REPORT TO THE LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS

REVIEW OF PROPOSED ENDOWED CHAIRS FOR EMINENT SCHOLARS

BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND
FISCAL YEAR 2006-07

MARCH 15-16, 2007

Prepared by:

Dr. Roy A. Koenigsknecht (Chairman)
Professor
Department of Speech and Hearing Science
Former Dean of the Graduate School
The Ohio State University

Dr. Charles Bonini
William R. Timken Professor of
Management Science
Graduate School of Business
Stanford University

Dr. O. Ray Kling
Emeritus Professor and Associate Dean of
Academic Affairs
College of Public Health
Oklahoma University Health Sciences Center

Dr. Richard Seagrave
Anson Marston Distinguished Professor
of Chemical Engineering
Iowa State University
Report of the Review Committee for Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars Proposals

FY 2006-07 Competition for Board of Regents Support Fund Matching Funds

Submitted to the State of Louisiana Board of Regents March 17, 2007

A. The following documents were studied before meeting with representatives of the institutions submitting proposals:

i. March 6, 2007, letter of instruction from Associate Commissioner for Sponsored Programs Administration, John Wallin;

ii. Board of Regents Endowed Chairs Policy (March 25, 1999);

iii. Competitive and Restricted Bequests Endowed Chairs Programs: Guidelines for Submission of Proposals (Revised 2/2007)

iv. Request for Proposals (RFP) #2006-11 (December, 2007); and

v. The seventeen (17) proposals for chairs submitted under RFP #2006-11.

B. On March 15-16, 2007, a series of meetings were held with representatives of each institution at designated periods of time to discuss each of the proposals. Any additional printed materials about proposed endowed chair(s) submitted by the representatives were also received at that time and approved for consideration. Representing the institutions were:

*LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY - BATON ROUGE* - Dr. Harold Silverman, Interim Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost; Dr. Jeannine Kahn, Associate Vice Chancellor; Dr. Carolyn Hargrave, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Zake Bassiouni, Dean for College of Engineering; Dr. Al Burns, Chair, Department of Marketing; Dr. Kevin Carman, Dean, College of Basic Sciences; Dr. Ed Laws, Dean, School of the Coast and Environment; Dr. Roger McNeil, Chair, Department of Physics and Astronomy; Dr. K. T. Valsaraj, Chair, Department of Chemical Engineering; Dr. Robert Twilley, Director, Wetland Biogeochemistry Institute; and Mr. Todd Stevens, Chief Executive Officer, Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center.

*LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY - SHREVEPORT* - Dr. Carolyn Hargrave, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (LSU-BR); Dr. Stuart Mills, Provost; and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; and Dr. Paul Sisson, Dean, College of Sciences.

*LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER NEW ORLEANS* - Dr. Carolyn Hargrave, Vice President for Academic Affairs (LSU-BR); Dr. Joseph Moerschbaecher, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Dean, School of Graduate Studies; Ms. Denise Flock-Williams, Vice President of Development, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center Foundation; and Dr. Ricardo Sorensen, Chairman, Department of Pediatrics.

*LOYOLA UNIVERSITY* - Dr. Walter Harris, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs; Dr. Jerry Dauterive, Interim Dean, College of Business; Dr. Wing Fok, Chair, Department of Management, Marketing, and International Business; Dr. Christopher Wiseman, Senior Major Gifts Officer; and Ms. Traci Hamann, Major Gifts Officer.

*LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY* - Dr. Kenneth W. Rea, Vice President for
Academic Affairs; and Dr. Shirley P. Reagan, Dean, College of Business; 
**OUR LADY OF HOLY CROSS COLLEGE** - Father Anthony J. De Conciliis, C.S.C., College President; Mr. Stanton F. McNeely, Vice President for External Affairs, Communications, and Institutional Effectiveness; and Dr. Wayne Plaisance, Vice President for Finance; 

**PENNINGTON BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER** - Dr. Claude Bouchard, Executive Director; and Mr. Ralph Underwood, Associate Director for Administration and Finance; 

**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY - NEW ORLEANS** - Dr. Rose Duhon-Sells, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs; Dr. Gloria Moultrie, Vice Chancellor of Community Outreach; Dr. Beverly C. Favre, Dean of the School of Social Work; Dr. James Donald Smith, Associate Professor of Sociology; Dr. Joy McElveen, Associate Professor of Sociology; Dr. Ira Neighbors, Director of Undergraduate Programs; and Frances Smith, Systems Office, Attorney; 

