the third year. Mentoring is described at some length and appears to consist principally of way stations. Of note is the intent to keep time to degree at four years, though no data are presented to indicate that recent students are finishing in this time frame. Recruiting is done by a joint oversight committee and follows fairly traditional approaches. Recent recruiting history reflects these changes as the number of applicants has increased, along with the number of acceptances and matriculants. The number of BoRSF fellows is small, with approximately 20% of fellowships awarded to underrepresented minority students. All recent BoRSF fellows have either graduated or are still in the program. Table 11-GF indicates that 19 students have graduated over the last five years, while nine have left without the intended degree. Given the reduced funds available this year, the panel does not recommend funding.

023GF-15  TULANE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
“Predoctoral Training in Biomedical Sciences”
Requested:  4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $28,500/annum for 4 years

Recommended:  - 0 -

This proposal describes a solid program, which does a good job of recruiting, educating and mentoring its graduate students. As evidenced in Table 11-GF, overall time to degree appears to be longer than the goal indicated in the text. Attrition is low, reflecting careful mentoring. Recruitment of underrepresented minority students is also proceeding well. Data on BoRSF fellows reflect an absence of attrition and suggest that students are approaching the goal of completion in five years identified in the narrative. In looking at the outcomes table in the appendix, the panel was struck by the large fraction of clinical positions, presumably reflecting the involvement of the Medical Science Training Program. Arguments enunciating the relevance of BoRSF fellowships to the State’s economy and/or to the additional development of leadership in this field should be strengthened. Given the reduced resources available this year, the panel does not recommend funding.

024GF-15  TULANE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
“Vector-Borne Infectious Disease Research Graduate Fellows”
Requested:  3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $24,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended:  - 0 -

This proposal is submitted by a subset of the faculty of the Department of Tropical Medicine (DTM) in the School of Public Health (SPH) at Tulane University Health Sciences Center. The eight participating faculty represent half of
the total departmental faculty and these eight are also listed among the 24 faculty included in proposal 022GF-15, from all SPH departments in the School except DTM. The PhD program is quite small, with thirteen students listed. Remarkably, per the proposal data tables, none of these students is supported on grant funds and none of the four funded faculty indicates that any research funding has been designated for graduate student support. This is at odds with the narrative which indicates that a typical student will have two years of university support and then be provided with research funding. The panel also notes that the coursework requirement (60+ course credits) is very high for a research-based degree. These observations suggest that PhD students do not play a critical role in the research programs of DTM faculty; future proposals should clarify and explicate this inference. The proposal would benefit greatly from a vision statement indicating where this program wishes to be in five years (i.e., number of students and sources of funding) and how it plans to get there. An increasing number of applications may be an indication of improving reputation and provides an opportunity for program building. There seems to be little attention to underrepresented minority student recruitment and the proposal did not address in any detail the economic benefits of the program to the State. Funding is not recommended.

025GF-15 UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE
“Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Computer Science”
Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $27,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: - 0 -

UL Lafayette’s Computer Science and Computer Engineering programs are combined under the Center for Advanced Computer Studies umbrella. The two programs together have sixteen faculty and 74 PhD students. Problems with the data tables make it very difficult for the panel to get a clear picture of the PhD programs. For example, per the tables, the program admits five new students per year yet reports approximately fifteen leaving each year (graduations plus drop outs). The pool of quality U.S. applicants appears to be very small, with an average of one U.S. student offered admission in each of the last five years, and the GRE scores and grade point averages of the U.S. students matriculating in the last five years are mixed. There are no underrepresented minority students in the PhD program, which suggests a lack of commitment to this important dimension of graduate education. The number of doctoral students in the programs seems to be high, considering that only ten faculty have more than $50,000 in external support and that the departmental stipends are somewhat low. Student completion rate is a major concern. The ratio of 48 graduations to 44 drops over the past six years, derived from Table 11-GF, is very high. The economic development argument is strong, indicating substantial interaction with the local business community. Funding is not recommended.

