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Committee Meeting: 8/19/2020

Board Meeting: 8/20/2020
Austin, Texas

Rad Weaver, Chairman
Christina Melton Crain
R. Steven Hicks
Janiece Longoria
Nolan Perez
Kelcy L. Warren

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<u>U. T. Tyler:</u>	<i>President Tidwell</i>		
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5. U. T. San Antonio: Allocation of \$10,000,000 of Permanent University Fund Bond Proceeds, with \$5,000,000 allocated for the National Security Collaboration Center and School of Data Science project and \$5,000,000 allocated for the Main Building Repair & Restoration project	9:57 a.m. Action <i>Chancellor Milliken</i> <i>Dr. Leslie</i> <i>President Eighmy</i>	Action	147
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Adjourn	10:15 a.m.		

1. **U. T. System Board of Regents: Discussion and appropriate action regarding Consent Agenda items, if any, assigned for Committee consideration**

RECOMMENDATION

The proposed Consent Agenda items assigned to this Committee are [Items 7 - 31](#).

2. U. T. Permian Basin: Approval to establish a College of Health Sciences and Human Performance

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that authorization, pursuant to the Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 40307, related to academic program approval standards, be granted to

- a. establish a College of Health Sciences and Human Performance at U. T. Permian Basin; and
- b. submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Pursuant to Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 40601, Institutions Comprising the University of Texas System, which requires Board of Regents' approval of a new college or school within an institution, U. T. Permian Basin proposes the establishment of a College of Health Sciences and Human Performance. The new College will be comprised of the following components: (1) College of Nursing (to be renamed School of Nursing), (2) Kinesiology Department, (3) Athletic Training Department, and (4) Social Work Department.

The union of four synergetic academic disciplines and a collaborative focus on the health of individuals, families, and communities will strategically align this new college with the mission of the University and its strategic pillars. In addition, the organization of these academic disciplines into a College of Health Sciences and Human Performance is in alignment with other U. T. System institutions. Bringing together nursing, athletic training, kinesiology, and social work under one college will not only provide synergistic opportunities for interdisciplinary education and research, innovative curricula across the disciplines, but also will promote future growth in the health sciences and human performance areas.

The College of Health Sciences and Human Performance will be led by the current Dean of the College of Nursing and will be assisted by an Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. The proposed reorganization will not incur any additional cost; in fact, it will result in the more efficient utilization of existing resources.

The creation of the new College has been approved by the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs pending approval by the Board. Upon approval by the Board of Regents, the Office of Academic Affairs will notify the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board of the change so that the U. T. Permian Basin administrative unit structure may be updated.

3. **U. T. Rio Grande Valley: Approval to establish a Doctor of Philosophy in Physics degree program**

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that authorization, pursuant to Regent's *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 40307, related to academic program approval standards, be granted to

- a. establish a Doctor of Philosophy in Physics degree program at U. T. Rio Grande Valley; and
- b. submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Program Description

U. T. Rio Grande Valley proposes to develop a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Physics degree program. The Ph.D. in Physics will be designed to provide opportunities for students to obtain a broad background in classical and modern physics, and to develop research-based solutions in the areas of gravitational wave astronomy, optical and radio astronomy, optical physics, nanophysics and materials physics, condensed matter physics, high-energy physics, biophysics, and biomedical physics. As a Hispanic-Serving Institution with a student population that is approximately 90% Hispanic, U. T. Rio Grande Valley's proposed program will contribute to diversification of the scientific workforce by preparing students from underrepresented groups, most notably Hispanic students from South Texas, for a variety of careers in scientific institutions, industry, federal agencies, and higher education.

The curriculum is comprised of 72 semester credit hours (SCH), including 21 SCH of required coursework, 12 SCH of prescribed and free electives, nine SCH of advanced doctoral coursework, and 15 SCH of graduate and doctoral research. Students will complete a comprehensive examination after completing 21 SCH of core courses and a candidacy examination after completion of all coursework. All students are required to present and defend a dissertation.

Need and Student Demand

Multiple sources demonstrate robust current and future growth in job openings for graduates with a Ph.D. in Physics. American Institute of Physics (AIP) data showed an increase of 33% in tenure and tenure-track physics faculty positions between 2012 and 2016. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects an employment growth rate of 14% from 2016 to 2026, faster than average for all occupations. However, the number of graduates from physics doctoral programs has remained flat.