**TULANE UNIVERSITY** - Dr. Michael Cunningham, Associate Department Chair and Associate Professor of Psychology and African & African Diaspora Studies; Dr. Janet B. Ruscher, Professor and Department Chair of Psychology; Dr. Ron Marks, Dean, School of Social Work; and Ms. Gwendolyn Perrilliot, Development Officer; 

**UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS** - Dr. Timothy P. Ryan, Chancellor and Professor of Economics; Dr. Fredrick P. Barton, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, and Professor of English; Dr. Dennis R. McSeveney, Associate Provost for Academic Enhancement and Professor of Sociology; Dr. Susan Krantz, Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Professor of English; Dr. Merrill Johnson, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Professor of Geography; and Dr. Russell Trahan, Dean, College of Engineering and Professor of Electrical Engineering; 

**XAVIER UNIVERSITY** - Dr. Wayne Harris, Dean, College of Pharmacy; Dr. Allen Vital, Associate Director of Sponsored Programs; and Dr. Gene D'Amour, Senior Vice President for Resource Development.

Subsequently, the evaluation criteria stated in the RFP were used to rate and rank-order sixteen (16) proposals (one proposal was formally withdrawn during the interview) submitted into the Competitive Program for chairs relying upon: (1) the written proposals, (2) information provided in the interviews with the institutional representatives, and (3) the additional printed material submitted by the representatives. The prospective chairs were rated according to the following criteria: (1) potential of the proposed chair to contribute to economic development - 36 points maximum; (2) contribution of the proposed chair to academic enhancement - 56 points maximum; and (3) appropriateness, feasibility and likelihood of success of the proposed plan to recruit women and minority scholars in those fields at institutions in which there has been historical underrepresentation - 8 points maximum. Four members of an external review panel conducted the review of proposals as submitted and conducted interviews with institutional representatives. The burden of proof was on the submitting institution to demonstrate the manner and extent to which the proposal satisfied these criteria.

Attachment A contains the rank order of sixteen (16) proposed endowed chairs submitted in the Competitive Program resulting from the rating of each proposal according to the evaluation criteria as specified in "C" above. Attachment B contains a brief statement of evaluation for each of the sixteen (16) proposed chairs submitted under the Competitive Program for FY 2006-07.
Included in several of the evaluative statements are stipulations for conditional recommendations of funding. These stipulations should be satisfactorily addressed via written statements prior to actual funding by the Regents or in resubmission of the proposal in subsequent competitions if not funded in this cycle.

E. The following are comments about the review process and suggestions made for further maximizing the impact of the Board of Regents Support Fund Endowed Chairs Program:

(1) In a recommendation that is similar to a key recommendation contained in the report of the Review Committee last year, it is again affirmed that in the post-Katrina context it is nearly impossible to overstate the importance of attracting and retaining nationally and internationally eminent leaders in higher education in Louisiana to contribute to the economic development of the State and the academic enhancement of its universities. Fortunately, this is the central purpose of the Board of Regents Support Fund Endowed Chairs Program.

(2) Also, with the view that economic development is part of economic recovery and that academic enhancement is part of academic survival, the members of the external review team for the FY 2006-07 competition for Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars want to encourage that additional resources be provided to fund as many of this year’s strong proposals as possible, utilizing the merit rankings based on the quality standards defined by the Board of Regents. Positive action is urged in particular for the top thirteen competitively rated proposed chairs, each of which would clearly enhance higher education in Louisiana and address critical economic and cultural needs/opportunities in the State. It would be a missed opportunity to not capitalize on any of these outstanding proposals. Further, the remaining three additional chairs on this highly recommended list should be funded if at all possible, and would also have a positive impact on the academic and economic contributions of higher education for the citizens of Louisiana at this critical time.