026GF-15 UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE
“Graduate Fellowships in Folklore”
Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $26,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: - 0 -

The English Department at UL Lafayette offers general doctoral training in English with particular areas of specialization. This proposal requests fellowship funding for students pursuing studies in folklore, an area in which the program has achieved national standing. The English faculty is active professionally, and the department’s folklore scholars are particularly notable in this regard. The proposal makes a convincing case for the importance of the folklore program to Louisiana’s heritage and tourism economy. It has capitalized on its location and collections related to Creole and Acadian culture and has developed important initiatives through the allied Center for Cultural and Eco-Tourism and the new Center for the Moving Image. Students and faculty pursue traditional topics but have also explored issues related to disaster response and the relationship between culture and natural disaster. The program attracts substantial numbers of applicants with strong credentials, although it is unclear how many of the
departmental total are pursuing folklore. Numbers of underrepresented minority students are surprisingly low. The data provided suggest a very traditional approach to recruiting, and the ratio of graduates to drops indicated in Table 11-GF suggests difficulties with mentoring. A successful application would provide more explicit information about the folklore program, including the number of students in the program and number of applicants. Without this information, it is difficult for the panel to understand the success and potential of this area of focus within the department. Funding is not recommended.

027GF-15 UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE
“BoRSF Graduate Fellowships for the Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students into the DNP Program”
Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $27,000/annum for 2 years

Recommended: - 0 -

This new fully online Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program is designed to meet the need for advanced practice nurses across the region and the State. Clearly, doctorally prepared nurses meet a critical health care manpower need; however, it is less clear how the DNP program and degree recipients will “meet the goal to create new products and services in health care, consistent with the Louisiana economic development plan.” It is quite possible to do so, but the current proposal simply does not address how the research, education, and/or service of proposed fellowship holders would be aligned with these needs nor how fellows would be prepared with the skills necessary to set up small businesses or contribute otherwise to developing new products and services. Likewise, it is not well described how students enrolled in an online program would be included in faculty research projects in such a way as to advance the performance of the department, especially since it does not appear that faculty members currently hold active funded research projects that could supplement fellowship support or provide the peer network that enhances doctoral preparation. Fellowships are intended to attract employed nurses into full-time study. Even at $27,000 a year, the panel questions whether the stipend is sufficient to compensate potential students for leaving their jobs. Funding is not recommended.

028GF-15 UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE
“Recruiting Superior PhD Students in Environmental and Evolutionary Biology for 2015”
Requested: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $29,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: - 0 -

Faculty members in the Environmental and Evolutionary Biology program at UL Lafayette have strong records of basic and applied research and external funding in areas that are particularly relevant to Louisiana. Working in collaboration with federal and State regional research centers and with industry, department members and students have engaged in important studies related to natural resource management, climate change, biodiversity loss, coastal issues and so forth. The proposal effectively stresses the broad economic importance of the program. The data presented indicate that there is growing selectivity in admissions. This may lead to improved rates of retention – which continue to be a cause for concern, notwithstanding the analysis of graduation rates presented in the proposal. The attention given to stipend levels and to closer mentoring of students who enter without a master’s degree is an indication that the program has a serious commitment to improvement. Most of the faculty are actively engaged in publication and have had considerable recent success acquiring grants. A number have achieved national eminence. The department clearly takes recruitment seriously, and has experimented with and evaluated the effectiveness of a number of approaches. Still, it is not clear how continuing Board of Regents support will be used to raise the quality of new students and the program as a whole. Given the reduced funds available this year, the panel does not recommend funding.
029GF-15 UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE
“Recruiting Superior Ph.D. Students in Systems Engineering”
Requested: 6 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $30,000/annum for 4 years = $240,000 TOTAL

This new doctoral program builds on the strength and track record of a successful master’s program and currently enrolls 27 doctoral students. The proposal speaks to the connection between the design-based problem-solving curriculum and how students’ work will address local industry needs. The fact that preference will be given to students with some previous industrial experience also enhances the potential that graduate fellows’ educational and research interests will lead to increased economic development for the State and region. The Six Sigma-based dissertation format and the inclusion of an industry representative on dissertation committees should also enhance opportunities for commercialization and economic development. Because the program is new, it is difficult to evaluate how successful the proposed recruitment strategies will be and it is too early to tell whether the size of current applicant pools is a function of continuing demand from existing master’s students. The program will need to pay close attention to the effectiveness of recruitment but also to strategies for increasing the yield, i.e., the percentage of those accepted who matriculate. While the 23 research-active faculty members have had some success in securing external funding, it appears that only four current grants extend beyond 2014. Given the recent federal funding climate, the program and the university will want to begin identifying bridge and other funding necessary to ensure timely completion of doctoral students now enrolled in the program. The program will also want to consider whether enrollment growth ambitions should be rethought. The panel recommends funding for two four-year doctoral-level fellowships at $30,000 each per year. Future proposals should continue to build data sets relative to the program’s success and demonstrate that BoRSF funding has diversified the graduate funding streams in a way that increases applicant pools, leverages other institutional and grant commitments, and facilitates the timely completion and successful placement of degree recipients.

