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November 1, 2019

Dr. John Nicklow, President  
University of New Orleans  
2000 Lakeshore Drive  
New Orleans, LA 70148

Dear Dr. Nicklow:

On October 24, 2019, the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System approved the following requests from University of New Orleans:

1. Request to offer a Bachelor of Science in Urban Construction Management.
2. Request to offer a Master of Science in Cyber Security and Operations.
3. Request to award a Doctorate Honoris Causa to Mr. Marques Colston.
4. Request to assign the Ground Lease with Orleans Parish School Board to Friends of Ben Franklin and to amend the lien provision.
5. Request to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Obatala Sciences, Inc.
6. Request to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Entergy New Orleans, LLC to lease rooftop space for a solar power array.
7. Request to amend the Lease with Follett Higher Education Group, Inc.

Enclosed for your records are the Executive Summaries with the resolutions that were approved by the Board along with the approved personnel actions. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeannine Kahn".

Jeannine Kahn, Ph.D.  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE  
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM**

**ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**October 24, 2019**

- Item E.10.**     **University of New Orleans'** request for approval to offer a Bachelor of Science in Urban Construction Management.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The University of New Orleans (UNO) requests approval to offer a Bachelor of Science in Urban Construction Management (BSUCM). In April 2018 the Letter of Intent (LoI) was authorized by the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System; Board of Regents approval was granted in June 2019. Originally proposed as a Bachelor of Science in Construction Management, UNO has redesigned the original program concept and is proposing one that better suits the needs of the Greater New Orleans area.

The rapid speed and widespread extent of urbanization is demanding amplified basic services for the citizens including affordable housing, reliable water, wastewater, and storm water management systems, well-planned transportation provisions, and other efficient civil infrastructure utilities in New Orleans. Additionally, urban revitalization combines rehabilitation of existing failing infrastructures and preservation/restoration of historic buildings, structures, and memorials. With more than 80% of global GDP generated in cities, urbanization can contribute to sustainable growth if managed appropriately by increasing efficiency, controlling budget and time overrun, and incorporating innovative construction supervision practices.

Practicing engineers, designers, and construction managers currently face the challenge of changing the status quo of their work and adapting their design/management methods to embed sustainable thought process throughout all their decision making. The challenges facing engineering construction in the future will require a much broader knowledge base than is currently included in traditional construction management educational programs. The engineering and construction management curriculum, from undergraduate education through continuing professional education, must address the changing needs of a profession that will increasingly be engaged in building sustainable cities and communities through an urbanization process that is inclusive, resilient, safe, productive, and livable.

With today's ever-growing demand for increasingly sophisticated infrastructures, a career in construction management with a focus on urban construction shows no signs of stopping. Urban construction is more complex because of the cost of land, availability of extra space during the construction, stringent rules and regulations for the cities, complexity with the utility systems and higher expectations of the people and decision makers. Highly sought-after professionals who perform in every aspect of the Architecture/Engineering/Construction (A/E/C) field, construction managers must be versatile, innovative multitaskers with strong leadership and management skills with the knowledge of the challenges and the opportunities of urban areas. Because construction managers are so integral in leading construction projects through every

phase of development, their value in the job market continues to exponentially rise. Based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), employment of construction managers is projected to grow 11 percent from 2016 to 2026, faster than the average for all occupations. Because of this, UNO has developed a distinctive, comprehensive, and futuristic curriculum that will be unique to urban construction.

The University currently offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in Civil and Environmental Engineering and a Business/Management degree in the College of Business. In addition, a Graduate Certificate in Historic and Cultural Preservation and degree programs in Urban and Regional Planning are offered. To augment these existing programs with the supports of all available undergraduate interdisciplinary programs, UNO is proposing a new construction management program focusing on urban development coupled with rehabilitation and restoration of existing municipal infrastructures and historic preservation. The students with this unique degree will specialize in urban planning, design, and sustainable construction management practices. They will also be knowledgeable and proficient in preservation and restoration of historically significant housing, monuments, structures, facilities, and related structures. This program will graduate a unique and distinct group of individuals to diversify, broaden, and strengthen Louisiana's engineering management workforce. This will also support local, state, and federal government projects by addressing the challenges of urbanization while creating new opportunities for the people of Louisiana.