(3) Members of the Review Committee were uniformly struck by the consistent and clear report from the more than forty academic leaders from Louisiana’s universities with whom they spoke that the attraction and retention of high quality and productive members of the faculty at all levels and in nearly all disciplines is more challenging in the post-Katrina era. The panel members also report a national perspective that the best scholars active in the State’s colleges and universities are “prime targets for being raided away” from the State because of the negative image, frequently unwarranted, associated with reported financial difficulties within these institutions and the region generally. Even if unjustified, such negative reputational factors must be countered. A perfect counter to these negative images is to tell better the story of the remarkable collective accomplishment of the eminent scholars attracted to Louisiana by these competitively sanctioned endowed chairs. This is a key reason for a general review of the program with means for documenting the critical contributions of the existing Louisiana Board of Regents endowed chairs program. Among the data needed are measures of the level of satisfaction evidenced by current chairholders in reference to the support they are being given and the influence they believe they have on their institutions, including the external research and development funds they are generating.
The members of the current review panel offer a number of suggestions for use in the next periodic comprehensive assessment of the overall accomplishments made thus far toward the objectives of the Louisiana Board of Regents Endowed Chairs Program. The disquieting growth in “pre-designated” chairholders noted in submissions this year should be studied in order to better understand the impact of this trend on the academic vitality and economic enhancement intended by the program. In addition, information should be gathered about the comparative consequences of one million dollar endowments in contrast to two million dollar endowments. There may also be a need for existing endowments to be increased through a combined private-state funding based upon competitive merit. Also, in several previous instances, proposals which were ultimately funded have contained plans for the likely submission of related endowed chair proposals in subsequent years as part of a strategic initiative. Whether there has been follow-up action on these plans should be reviewed. In addition to structuring a review that codifies the consequences of the engagement of these nationally eminent scholars in terms of their individual accomplishments, attention in such a review should be given to assessing their collective enhancement of the academic health and reputation of Louisiana’s institutions of higher education, as well as their collective impact on the State’s economy. For example, with advance notice given and structure provided, academic and research leaders at each participating institution could assess the use being made of these scholars with regard to institutional planning, marketing, or outreach to various academic networks, policy-makers, and leaders of commerce in the State.

Overall, the sixteen new proposals for endowed chairs included in this year’s competition were generally well designed to provide the information necessary for the assessment protocols specified in the published guidelines for submission of proposals. Importantly, however, the interview process with the institutional representatives was particularly useful to gauge more fully the merits of the proposed endowed chairs. It was noted by members of the review panel that the written version of the proposals would benefit from the focused substance, structure and brevity evidenced in the oral presentations. The high quality proposals from Pennington, Loyola, and Xavier might be studied by other institutions in the State before subsequent proposals are developed.

This year, as in the previous review cycle, the active participation in the panel interviews by most chief academic administrators of the institutions requesting funding provided valuable and informative perspective for the assessment of a proposed endowed chair’s impact on academic planning and institutional decisions about budget, facilities and personnel. These institutional leaders evidenced a remarkable passion for and commitment to meeting the needs of the citizens of Louisiana in these difficult times. It was also noted by panel members that those officers in attendance nearly uniformly expressed appreciation for the opportunity to hear the presentations made by their representatives and to share their own insights on the particular explanations offered by faculty members and unit administrators from their institutions.
Particularly in the post-Katrina era it is of vital importance to capitalize upon the accumulated wisdom and views of the more than two hundred world-class scholars and researchers attracted to locations throughout the State via the Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars Program. The statewide Society of Eminent Scholars could be utilized to promote both horizontal inter-institutional communication and vertical intra-institutional communication that would yield significant collaborative efforts to stimulate further the organizational responsiveness of higher education to the immediate and long-term needs of the people of Louisiana. The earlier well-conceived recommendations of a organizing committee of the Society of Eminent Scholars should be acted upon.