030GF-15 UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT MONROE
“ULM Marriage and Family Therapy Graduate Fellows Program”
Requested: 4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $25,000/annum for 3 years

Recommended: - 0 -

In UL Monroe’s Marriage and Family Therapy doctoral program, a very small number of faculty provide mentoring to a diverse group of doctoral students. The program has a small U.S. applicant pool. While the diversity of the current doctoral student body is a strong point of this proposal, there is some concern about its sustainability. In the most recent year, it does not appear that any new underrepresented minority students were admitted. This suggests that the program will need to develop a broader set of recruitment strategies, focused particularly on recruiting high-ability students. Without any current extramural funding, providing adequate financial support for doctoral students is likely to remain a challenge for the program. In addition, with three of six faculty members being new assistant professors, it may be difficult to provide sustained and systemic mentoring to the current 42 doctoral students. No funding is recommended.
031GF-15  UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS
“Graduate Fellowships for the Chemistry Doctoral Program at the University of New Orleans”
Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $32,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: - 0 -

The Chemistry Department at UNO has received steady graduate fellowship support from the BoRSF in the past and its immediate past history has been good. Over the last decade UNO Chemistry has been awarded fourteen slots, and while seven are still in the program, six have graduated and only one has left without the intended degree. The graduates cited in the proposal have gone to a number of U.S. colleges and universities, as well as national labs and private industry. The program had been heavily populated with international students, though in recent years has had more success recruiting U.S. students. The recruitment pool still seems to be limited, however, and not sufficient to enable the program growth cited as a goal in the proposal. If growth is important to the program, specific plans should be developed to expand the pool of applicants and enrollees. The panel notes that the program has shown success in graduating women and underrepresented minority students, which is commendable. Given the reduced funds available this year, the panel does not recommend funding.

032GF-15  UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS
“Graduate Fellowships in Integrative Biology”
Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $28,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: - 0 -

The recent shift in the Biology PhD program at UNO from its previous narrow focus to an integrative biology approach permits the department to take advantage of the expertise of all its faculty in developing its research strengths and recruiting students. This is a small department with thirteen tenure and tenure-track members, most of whom are working with PhD students. Most members, including four recently recruited junior faculty members, are research active and have good records of publication. According to the data provided, seven department members have external funding. It may be cause for concern, however, that of nine grants listed, seven are scheduled to end in 2014. The proposal demonstrates that the department is serious about recruitment and about mentoring. The biology program has a solid record with regard to minority recruitment and low levels of attrition. The plan to search in the next year for two scholars to fill endowed positions is positive news for the potential of the doctoral program. Nevertheless, the program remains very small, with around fifteen students, and the shift to integrative biology has not yet led to expanded pools of applicants. In these circumstances, concerns remain whether a program of this size and substance is sustainable. Given the reduced funds available this year, the panel does not recommend funding.

033GF-15  UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS
“Graduate Fellowships in the Social Sciences”
Requested: 4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at $25,000/annum for 4 years

Recommended: - 0 -

A small, research-active faculty has had success in securing extramural funding and all active grants appear to include graduate student support. This is perhaps a reason why doctoral students have a track record of significant publication at graduation. The proposal makes the case that departmental research foci – childhood psychopathology and biopsychology – could lead to results that have an impact on reducing crime rates and that this is an important indirect contributor to statewide economic development goals. The case would more convincing if the proposal documented how graduate students are being trained and given opportunities to translate basic research findings into
community-based intervention projects or policies. Rather than trying to increase the size of the modest U.S. applicant pool, the program has decided to focus efforts on ensuring that a high percentage of applicants has research interests well aligned with program strengths. This seems like a smart strategy overall, but more attention should be paid to increasing the currently limited diversity of the applicant pool and the student body. Given the reduced funds available this year, the panel does not recommend funding.