The proposed undergraduate program at UNO, composed of 120 credit hours, will provide a holistic approach to urban construction and will include courses in planning, engineering, management, history, and urban studies. This program, as demanded by the local and regional design and construction industry, will embrace practice based hands-on experiential learning including soft skills such as leadership, management, communication, risk management, and the others. In addition, students need to have a one full semester internship under an employer and faculty supervision. Currently, Construction Management baccalaureate degrees are offered by LSU and the University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM). These two programs are thriving; their completion rates (three-year average) are 111 and 25, respectively. In addition, the BS in Engineering Technology programs offered by Grambling and Southeastern include a Construction concentration that incorporates basic CM concepts. What is proposed by UNO is different from these existing, general CM programs since the focus is on urban development with various nuances previously mentioned.

The University anticipates an initial enrollment of 15-20 students in YR1 with the expectation that enrollment will grow to 40 by YR4. In order to reach out to potential students, the University has already begun working with high school advisors, community colleges, alumni, and industry. The University has already collaborated with fourteen industry partners via GNO, Inc. in order to ascertain local construction industry interest in the proposed program. Their response has been overwhelmingly positive. While smaller construction firms may provide 1 to 2 students per year, larger companies such as Boh Bros., Core Construction, and governmental agencies (USACE and CPRA) will provide 3 to 4 students per year. Also, there is a huge potential to attract students from neighboring states.

As previously mentioned, many courses required of the proposed degree program are already offered at UNO and need no or minimal change. Existing tenure/tenure track faculty along with adjunct faculty can provide sufficient instructional support; however, with the growth of the program, the addition of one or two additional tenured-track faculty is anticipated. No additional facilities are needed. Overall, the required resources and university investment are minimal. In turn, UNO will be able to offer a high-quality program that will produce graduates who will have access to high earning potential career paths.

### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the following resolution be adopted:

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the University of New Orleans' request for approval to offer a Bachelor of Science in Urban Construction Management.*



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE  
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM**

**ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**October 24, 2019**

- Item E.11.**     **University of New Orleans'** request for approval to offer a Master of Science in Cyber Security and Operations.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The University of New Orleans (UNO) requests approval to offer a Master of Science (MS) in Cyber Security and Operations. The Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System approved the Letter of Intent (LoI) in February 2018, with Board of Regents approval granted in May 2018. Per Regents' policy, the proposed graduate program was reviewed by Dr. David Dampier, Professor and Chair, Department of Information Systems and Cyber Security, the University of Texas at San Antonio. In his report Dr. Dampier stated the following: *"I have been familiar with cybersecurity education at UNO for many years. It has always been of high caliber and this program only strengthens their capability to graduate highly qualified members of the cyber workforce at a critical time for the region and country."*

Currently, UNO is a National Security Agency (NSA) - designated *Center of Academic Excellence (CAE) in Research*, and a *CAE in Cyber Operations*; the latter is a particular point of distinction since only 20 universities nationwide have achieved such a designation. Likewise, UNO is one of only three institutions to hold such a designation at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. The proposed MS will leverage existing cybersecurity curriculum, infrastructure, and faculty expertise to offer an advanced degree in cybersecurity and operations with an emphasis on practical, in-demand skills, and advanced understanding of the modern, fast-evolving cyber threat environment. The proposed program will be aligned with the knowledge unit required for the upcoming new designation category of *CAE in Advanced Cyber Operation* in order to further enhance its reputation and national profile.

The proposed graduate program requires a minimum of 30 credit hours and offers thesis and non-thesis options. In order to enter the program, students must have completed a recognized baccalaureate degree as well as successfully completed the following three courses: Computer Networking, Operating Systems, and Introduction to Cyber Security. The curriculum, as currently designed, has a 15-hour cybersecurity core along with supporting courses, breadth options, special topics, and research-oriented courses for the thesis option. The structure and content of the proposed program is modelled after leading MS programs in cybersecurity (i.e., MS in Information Security at CMU, MS in Cybersecurity at Georgia Tech, etc.) with slight modifications to take advantage of the particular strengths of UNO in cyber operations, reverse engineering and malware analysis, industrial control systems/SCADA security, digital forensics and incident response, and software security. An explicit goal of the proposed curriculum is to align all educational outcomes with the emerging national standards for the cybersecurity workforce – the *NICE Cybersecurity Workforce Framework* developed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). What is proposed is a natural progression for UNO since

a concentration in *information assurance* at the undergraduate and graduate levels is offered, and the courses required of the MS in Cyber Security and Operations are already in existence. The proposed degree will be relevant to a wider professional audience, including mid-career individuals in need of systemic training in cybersecurity to advance professionally.

