

**MINUTES**  
**UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM**  
**BOARD OF REGENTS**  
**ACADEMIC AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE**

Thursday, August 25, 2016 – The members of the Academic and Student Success Committee of the University of Houston System Board of Regents convened at 12:10 p.m. on Thursday, August 25, 2016, at the Hilton University of Houston Hotel, Conrad Hilton Ballroom, Second Floor, 4450 University Drive, Houston, Texas 77204 with the following members participating:

ATTENDANCE –

Member(s) Present

Paula M. Mendoza, Chair  
Beth Madison, Vice Chair  
Durga D. Agrawal, Member  
Gerald W. McElvy, Member  
Peter K. Taaffe, Member  
Roger F. Welder, Member  
Joshua Freed, Student Regent, Non-voting  
Tilman J. Fertitta, Ex Officio

Non-Member(s) in Attendance

Spencer D. Armour, III, Regent  
Welcome W. Wilson, Jr., Regent

In accordance with a notice being timely posted with the Secretary of State and there being a quorum in attendance, Chair of the Committee, Paula M. Mendoza called the meeting to order. Regent Mendoza stated the committee would be presented seven (7) agenda items: five (5) action items for the committee's consideration and approval and two (2) information items. Regent Mendoza mentioned that the agenda would be taken out of order and would begin with Item I, Presentation of University of Houston Student Success Story – University of Houston.

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AGENDA ITEMS

**Information Item(s):**

1. Presentation of University of Houston Student Success Story – Item I

Regent Mendoza introduced two (2) members of the women's basketball team, Brianne Coffman and Jacqueline Blake to come forward to share their story.

Ms. Jacqueline Blake began by thanking the Board for allowing them to present their stories and Regent Mendoza for her help and support. Ms. Blake shared that she had come from a very tough background. She had been raised around people who would either die or end up in jail; and it had taken her a couple of tries before she finally received an offer from the University of Houston and play for the Cougars. Ms. Blake stated that she felt very blessed to be a part of this program, the facilities, and the campus as a whole.

Ms. Brianne Coffman grew up in a small country town. She was the oldest of six (6) children, raised in a very hectic environment where all of her brothers and sisters played sports, and competition amongst each other was very high. She attended high school and graduated with 70 people in her class. Ms. Coffman stated that college life was very different from what she had expected. She attended Oklahoma State for two (2) years and then transferred to the University of Houston which was closer to her hometown somewhere near Austin, Texas which allowed her to travel back to visit her younger brothers and sisters more often. Ms. Coffman decided to come to Houston to be a Cougar and be closer to home. She stated that once she enrolled at UH her life changed for the better. She was closer to her family, she feels blessed to have such amazing facilities, and having all of the resources available to them to help them be successful in both sports and academics.

Chairman Fertitta congratulated Jacqueline and Brianne for their achievements and Regent Mendoza also thanked Coach Hughey and Carly for their effort and hard work.

This item was presented for information only and required no committee action.

**Action Item(s):**

2. Approval of Minutes – Item B

On motion of Regent Agrawal, seconded by Regent Welder, and by a unanimous vote of the members present, the following minutes from the meeting listed below was approved:

- May 19, 2016 Academic and Student Success Committee Meeting

Following the approval of the minutes, Regent Mendoza asked Dr. Paula Myrick Short, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost to introduce the remaining action items on the committee's agenda.

3. Approval of the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology at the University of Houston-Clear Lake – University of Houston Clear Lake, Item C – A&SS-C

Dr. Paula Myrick Short introduced and presented this action item requesting Board approval for the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology at the University of Houston-Clear Lake, the first of several programs being brought in front of the Board for approval. This degree would give students the technical and professional knowledge and skills they need for careers in IT which is a very popular and growing field. Currently, UH-Clear Lake has a Bachelor of Applied Science in IT, but it is a transfer degree, and it is only available to students who already have an Associate of Applied Science from a community college or with a substantial number of occasional technical courses. It is not open to freshman students. Dr. Short stated that UH-Clear Lake was now admitting freshman and this degree would give those freshman students an option for majoring in IT. The median (average) wage for IT specialists is \$79,000, and in certain areas of IT the wage was even higher such as information security specialists and network administration.