001GFT-15 LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE
“Improving Classroom Interest in Science and Mathematics by Preparing Highly Qualified Teachers”
Requested: 6 Master’s-Level Fellowships at $20,000/annum for 1 year

Recommended: 0

It is clear that the need to increase the number of well-qualified, licensed mathematics and science teachers is crucial to the State of Louisiana and the nation. As the panel has noted in previous reviews, it is impossible to determine from data presented in Tables 10-GF and 11-GF what progress has been made in expanding the pool of science and mathematics master’s candidates because the tables include all master’s students enrolled in education programs. Despite this ambiguity, it appears that enrollment in these fields has reached its lowest point since 1997, with only one new student each enrolled in mathematics and science education. There are simply too few students to teach efficiently and such small enrollments do not provide the critical mass necessary to sustain a vibrant peer-learning community. Given these very low enrollments, the proposal needs to address directly what steps the program is taking to ensure a meaningful cohort-based learning community and a sufficiently rich curriculum to maintain a high-quality educational experience. The proposal does not make a direct connection between graduate student research and practice, and the enhancement of the stature and performance of the program. The proposal also does not make the case for how teachers prepared in the program will directly or indirectly contribute to economic development. It is quite plausible that the focus on coastal restoration could be one avenue for doing so, but the curriculum, classroom projects, and other program elements do not appear explicitly or intentionally designed to foster that end. Finally, the proposal provides no evidence that teachers prepared in this program are any more effective than those who come to the teaching of science and mathematics through other pathways. To be successful, a future proposal must include program-specific data and documentation that program graduates are more effective teachers, are more likely to be retained in the profession, and/or are more likely to assume leadership roles in Louisiana schools. The panel does not recommend funding.
APPENDIX C