There is a well-documented and pervasive shortage of cybersecurity professionals at all levels of industry and government not only in Louisiana but nationally. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a growth in *information security analyst* positions of 28% from 2016 to 2026, much faster than the average for all occupations. According to the Louisiana Workforce Commission, *information security analyst* is among the top 10 fastest growing occupations, with a projected statewide growth of 33.8% through 2024, and a median 2016 salary of \$82K; for the Greater New Orleans Area (which is serviced by UNO) the corresponding salary is \$91K with growth projected at 46%. The proposed program responds not only to the needs of the State, but also to the security needs of the nation, which is under constant attack in the cyber domain. In addition, the creation of such a program aligns with UNO's desire to provide talent-laden graduates who not only meet the needs of companies that currently reside in their region but also contribute to bringing new organizations to Louisiana, such as DXC Technology which will establish a 2,000-job Digital Transformation Center in the heart of New Orleans.

The proposed program will target two main streams of potential students – alumni of traditional undergraduate programs in Computer Science (CS) and professionals with non-CS degrees who are currently working in cybersecurity or are seeking a career change. UNO's BS in Computer Science, with nearly 400 majors, will be a primary feeder since the proposed MS will be of interest to those students seeking advanced professional placement as well as providing a bridge to the PhD in Applied and Engineering Science for those seeking a path to a research-focused career in cybersecurity. The ultimate goal is to establish a degree with a national reputation that will draw students from outside of Louisiana. The University projects an initial enrollment of 12 students with enrollment growing to 35 by YR5.

The Department of Computer Science will provide oversight of the proposed program which will be tightly integrated with the existing programs in Computer Science at the graduate and undergraduate levels. The new program will require no new physical infrastructure and will benefit from existing faculty resources. The only additional cost for implementation is six graduate assistantships; one course teaching release for program administration; and marketing and travel. Cost incurred will be offset by tuition and fees.

## RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the following resolution be adopted:

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED***, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the University of New Orleans' request for approval to offer a Master of Science in Cyber Security and Operations.



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE  
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM**

**ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**October 24, 2019**

- Item E.12.**     **University of New Orleans'** request for approval to award a Doctorate Honoris Causa to Mr. Marques Colston at the Fall Commencement Exercises.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The University of New Orleans (UNO) requests approval to award a Doctorate Honoris Causa to Mr. Marques Colston at the Fall Commencement Exercises. Mr. Colston is a ten-year NFL Veteran and the New Orleans Saints all-time leading receiver and scorer; he garnered the admiration of the entire City of New Orleans as a Super Bowl champion. His post-football career is, perhaps, even more impressive. As a business owner, investor, and digital strategist, Mr. Colston has become a leading growth entrepreneur at the intersection of sports, technology, and digital media. He is the Founder and Managing Partner of Dynasty Innovation, a strategy and execution firm focused on marketing, branding, sports, and education. Mr. Colston is also Partner and Director of Business Development at Main Squeeze Juice Co., as well as a Partner at Timeless Herbal Care. Additionally, he is an investor and advisor to various early stage companies with a focus on sports and technology. Mr. Colston is the Managing Director for the Center for Innovation at Virtua Health Systems, and also serves on the Advisory Board for the One Team Collective, a sport technology accelerator run by the NFLPA. His business initiatives have been featured in Inc. Magazine, CNBC, and Fox Business.