F. Concluding Comment

The careful coordination of the review process provided by Mr. John Wallin and the staff of Sponsored Programs is acknowledged and appreciated. The reviewers commend them for their clear acceptance of the independence of the external review process. It is also important to note that the representatives of the institutions submitting proposals were genuinely open and responsive during the sessions with the Review Committee.
ATTACHMENT A
# BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND
## ENDOwed Chairs for Eminent Scholars Program
### Summary of Proposals Submitted for Funding Consideration
#### FY 2006-07 Endowed Chair Review Cycle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>PROPOSAL NUMBER</th>
<th>INSTITUTION</th>
<th>TITLE OF CHAIR</th>
<th>AMOUNT REQUESTED</th>
<th>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (36 points possible)</th>
<th>ACADEMIC ENHANCEMENT (56 points possible)</th>
<th>RECRUITMENT PLAN (8 points possible)</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>011EC</td>
<td>Pennington Biomedical Research Center</td>
<td>Fairfax Foster Bailey Endowed Chair in Heart Disease Prevention</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>009EC</td>
<td>Loyola University</td>
<td>Jack and Vada Reynolds Chair in International Business</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>017EC</td>
<td>Xavier University</td>
<td>The Xavier University College of Pharmacy Endowed Chair in Minority Health Disparities</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>016EC</td>
<td>University of New Orleans</td>
<td>Entergy Endowed Chair in Power Systems Engineering</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>013EC</td>
<td>Tulane University</td>
<td>Dr. Paul Henry Kurzweg Distinguished Chair of Social Work</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>001EC</td>
<td>LSU-Baton Rouge</td>
<td>Dr. Charles M. Smith Chair of Medical Physics</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>006EC</td>
<td>LSU-Shreveport</td>
<td>Abe Sadoff Endowed Chair for Bioinformatics</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>005EC</td>
<td>LSU-Baton Rouge</td>
<td>Shell Chair in Coastal and Wetland Studies</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>003EC</td>
<td>LSU-Baton Rouge</td>
<td>Ourso Family Distinguished Chair in Marketing Research</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>012EC*</td>
<td>Southern University - New Orleans</td>
<td>Millie M. Charles Endowed Chair in Social Work</td>
<td>$600,000 (Qualifies for Inverse Ratio)</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>010EC</td>
<td>Our Lady of Holy Cross College</td>
<td>Thomas E. Chambers Presidential Endowed Chair</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Proposal No.</td>
<td>University/Location</td>
<td>Chair/Grant Title</td>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>Rank</td>
<td>Proposal No.</td>
<td>Rank</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>015EC</td>
<td>University of New Orleans</td>
<td>Doris Zemurray Stone Chair in Latin American Studies</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>008EC</td>
<td>Louisiana Tech University</td>
<td>John E. Barnes Eminent Scholar Chair in Finance</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>014EC</td>
<td>Tulane University</td>
<td>Lila L. And Douglas J. Hertz Endowed Chair in Psychology</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>004EC</td>
<td>LSU-Baton Rouge</td>
<td>Paul M. Horton Chair in Chemical Engineering</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>007EC</td>
<td>LSU Health Sciences Center-New Orleans</td>
<td>William H. Stewart, M.D. Endowed Chair for Pediatrics</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>002EC</td>
<td>LSU-Baton Rouge</td>
<td>Gordon A. and Mary Cain Chair #4 in Chemical Engineering</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
<td>WITHDRAWN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESTRICTED BEQUESTS - None submitted in FY 2006-07

* Proposal No. 012EC from Southern University - New Orleans was granted the permission by the Board to submit this proposal under the "Inverse Ratio" policy in June 2006
ATTACHMENT B
RANKED 1: Fairfax Foster Bailey Endowed Chair in Heart Disease Prevention (#011EC-07)

The Pennington Biomedical Research Center (PBRC), a campus of the Louisiana State University System, requests matching funds to establish the Fairfax Foster Bailey Endowed Chair in Heart Disease Prevention. The Pennington Biomedical Research Center is internationally recognized for its unique focus on nutrition and disease prevention. In its short life-span of 19 years, it has become a premier research, clinical and testing institution with 80 full time faculty scientists, 40 post doctoral fellows and 55 adjunct scientists. It presently has 17 core facilities within six research divisions with an annual budget of $53 million. Six endowed chairholders recruited by Pennington through the BoRSF have total research funding exceeding $50 million. The establishment of the Endowed Chair in Heart Disease Prevention will add an important dynamic to the existing impact the Pennington Biomedical Research Center provides to Louisiana, the nation and world in disease prevention. Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States and is the number one killer in Louisiana. Louisiana ranks eighth in the nation for deaths from heart disease. The research scholar recruited to fill this Endowed Chair will be selected based upon his/her expertise and research credentials to develop an independent program within the Pennington Biomedical Research Center which will complement the existing programs and enhance the overall impact of the disease prevention mission of the Pennington Biomedical Research Center.