LISTS OF PROPOSALS SUBMITTED
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal#/Discipline</th>
<th>PI Name(s)</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Proposal Title</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Funds Requested</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>001GF-15 PHYS</td>
<td>Dana Browne</td>
<td>LSU-Baton Rouge</td>
<td>Graduate Fellows in Physics and Astronomy</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>Y1: $120,000</td>
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<td>4 PhD @ $30K</td>
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<td>Y4: $120,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>002GF-15 CIS</td>
<td>Jianhua Chen</td>
<td>LSU-Baton Rouge</td>
<td>Recruiting Superior Computer Science Doctoral Students in Big Data Analytics</td>
<td>4 years</td>
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<td>Y4: $75,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>003GF-15 BIO</td>
<td>Michael Hellberg</td>
<td>LSU-Baton Rouge</td>
<td>Graduate Fellowships in Biological Sciences at Louisiana State University</td>
<td>4 years</td>
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<td>004GF-15 ARTS</td>
<td>Karli Henderson</td>
<td>LSU-Baton Rouge</td>
<td>College of Music and Dramatic Arts Graduate Fellowships in Theatre and Music</td>
<td>4 years/3 years</td>
<td>Y1: $144,000</td>
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<td>005GF-15 CHEM</td>
<td>Carol Taylor</td>
<td>LSU-Baton Rouge</td>
<td>Graduate Fellowships in Chemistry for 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>006GF-15 HM</td>
<td>Ronald Thune</td>
<td>LSU-Baton Rouge</td>
<td>Graduate Studies in Infectious Diseases</td>
<td>4 years</td>
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<td>007GF-15 EARTH</td>
<td>R. Turner</td>
<td>LSU-Baton Rouge</td>
<td>Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Earth, Ocean, and Environmental Sciences</td>
<td>4 years/2 years</td>
<td>Y1: $162,000 Y2: $162,000 Y3: $162,000 Y4: $162,000</td>
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<td>008GF-15 ENG</td>
<td>Warren Waggenspack, Jr.</td>
<td>LSU-Baton Rouge</td>
<td>Board of Regents Fellowships in Engineering 2015-2020</td>
<td>4 years/2 years</td>
<td>Y1: $110,000 Y2: $130,000 Y3: $110,000 Y4: $90,000</td>
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<td>009GF-15 BIO</td>
<td>Andrew Catling</td>
<td>LSUHSC-NO</td>
<td>Graduate Training in Integrative Pharmacological Sciences</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>Y1: $84,000 Y2: $84,000 Y3: $84,000 Y4: $84,000</td>
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<td>010GF-15 HM</td>
<td>Donald Mercante</td>
<td>LSUHSC-NO</td>
<td>Recruitment of Superior Doctoral Students in Public Health Sciences 2015-2020</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>Y1: $78,000 Y2: $78,000 Y3: $78,000 Y4: $78,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>011GF-15 CIS</td>
<td>Weizhong Dai</td>
<td>LA Tech University</td>
<td>Computational Analysis and Modeling Doctoral Graduate Fellows 2015-19</td>
<td>4 years</td>
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<td>012GF-15 ENG</td>
<td>James Palmer</td>
<td>LA Tech University</td>
<td>Superior Graduate Fellows Supporting Five Centers of Excellence in Engineering FY 2013-14</td>
<td>4 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>013GF-15 CHEM</td>
<td>Omar Christian</td>
<td>McNeese State University</td>
<td>MSU’s Grad Fellow for M.S. in Environmental &amp; Chemical Sciences</td>
<td>2 years</td>
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<td>014GF-15 BIO</td>
<td>Aaron Pierce</td>
<td>Nicholls State University</td>
<td>Enhancement of Marine and Environmental Biology Student Recruitment through Graduate Study</td>
<td>2 years</td>
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<td>015GF-15 PHYS</td>
<td>Humberto Munoz Barona</td>
<td>SUBR</td>
<td>SUBR-MPMEd Grad Fellowship</td>
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<td>016GF-15 BIO</td>
<td>Elizabeth Derryberry</td>
<td>Tulane University</td>
<td>Recruiting Superior Graduate Students in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology</td>
<td>4 years</td>
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<td>Grant Number</td>
<td>Investigator</td>
<td>Institution</td>
<td>Project Title</td>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>Ph.D. Students</td>
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| 017GF-15 ENG | Donald Gaver  | Tulane University | Recruiting Superior Graduate Students in Biomedical and Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering | 4 years | 4 PhD @ $30K | Y1: $120,000  
Y2: $120,000  
Y3: $120,000  
Y4: $120,000  
Total: $480,000 |
| 018GF-15 SOC SCI | Stacy Overstreet | Tulane University | Graduate Fellows in Psychology | 4 years | 2 PhD @ $26K | Y1: $52,000  
Y2: $52,000  
Y3: $52,000  
Y4: $52,000  
Total: $208,000 |
| 019GF-15 CHEM | Robert Pascal  | Tulane University | Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Chemistry | 4 years | 3 PhD @ $30K | Y1: $90,000  
Y2: $90,000  
Y3: $90,000  
Y4: $90,000  
Total: $360,000 |
| 020GF-15 PHYS | Jerry Shakov  | Tulane University | Superior Graduate Students in Physics 2015-2020 | 4 years | 2 PhD @ $30K | Y1: $60,000  
Y2: $60,000  
Y3: $60,000  
Y4: $60,000  
Total: $240,000 |
| 021GF-15 HM  | Jeffrey Tasker | Tulane University | Superior Graduate Students in Neuroscience / 2015-2020 | 4 years | 2 PhD @ $28.5K | Y1: $57,000  
Y2: $57,000  
Y3: $57,000  
Y4: $57,000  
Total: $228,000 |
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<th>GF Proposal Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Fellowship Level</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