Mr. Colston values education having earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Hofstra University and a Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Venture Investing from Columbia University. Indeed this focus on education is a family value; his wife Emily is a proud UNO graduate. Mr. Colston continues to give back to the community in ways too numerous to mention. When it comes to UNO, he has been generous with his time having recently served as the Department of Management and Marketing's 2019 Management Week Keynote Speaker. During his standing room only talk, Mr. Colston shared his successes, failures, and life lessons with UNO students. He was, and continues to be, thoughtful and focused and an exemplary role model for those beginning their careers. The University would like to recognize Mr. Colston for contributions to UNO and the City of New Orleans by awarding a Doctorate Honoris Causa.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the following resolution be adopted:

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,*** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the University of New Orleans' request to award a Doctorate Honoris Causa to Mr. Marques Colston.



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE  
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM**

**FACILITIES PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**October 24, 2019**

- Item G.9.** University of New Orleans' request for approval to consent to assignment of the Ground Lease with Orleans Parish School Board to Friends of Ben Franklin and to amend the lien provision.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

As allowed by R.S. 17:3361 (2)(a), on February 10, 1987, the University leased three parcels of ground to the Orleans Parish School Board (OPSB) for the construction and operation of Benjamin Franklin High School. *US News and World Report* ranked this school number one in the state. In order to finance renovations to the existing buildings and construct a new STEM classroom, OPSB would like to assign the lease to Friends of Ben Franklin, a non-profit organization, which requires University consent. Furthermore, in order for the Friends of Ben Franklin to partially fund the construction with debt, the University must subsequently amend the lien provision in the lease with the assistance of UL System General Counsel.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the following resolution be adopted:

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED***, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves the University of New Orleans' request for approval to consent to assignment of the Ground Lease with Orleans Parish School Board to Friends of Ben Franklin and to amend the lien provision.

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, that the University of New Orleans shall obtain final review from UL System staff, legal counsel and shall secure all other appropriate approvals from agencies/parties of processes, documents, and administrative requirements.

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, that the President of the University of New Orleans and his or her designee is hereby designated and authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to execute the Lease Amendment.

***AND FURTHER***, that the University will provide the System office with copies of all final executed documents for Board files.

Approved by the Board of Supervisors  
for the University of Louisiana System

on 10/24/19

By: 

Edwin Litloff, Vice President  
for Business and Finance



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE  
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**October 24, 2019**

- Item H.5.**     **University of New Orleans'** request for approval of a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Obatala Sciences, Inc.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this agreement allows Obatala Sciences, Inc. and the University's Advanced Materials Research Institute (AMRI) to team up on the development of new nanomaterials. Obatala is a Louisiana startup company on the development of 3D bioprinted microfluidic devices for culture of organ/tissue specific constructs for drug testing and metabolic research.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the following resolution be adopted:

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of New Orleans' request for approval of a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Obatala Sciences, Inc.*



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE  
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**October 24, 2019**

- Item H.6.**     **University of New Orleans'** request for approval of a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Entergy New Orleans, LLC to lease rooftop space for a solar power array.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The University will cooperate with Entergy and its affiliate, Influent Energy, to participate in the Rooftop Solar Program created by the Council of the City of New Orleans. Space on the roofs of the University Center and the Recreational Sports Center is available and conducive to the requirements of the program. The University will benefit from access to the data generated for the benefit of students and faculty, demonstrated leadership of community participation in renewable energy, and lease revenue.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the following resolution be adopted:

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of New Orleans' request for approval of a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Entergy New Orleans, LLC to lease rooftop space for a solar power array.*





**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE  
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**October 24, 2019**

- Item H.7.**      **University of New Orleans'** request for approval to amend the Lease with Follett Higher Education Group, Inc.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The University of New Orleans is requesting approval of an amended lease agreement with Follett Higher Education Group. The University will participate in the Follett Access Program. The University will institute a required student "Course Material Fee" rental textbook model for students of the University. Each student will pay \$25 per credit hour each semester and will have access to all learning materials for that semester. The bookstore will receive \$20 per credit hour and the University will receive \$5 to cover lost revenue from commission of book sales and other expenses. The new model takes advantage of technology improvements and scale economies to provide learning materials at a significant savings compared to purchasing textbooks. Students will have the ability to opt-out.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the following resolution be adopted:

***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby approves University of New Orleans' request for approval to amend the Lease with Follett Higher Education Group, Inc.*