Two primary areas need to be developed to make prevention of heart disease a national and international strategy. The lessons learned from preventative cardiology must be effectively translated into public health, and research and understanding of preventive measures must continue to expand. The research scholar recruited into this Endowed Chair will focus on one of these two key areas. Additional start-up funds required to recruit an eminent scholar with an international reputation can be in the range of $1 to $2 million. The Pennington Biomedical Research Center is committed to provide this additional funding.
RANKED 2: The Jack and Vada Reynolds Chair in International Business College of Business (#009EC-07)

The recipient of this chair will be the Jack and Vada Reynolds Chair in International Business in the College of Business at Loyola University. Loyola University has very strong and internationally recognized programs in international business. It is the most popular undergraduate major and has large enrollment in courses at the graduate level. There are several international exchange and study-abroad programs. About two-thirds of the faculty is currently involved in international business projects. There are endowed chairs in this field also, including the Gerald Gaston Eminent scholar chair (2001). Adding the Reynolds Chair would further enhance the already recognized prominence of the University in International Business. Louisiana and the Port of New Orleans are key parts of American international trade and business. Loyola contributes to the economy of the state by graduating students trained and knowledgeable in international business, as well as through outreach programs for the business community, including conferences and workshops. The Reynolds chair will be expected to work with current faculty to create new courses, initiate research, and expand the current community and business activities. In the past years, Loyola has focused primarily on Latin America in building its international program. The new chair would enable extensions, especially to Asia and Europe. A recruitment committee will be formed to complete a national and international search for the best candidate for the position.
RANKED 3: The Xavier University College of Pharmacy Endowed Chair in Minority Health Disparities (#017EC-07)

Xavier University College of Pharmacy requests matching funds to establish The Xavier University College of Pharmacy Endowed Chair in Minority Health Disparities. The College of Pharmacy has a very aggressive program focused on illnesses related to diabetes. Louisiana ranks first in the United States in the number of deaths due to diabetes. In June, 2007, the University will begin construction of a new, five-story addition to the present College of Pharmacy building. The new structure will house the new high technology research and clinical laboratories, class rooms, conference facilities and faculty offices. Xavier College of Pharmacy ranks third in the nation for the number of pharmacy degrees awarded to African Americans. In addition to their impressive research funding (eighth nationally in National Science Foundation (NSF) and fourth in National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding among the 102 Historically Black Colleges and Universities), the University is one of six universities chosen to participate in the NSF Model Institutions for Excellence in Science, Engineering and Mathematics programs. The present Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities Research and Education (CMHDRE) was initiated in 2002 with a $2.3 million NIH research endowment grant. The current corpus for this research endowment is $25.7 million, a ten fold plus increase in four years. This most impressive growth defines a faculty and academic commitment to excellence. The recruiting of a research scholar to fill the Endowed Chair in Minority Health Disparities is the next essential step to facilitate an already impressive track record accomplished by the University and the College of Pharmacy. This scholar will have extensive resources available within the College of Pharmacy and existing community partnerships to continue to build the leadership and expertise in health disparities research and education with a particular focus on health outcomes research. This is an excellent proposal, outlining the essential resources, expertise, and community and University partnerships which will enhance the effectiveness of the College of Pharmacy Endowed Chair in Minority Health Disparities.
RANKED 4: Entergy Endowed Chair in Power Systems Engineering (#016EC-07)