During the period between 2014-2019, the number of graduates from physics doctoral programs in Texas was approximately one third of the number of physics faculty job openings at Texas institutions of higher education. Further, AIP data show that only 49 percent of graduates enter the academic sector. The remainder fill positions in the private sector, government agencies, and other sectors of the economy.

Students in the Rio Grande Valley have demonstrated significant interest in pursuing a Ph.D. in Physics, with many leaving the state to pursue their doctoral studies elsewhere. Recent data show students leaving U. T. Rio Grande Valley's M.S. in Physics program early to enter doctoral programs out of state. The majority of these students would have remained enrolled at U. T. Rio Grande Valley if they had access to a Ph.D. program locally. The Department of Physics' unique expertise in gravitational wave physics and the success of the institution's Center for Gravitational Wave Astronomy in securing more than \$40 million in federal grants to support research over the last fifteen years draw students to the region and the program, as does the Center for Advanced Radio Astronomy. No program in Texas offers the same compound approach to gravitational wave physics and astronomy, a prime focus of research in the field for the next several decades.

Enrollment projections for the proposed Ph.D. in Physics program estimate an average class size of eight students which is in line with other programs in Texas. Attrition rates are not expected to exceed one student per year. The program expects to graduate ten students at the end of five years.

Program Quality

The program at start-up is projected to have nine core faculty and five support faculty. New faculty are not required to implement the program. Core faculty members were selected based on their strength in research/scholarly activity, external funding, publications and patents, and their experience with supervising doctoral students. Core faculty actively pursue grant funding to support research. In the last decade, faculty have earned almost \$20 million in funding from federal agencies.

Revenue and Expenses

Expenses	5-Year Total
<i>Faculty</i>	
Salaries	\$ 713,539
Benefits	\$ 214,062
<i>Graduate Students</i>	
TA Salaries	\$1,106,250
TA Benefits	\$ 110,625
GRA Salaries	\$ 768,750
GRA Benefits	\$ 76,875
<i>Staff & Administration</i>	
Graduate Coordinator Salary	\$ 26,250
Administrative Staff Salaries	\$ 145,005
Staff Benefits	\$ 77,228
<i>Other Expenses</i>	
Scholarships	\$1,060,500
Supplies and Consumables	\$ 62,500
Student Travel	\$ 40,000
Equipment	\$ 50,000
Marketing/Advertisement	\$ 37,500
Library Resources	\$ 10,000
Total Expenses	\$4,499,084

Revenue	5-Year Total
<i>From Student Enrollment</i>	
Formula Funding	\$1,386,549
Tuition and Fees	\$ 843,928
<i>From Institutional Funds</i>	
Institutional Enhancement or Designated Tuition	\$ 365,252
Reallocation of Existing Funding	\$2,144,476
<i>From Grant Funds</i>	
Federal Grant Funding for GRA's	\$ 536,250
<i>From Other Revenue Sources</i>	
N/A	
Total Revenue	\$5,276,455

Coordinating Board Criteria

The proposed program meets all applicable Coordinating Board criteria for new doctoral degree programs.

4a. U. T. Rio Grande Valley: Discussion and appropriate action regarding proposed changes to admission criteria for the Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration degree program

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve changes to the criteria for admission to the Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration degree program at U. T. Rio Grande Valley as described below.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

U. T. Rio Grande Valley requests approval to make changes to the levelling courses a student may need to take to be fully admitted into the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Business Administration degree program.

Students entering the Ph.D. in Business Administration degree program are required to have a business administration foundation. The foundation may be achieved by holding an MBA degree, an MS degree in a business field, or a selection of coursework designed to provide the foundation. During the first year of the doctoral program or subject to the advice of the student's program advisor for other time limits, students lacking the necessary foundation knowledge must complete the following levelling coursework (and associated prerequisites):