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<td>022GF-15 HM</td>
<td>Geetha Bansal</td>
<td>TUHSC</td>
<td>Global Impact of Interdisciplinary Graduate Training in Public Health Sciences</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>6 PhD @ $28.5K</td>
<td>Y1: $171,000</td>
<td>Y2: $171,000</td>
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<td>Y4: $171,000</td>
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<td>023GF-15 HM</td>
<td>Robert Garry</td>
<td>TUHSC</td>
<td>Predoctoral Training in Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>4 PhD @ $28.5K</td>
<td>Y1: $114,000</td>
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<td>Y4: $114,000</td>
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<td>024GF-15 HM</td>
<td>Nirbhay Kumar</td>
<td>TUHSC</td>
<td>Vector-Borne Infectious Disease Research Graduate Fellows</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>3 PhD @ $24K</td>
<td>Y1: $72,000</td>
<td>Y2: $72,000</td>
<td>Y3: $72,000</td>
<td>Y4: $72,000</td>
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<td>025GF-15 CIS</td>
<td>Magdy Bayoumi</td>
<td>University of Louisiana at Lafayette</td>
<td>Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Computer Science</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>2 PhD @ $27K</td>
<td>Y1: $54,000</td>
<td>Y2: $54,000</td>
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<td>026GF-15 HUM</td>
<td>Christine DeVine</td>
<td>University of Louisiana at Lafayette</td>
<td>Graduate Fellowships in Folklore</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>2 PhD @ $26K</td>
<td>Y1: $52,000</td>
<td>Y2: $52,000</td>
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<td>Y4: $52,000</td>
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<td>027GF-15 HM</td>
<td>Donna Gauthier</td>
<td>University of Louisiana at Lafayette</td>
<td>BoRSF Graduate Fellowships for the Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students into the DNP Program</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>2 PhD @ $27K</td>
<td>Y1: $54,000</td>
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<td><strong>028GF-15 BIO</strong></td>
<td>Paul Klerks</td>
<td>University of Louisiana at Lafayette</td>
<td>Recruiting Superior PhD Students in Environmental and Evolutionary Biology for 2015</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>3 PhD @ $29K</td>
<td>Y1: $87,000</td>
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<td><strong>029GF-15 ENG</strong></td>
<td>Jim Lee</td>
<td>University of Louisiana at Lafayette</td>
<td>Recruiting Superior Ph.D. Students in Systems Engineering</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>6 PhD @ $30K</td>
<td>Y1: $180,000</td>
<td>Y2: $180,000</td>
<td>Y3: $180,000</td>
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<td><strong>030GF-15 SOC SCI</strong></td>
<td>Jana Sutton</td>
<td>University of Louisiana at Monroe</td>
<td>ULM Marriage and Family Therapy Graduate Fellows Program</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>4 PhD @ $25K</td>
<td>Y1: $100,000</td>
<td>Y2: $100,000</td>
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<td>Total: $300,000</td>
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<td><strong>031GF-15 CHEM</strong></td>
<td>Dhruva Chakravorty</td>
<td>University of New Orleans</td>
<td>Graduate Fellowships for the Chemistry Doctoral Program at the University of New Orleans</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>2 PhD @ $32K</td>
<td>Y1: $64,000</td>
<td>Y2: $64,000</td>
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<td><strong>032GF-15 BIO</strong></td>
<td>Bernard Rees</td>
<td>University of New Orleans</td>
<td>Graduate Fellowships in Integrative Biology</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>2 PhD @ $28K</td>
<td>Y1: $56,000</td>
<td>Y2: $56,000</td>
<td>Y3: $56,000</td>
<td>Y4: $56,000</td>
<td>Total: $224,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>033GF-15 SOC SCI</strong></td>
<td>Laura Scaramella</td>
<td>University of New Orleans</td>
<td>Graduate Fellowships in the Social Sciences</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>4 PhD @ $25K</td>
<td>Y1: $100,000</td>
<td>Y2: $100,000</td>
<td>Y3: $100,000</td>
<td>Y4: $100,000</td>
<td>Total: $400,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TRADITIONAL GRADUATE FELLOWS PROPOSAL SUBMISSION SUMMARY

NUMBER SUBMITTED: 33

Arts: 1  Engineering A&B: 4
Biological Sciences: 6  Health & Medical Sciences: 7
Chemistry: 4  Humanities: 1
Computer & Information Sciences: 3  Physics/Astronomy: 3
Earth/Environmental Sciences: 1  Social Sciences: 3

FIRST-YEAR FUNDS REQUESTED: $2,889,000
TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED: $11,006,000
TOTAL FIRST-YEAR FUNDS AVAILABLE: $460,000
### GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS FOR TEACHERS PROGRAM

**2013-14 Competition**

**Proposals Submitted**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal#/ Discipline</th>
<th>PI Name(s)</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Proposal Title</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Funds Requested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>001GFT-15 ED</td>
<td>Byron Launey</td>
<td>LSU-Baton Rouge</td>
<td>Improving Classroom Interest in Science and Mathematics by Preparing Highly Qualified Teachers</td>
<td>1 year, 6 MS @ $20K</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS FOR TEACHERS PROPOSAL SUBMISSION SUMMARY**

NUMBER SUBMITTED: 1

TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED: $120,000

TOTAL FIRST-YEAR FUNDS AVAILABLE: $115,000