The Entergy Corporation has moved its support for an endowed chair in power systems engineering from Tulane University to the University of New Orleans, to follow the relocation of the chairholder following the elimination of the electrical engineering program at Tulane. Entergy will not only provide a new endowment for the chair, but will also continue to provide significant additional funding to support the research of the chair holder. The addition of this highly productive program to the University of New Orleans will help to re-establish the area of power systems engineering at the institution, and allow UNO to support this important part of electrical engineering and to provide power engineers to Louisiana–based power utility companies, consulting engineering firms, and manufacturers. The anticipated short-term research goal is to enable Entergy to make significant progress in the prediction and prevention of blackouts, while the long-term goal is to build nationally prominent research and educational programs in power systems engineering, following the creation of a Center of Excellence in Real Time Computing, ultimately leading to more efficient and reliable electric power generation and transmission.
In general terms, the vital mission proposed for the Dr. Paul Henry Kurzweg Distinguished Chair of Social Work at Tulane University is to attract a nationally preeminent scholar who would advance the priorities established for the school’s still nascent Institute for Disaster Mental Health. The Institute, which is a key element of the Tulane Renewal Plan, will capitalize on evidence-based research and innovative instruction from scholars in multiple disciplines to promote the mental health of citizens and communities during and following community disasters or traumas. The opportunity for the school’s first Louisiana Board of Regents endowed chair to help lead a successful disaster mental health center in the Gulf Coast region should yield a regional and national leadership role for Tulane in academic and practical disaster relief concepts. The chairholder would be expected to attract significant funding for research and training programs to further the well-stated goals of the Institute. The current proposal would benefit from greater specification of programmatic funding opportunities, planned student/scholar recruitment efforts, current Institute resources, and model training methods for mental health response strategies to community disasters. The proposal would be strengthened further by stating unequivocally that the determination of expenditures from this endowment’s revenue would rest with the chairholder. The regional economic impact of a successful implementation of the proposed objectives was well-posed.
The highly-regarded program in Medical Physics and Health Physics at Louisiana State University and the Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center have collaborated to propose an eminent scholar chair position to lead research efforts in radiation oncology physics and radiotherapy, and to move toward the offering of a Ph.D. program in this interdisciplinary area by 2008. It is proposed that the present director, who has been instrumental in raising the resources for the chair, be named as the first chair holder. Full funding of the necessary salary line would be provided by the collaborating entities. The academic program has been very successful in recruiting women and under-represented minorities to the program. The economic development opportunities represented by this existing area of excellence are significant. The program is urged to consider an external search for this position, to assure that the designated local candidate is indeed the best possible choice.
The recipient of this chair will be the Abe Sadoff Professor of Bioinformatics at Louisiana State University -- Shreveport (LSUS). A search committee will be appointed to conduct a national search for a senior scholar who has achieved national/international eminence. The chair holder should have a distinguished research record and be able to interact with academic and non-academic communities. Bioinformatics is the acquisition, processing, storage, analysis, and use of biomedical and life science data for research and applications. LSUS already has a strong research program in Bioinformatics, and the addition of the Sadoff chair will significantly enhance it. Central to this work is the LSUS Laboratory for Advanced Bioinformatics and the associated “Crayfish”, a supercomputer dedicated to bioinformatics research. Faculty at the school has received significant research grants in recent years ($3.8 million since 2002). A group of researchers has built strong collaborations with faculty at LSU Health Sciences Center – Shreveport (LSUHSCS). LSUS has strong academic programs related to Bioinformatics. The Bachelor’s degree in Biology and Master’s Degree in Computer Systems Technology have been updated to include training in Bioinformatics. The Sadoff chair will be able to provide guidance to development of these programs and for the new graduate program in Public Health, currently under development. The economic impact of the bioinformatics industry is significant, especially in North Louisiana and the Shreveport/Bossier City area. There are ten (10) major hospitals, the LSUHSC, a school of nursing, and many clinics, all having a need for people with training in bioinformatics. Therefore, students graduating from LSUS with bioinformatics training will be in demand.
The proposed Shell Chair in Coastal and Wetlands Studies is one component of the Louisiana State University Stewardship Initiative, which recognizes LSU’s responsibility to foster the sustainable management of Louisiana’s coastal resources. The chairholder would lead this stewardship initiative, as a full professor in the School of the Coast and Environment, which is currently proposing the establishment of a new undergraduate degree in this area, and planning for the creation of a graduate program. The goal is to produce graduates prepared to address resource management and coastal restoration issues in an informed scientific manner. This program would be an important participant in the stabilization and restoration of Louisiana’s coastal wetlands. Economic development for the region would be enhanced with such assurance. The unit is urged to consider an external search to confirm the expressed belief that the proposed endowed chair should be filled with a highly qualified local faculty member.
RANKED 9: Ourso Family Distinguished Chair in Marketing (#003EC-07)