Current Admission Criteria	Proposed Admission Criteria
Management: QUMT 6303, MGMT 6301, MGMT 6330 or MGMT 6390	Management: QUMT 6303, <u>and select two of the following: MGMT 6301, MGMT 6330, MGMT 6360,</u> or MGMT 6390
Marketing: QUMT 6303, MARK 6300, MARK 6310	Marketing: QUMT 6303, <u>MARK 6300,</u> MARK 6310, <u>MARK 6320</u>
Finance: QUMT 6303, ECON 6301, ACCT 6301	Finance: QUMT 6303, <u>ECON 6301, ECON 6350, FINA 6303 ACCT 6301</u>
Information Systems: QUMT 6303, INFS 6330, ECON 6301	Information Systems: QUMT 6303, INFS 6330, <u>ECON 6301, ECON 6350</u>
	<u>Accounting:</u> <u>QUMT 6303, ACCT 6301, ACCT 6320</u>

4b. U. T. Rio Grande Valley: Discussion and appropriate action regarding proposed changes to admission criteria for the MSN in Family Nurse Practitioner degree program

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve changes to the criteria for admission to the MSN in Family Nurse Practitioner degree program at U. T. Rio Grande Valley as described below.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

U. T. Rio Grande Valley requests approval to add specialized exams scores to the admission criteria for the MSN in Family Nurse Practitioner degree program. Applicants whose undergraduate coursework is older than three years will have to demonstrate competency by scoring 900 or higher on the three Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Health Education Systems Incorporated (HESI) Specialty Competency Exams: 1) Advanced Health Assessment Exam, 2) Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics Exam, and 3) Advanced Pathophysiology Exam. HESI provides exams and other study materials to help prepare student nurses for the professional licensure exam.

Nursing programs often use HESI in admissions or during the course of study to help predict the student's likelihood of success on tests such as the National Council Licensure Examination – Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). The HESI exams are used nationally due to their reliability and validity in predicting student success, including several peer and aspirational institutions.

Current Admission Criteria	Proposed Admission Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Official transcripts from each institution attended (must be submitted directly to UTRGV). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bachelor's degree in nursing (BSN). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bachelor's degree in nursing (BSN). <u>Applicants whose coursework is more than 3 years old must score 900 or higher on the three (3) Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) and Health Education Systems Incorporated (HESI) Specialty Competency Exams: 1. Advanced Health Assessment Exam, 2. Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics Exam, and 3. Advanced Pathophysiology Exam.</u>

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Successful completion of undergraduate statistics course.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No change
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submission of a letter of intent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No change
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submission of resume.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No change
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Three (3) letters of recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No change
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Holding an unencumbered license as a Registered Nurse in the State of Texas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No change
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cleared Criminal Background Check	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No change

4c. U. T. Tyler: Discussion and appropriate action regarding proposed changes to admission criteria for the Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction degree program

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve changes to the criteria for admission to the Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction degree program at U. T. Tyler as described below.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

U. T. Tyler requests approval to make changes to the criteria for consideration of admission to the Master of Education (M.Ed.) degree program in Curriculum and Instruction.

The specialization courses in the M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction require that students have a strong foundation in issues related to teaching and learning. Currently, students are eligible for admission into the program if they are certified teachers or working on their teaching certification. The proposed changes would require applicants seeking a specialization in STEM Education, Instructional Coaching, Educational Technology, or a single content area to have at least two years of teaching experience prior to admission into the program to assure a strong grasp of issues explored and analyzed in the program’s specialization graduate education courses.

The teaching experience requirement would not apply to applicants for the Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction with Initial Teacher Certification program as the program does not require students to take any specialization courses.

The proposed removal of the GPA requirement for initial licensure eliminates an unnecessary duplication stated in the previous section.

The proposed addition regarding the Texas Examinations of Educator Standards (TExES) practice exam reflects changes in the standards of the Texas State Board of Educator Certification.