The recipient of this chair will be the Ourso Family Distinguished Professor in Marketing Research in the Ourso College of Business at Louisiana State University. The Ourso College has strong academic programs at the undergraduate level, for the MBA degree, and at the doctoral level. The Marketing Department has a key integrative role in these programs. The college has a goal to be ranked in the top tier of public business colleges. The addition of this chair would significantly enhance the school’s reputation, furthering the path toward achievement of this goal. The chair would also be expected to have a significant economic impact. At a first level it will enhance the academic programs that turn out graduates entering the business community in Louisiana. In particular, the Marketing Department provides students with tools for establishing new businesses. The chair would bring first hand knowledge and experience in Marketing and Marketing Research. He or she would also be expected to take surveys, conduct workshops for Louisiana businesses, establish marketing research practitioner visits to the campus, and interact with other university initiatives such as the Small Business Development Center. A national search will be conducted by a prominent committee of scholars to select one of the finest academic leaders in Market Research. The person selected will be expected to obtain funding for research, lead innovations in course development, and interact with the business community.
Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) is requesting matching funds to establish the Millie M. Charles Endowed Chair in Social Work. This Chair will be established within the School of Social Work. The School has an undergraduate program awarding the Bachelor of Social Work and a graduate program leading to the Masters of Social Work. The institution indicates that enrollment in the graduate program approaches 300 students annually. The establishment of the Chair in Social Work is to recognize the leadership of Professor Charles in addressing social injustice locally, nationally and internationally. The scholar recruited to fill the Charles Endowed Chair will provide the academic support to enhance the development of teaching and research, addressing the barriers that impact human rights and developing leaders with a focus on the impediments to social justice. The Endowed Chair will be expected to provide leadership for the development of future leaders well versed in integrating human rights and social justice through research, practice, policy and education. The proposal outlines, with detail, the expected impact the recruited scholar will have within the School of Social Work and Southern University at New Orleans. Great progress has been accomplished by the School and SUNO since its inception in 1956. It has established itself as an academic leader in human rights and social justice. The establishment of this Endowed Chair will continue this tradition within SUNO. The complexity of developing this important focus and the implementation of the policies, procedures and concepts into the community will require a well developed network of academic, political and community leaders. This issue was not addressed in the submitted proposal. An addendum to the proposal which addresses these important issues should be required prior to funding.
The Thomas E. Chambers Chair is intended to fund the Presidency of Our Lady of Holy Cross College. The intention is to fully fund the President's position so that tuition and fees can be more focused on teaching and research. The request is for a matching amount of $800,000 to fund a two million dollar chair. Our Lady of Holy Cross College (OLHCC) is located in a part of New Orleans that was heavily impacted by Hurricane Katrina. The great majority of students are from New Orleans. OLHCC is probably the most affordable four-year private college in the New Orleans area. But approximately half of the students are from families with incomes at or below the federally-defined poverty level. Hence over 80% of students receive financial aid. Thus, the funds made available by the chair endowment would be very helpful. OLHCC has academic programs in Health Sciences, Education, Counseling, Business and Liberal Arts. The nursing program is rated as one of the best in the state. There is a serious shortage of health care professionals in the New Orleans area. The college hopes to fill some of the gap. In particular it aims to train 40% more nurses, radiologic technicians, respiratory therapists, and other health care professionals. A national search will be conducted to select the recipient of the Presidential chair. The person should have a national/international reputation as an eminent scholar and a record of prominent leadership. One possible candidate would be the current president, Dr. Anthony J. De Conciliis. It is recommended that this proposal be funded if it is revised to address the following: (1) There needs to be a clearly stated strong emphasis on the academic dimension of the President who would be the chair recipient. (2) The chair would need to have strong academic credentials and have academic leadership experience, as distinguished from simple administrative experience. (3) The funds would be in the hands of the chair for use in academic enhancement. (4) Future chair recipients would need to satisfy these conditions and be selected from a national search of prominent scholars.
The College of Liberal Arts at the University of New Orleans is requesting matching funds to establish the Doris Zemurray Stone Chair in Latin American Studies. The College of Liberal Arts is one of the largest academic units within the University, with 1,943 undergraduate majors and 493 graduate students enrolled in twelve academic departments and four interdisciplinary programs. A new Bachelor of Arts degree in International Studies was initiated in 2003 and rapidly expanded to include 120 current majors. The curriculum has a major focus on Latin America. The College of Liberal Arts has a long-standing record for recruiting Latin American students. This effort has resulted in establishing the Latin American Outreach Program, with over 50 students from Latin American presently enrolled. The establishment of the proposed Doris Zemurray Stone Chair will provide the necessary focus and expertise to continue to build a strong base within the New Orleans community through the interaction established between the University and Latin American institutions. The scholar recruited to this chair will be expected to continue the academic development of the Latin American Outreach Program by strengthening the graduate programs and fostering relationships with Latin American universities and communities. The economic impact will be primarily through the additional resources generated by the increase in Latin American students enrolling at the University. As these students complete their studies and return to their home countries it is anticipated that as business and community leaders, they will be more likely to develop economic ties back to the Louisiana community. It is recommended this proposal be funded, but, prior to release of the matching funds, the University should be required to submit a statement that a fully funded faculty budget line has been set aside for the Endowed Chair position.
RANKED 13: John E. Barnes Eminent Scholar Chair in Finance (#008EC-07)

The recipient of this chair will be the John E. Barnes Eminent Scholar in Finance at Louisiana Tech University. The person selected for the chair will have a national/international reputation as a scholar and teacher in finance. He or she will also have an outstanding publications record and a record of innovation in teaching. A Search Committee will be selected to conduct the search. A major contribution to economic development will be through the school’s graduates with knowledge in finance who would be available to work in the North Louisiana region. The presence of this chair will enhance the University’s ability to attract high quality students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. The Eminent Scholar Chair would also increase the ability to attract faculty who have the credentials to teach in both undergraduate and graduate programs. The DBA program, for example, has a concentration in finance that has been designated as a Center of Excellence within the University of Louisiana system. It is recommended that this proposal be funded if it is revised to address the following: (1) A more expanded description of the academic contributions of the proposed chair would be useful. This could include the scope of existing work in the Finance related area, any interdisciplinary work, and the connections to other units in the school and the business community. In addition, discussion of the expectations of the role that the chair would play should be added. (2) More details on the scope of the search and information about how the funds from the endowment will be used should be added.
The proposal for the Lila L. And Douglas J. Hertz Endowed Chair in Psychology stated that this Tulane chair will focus on the science of learning especially as it relates to the learning of technology, engineering, science and math education by “at-risk” populations in urban school systems. Yet there was minimal definition of “at-risk” populations in the document. The Scott S. Cowen Institute for Public Education Initiatives and the Institute for the Transformation of K-12 Education were listed as components of the Tulane Renewal Plan that would benefit from an eminent scholar holding the Hertz Chair and meeting the objectives defined for the chair. The financial resources, available collaborations, and ongoing engagements with the local public school systems offered by these two Institutes were, however, not clearly stated. The pre-Katrina engagements between Tulane Psychology and the referenced “failing urban school system” should be discussed in more detail. An understanding of the economic impact of the proposed Hertz Chair would also be enhanced with more specific information about Tulane’s share of the federal funding sources for scholarship on the science of learning referenced for Louisiana universities in the proposal. The proposal would be further strengthened by stating that the determination of expenditures from the chair’s endowment revenue would be made by the chairholder. It is recommended that this proposal be funded if it is revised to address all the concerns noted above.
RANKED 15: Paul M. Horton Chair in Chemical Engineering (#004EC-07)

The proposed chair is part of a continuing effort by the Chemical Engineering Department at Louisiana State University to improve its national recognition by focusing on four core areas of research strength—biomolecular engineering, process control and engineering, environmental engineering, and advanced materials. A $10 million donation from Gordon and Mary Cain in 1998 has provided matching funds for five eminent scholars and for additional research support. The proposed eminent scholar chair position is devoted to the area of biomolecular engineering, with a specific emphasis on bioprocessing, an area in which the department has had modest involvement. While this is certainly a strategically important area for the economic development of the region, this proposal would be significantly strengthened by a discussion of the collaborative research efforts with colleagues in the agricultural engineering program, and the synergism that would result. It is recommended that this proposal be funded if it is revised to address the importance of this collaboration. The program is also urged to make every effort to fill the two other existing vacant eminent chair positions as soon as possible.
The Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center - New Orleans Department of Pediatrics requests funds to establish the William H. Stewart, M.D. Endowed Chair for Pediatrics. This chair is being established through donations from alumni of the Department and by the LSU Alumni Association in recognition of the outstanding and exemplary career of Dr. Stewart. The Department of Pediatrics has presently developed a federally funded program designed to mentor young faculty members who seek to become academic researchers and teachers. The Faculty Development Program in Primary Care is based in the Department of Pediatrics and is a cooperative program with the Departments of Medicine and Family Medicine. The Stewart Endowed Chair will enhance the overall academic program of the Department by providing additional resources to build stronger relations with the clinical and professional community, promotion of multidisciplinary teaching programs, and implementation of research and teaching programs designed for pediatric residents and fellows. It was the intent of the donors for this Endowed Chair that the individual serving as the Chair of the Department of Pediatrics would also be the holder of the Stewart Endowed Chair for Pediatrics. Therefore, should the requested match from the Louisiana Board of Regents be awarded, it is the intention of the LSU Health Sciences Center leadership to award the Stewart Endowed Chair to the current individual serving as the Chair of the Department of Pediatrics. It is recommended that this proposal be funded if an addendum is submitted which formally pledges that if the Stewart Endowed Chair is awarded to the current Chair of the Department of Pediatrics without initiating a national search for the endowed scholar, all future recipients of the Stewart Chair will be selected following the guidelines established by the Louisiana Board of Regents for a national search procedure.