Current Admission Criteria	Proposed Admission Criteria
To be admitted to the Master of Education Degree in Curriculum and Instruction, the individual must:	To be admitted to the Master of Education Degree in Curriculum and Instruction, the individual must:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold a bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the online Graduate Admissions Application. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the online Graduate Admissions Application. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a certified teacher or be currently seeking certification. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a certified teacher or be currently seeking certification. <u>Have an appropriate GPA as set in the Texas Administrative Code by the Texas Education Agency.</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If required, send official scores (obtained within the past five years) on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) directly to the Office of Graduate Admissions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Students who have a GPA below 3.25 may be admissible with a combination of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and GPA.</u> If required, sSend official scores <u>on GRE</u> (obtained within the past five years) on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) directly to the Office of Graduate Admissions. <u>See website for additional information.</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admission is determined based on undergraduate GPA and, if necessary, satisfactory scores on the GRE in combination with the undergraduate GPA, and the applicant's demonstrated commitment to his or her chosen field of study. See website for additional information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admission is determined based on undergraduate GPA and, if necessary, satisfactory scores on the GRE in combination with the undergraduate GPA, and the applicant's demonstrated commitment to his or her chosen field of study. See website for additional information. <u>A student seeking a specialization in STEM Education, Instructional Coaching, Educational Technology, or in a single content area must be a certified teacher with at least two years of teaching experience.</u>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only for applicants also seeking to obtain initial teacher certification, additional admission requirements are required to enter the educator preparation program. These requirements are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Have an undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.25 in last 60 hours of coursework. Students may be accepted into the post-baccalaureate initial certification with a GPA of 2.5 with an acceptable Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score. b. Provide evidence of satisfactory scores on one of the acceptable basic skills test such as the Texas Success Initiative, GRE, Accuplacer, and others. See the School of Education website for specific information regarding appropriate tests and scores. c. Have a minimum number of hours in the content area where applicant is seeking certification. d. Pass the content area in the Pre-Admission Content Test (PACT). e. Complete the admission screening survey. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only for applicants also seeking to obtain initial teacher certification, additional admission requirements are required to enter the educator preparation program. These requirements are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Have an undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.25 in last 60 hours of coursework. Students may be accepted into the post baccalaureate initial certification with a GPA of 2.5 with an acceptable Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score. b. <u>a.</u> Provide evidence of satisfactory scores on one of the acceptable basic skills test such as the Texas Success Initiative, GRE, Accuplacer, and others. See the School of Education website for specific information regarding appropriate tests and scores. c. <u>b.</u> Have a minimum number of hours in the content area where applicant is seeking certification. d. <u>c.</u> Pass the content area in the Pre-Admission Content Test (PACT) <u>or indicate mastery of 85% on a content TExES practice exam if applicant has achieved 12-15 hours in the content area.</u> e. <u>d.</u> Complete the admission screening survey.
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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Upon admission, post-baccalaureate initial certification students must:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Sign and submit through a provided survey link an acknowledgement of admission, the Handbook Agreement Form, degree plan, and FERPA Agreement Form within five (5) business days.b. Complete background check documents.c. Pay admission fee to the School of Education. This fee is separate from The University of Texas at Tyler's Graduate School application. <p>NOTE: In accordance with Texas Administrative Code, all applicants must be fully admitted prior to taking any coursework in the area in which they are seeking certification. Therefore, no provisional admission is allowed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No Change
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5. **U. T. San Antonio: Allocation of \$10,000,000 of Permanent University Fund Bond Proceeds, with \$5,000,000 allocated for the National Security Collaboration Center and School of Data Science project and \$5,000,000 allocated for the Main Building Repair & Restoration project**

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Executive Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, and the institutional president that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve allocation of \$10,000,000 of Permanent University Fund (PUF) Bond Proceeds, with \$5,000,000 allocated for the National Security Collaboration Center and School of Data Science (NSCC SDS) project and \$5,000,000 allocated for the Main Building Repair & Restoration project, with the funding to be phased over up to five years at the direction of the Chancellor.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The NSCC SDS building project is on the current Fiscal Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP), and the total project cost for the Main Building Repair and Restoration project is below the threshold requiring addition to the CIP. Providing \$5,000,000 in PUF funding to each project will allow the use of other local funds previously allocated for those projects to support the Cybersecurity Manufacturing Innovation Institute (CyManII) initiative and will fulfill U. T. System's \$10,000,000 funding commitment in support of the initiative.

On May 20, 2020, U. T. San Antonio was selected by the United States Department of Energy to establish CyManII, a federal research institute focused on energy efficiency, technical innovation, and security for supply chain networks for electric vehicles, solar panels, wind turbines, and similar items.

6. **U. T. System: Update on the impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on operations at U. T. System academic institutions**

DISCUSSION

Chancellor Milliken and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Leslie will provide a brief update on the impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on operations at U. T. academic institutions.