Dr. Short mentioned that at UH-Clear Lake, students would have the opportunity to focus in one of three areas of specialization: computer forensics, web design and IT management. This profession was predicted to grow 12% from 2014 to 2024. There will be no need to hire new faculty as UHCL already has faculty teaching in the other program. In addition, it was expected that this program would generate revenue in its first year.

On motion of Regent Agrawal, seconded by Regent Taaffe, and by a unanimous vote of the regents in attendance, the Approval of the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology at the University of Houston-Clear Lake was approved.

4. Approval of the Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Care and Education at the University of Houston-Clear Lake – University of Houston-Clear Lake, A&SS-D

Dr. Short presented this item requesting approval of the Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Care and Education at the University of Houston-Clear Lake. Dr. Short mentioned that this program was similar to the one previously presented. UH-Clear Lake already offers a Bachelor of Applied Science only open to those students coming from a community college with an Associate of Applied Science in this area. The approval of this item would open this program to incoming freshman students. This was a very popular area as there are many childcare centers providing services to children from birth to six years old; and this program would help improve the quality of those individuals that go into the childcare field. Dr. Short stated that just like the previous item, there would be no need to hire new faculty since they already have faculty teaching in the other program. This program is expected to generate revenue in its first year.

On motion of Regent McElvy, seconded by Regent Taaffe, and by a unanimous vote of the regents in attendance, the Approval of the Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Care and Education at the University of Houston-Clear Lake was approved.

5. Approval of Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Houston-Clear Lake – University of Houston-Clear Lake, A&SS-E

Dr. Short presented this item requesting approval of the Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Houston-Clear Lake. Dr. Short stated that this program was a 127-semester credit hour degree, required to cover the Texas Core as well as ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology). Students who complete this program could take elective courses to prepare them for the petrochemical, aerospace or energy related careers. This was also another popular and growing area; salaries are very competitive with a national salary average of \$87,000 for mechanical engineers and salary average of \$99,000 in Texas. Dr. Short mentioned that the Deans for both Colleges of Engineering at UH and UH-Clear Lake had worked together to develop this degree. The degree at UH-Clear Lake would help those students who apply to the Cullen College of Engineering and were not being served. Dr. Short also stated that this program was expected to generate revenue in its third year. It would go into the new UH-Clear Lake STEM building, and it was expected to open in 2018. Dr. Short added that there would be a need to hire new faculty, starting out with a Chair of the department, adding two faculty (2) in 2018, adding two (2) more faculty in 2019, and subsequent to that adding more faculty as needed.

On motion of Regent Taaffe, seconded by Regent Agrawal, and by a unanimous vote of the regents in attendance, the Approval of the Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Houston-Clear Lake was approved.

6. Approval of Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences in Early Childhood Education and Family Systems at the University of Houston-Downtown – University of Houston-Downtown, A&SS-F

Dr. Short presented this item requesting approval of the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences in Early Childhood Education and Family Systems at the University of Houston-Downtown. Dr. Short began by stating that UH-Downtown was approached by Houston Community College (“HCC”) to develop this degree so that their students who graduate with the Associate of Applied Science degree would have a place to go to complete their baccalaureate degree in Early Childhood Education. This program was a popular degree emphasizing early childhood education and family studies from birth to six years old. This was a highly growing area, predicted to grow 7% in the next ten (10) years. Dr. Short mentioned that this was a high priority because of the communities that UH-Downtown serves and it would help meet the needs of the population. In addition, Dr. Short stated that the program was expected to generate revenue in its fourth year.

On motion of Regent McElvy, seconded by Regent Taaffe, and by a unanimous vote of the regents in attendance, the Approval of the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences in Early Childhood Education and Family Systems at the University of Houston-Downtown was approved.

7. Approval of Doctorate in Physical Therapy at the University of Houston – University of Houston, A&SS-G

Dr. Short presented this item requesting approval of Doctorate in Physical Therapy at the University of Houston. Dr. Short explained that as part of the expanding of the Health/Science initiative established by Chancellor Khator, they looked at degrees that might be recommend be established at UH that would further that agenda. Dr. Short stated that it was determined that a Physical Therapy degree would serve our community and would be one way to enhance the health and science emphasis at UH. This was a very intense degree, with 2-3 year duration, and students would have to pass the Physical Therapy exam in order to be able to practice as Physical Therapists. Dr. Short stated that there was a high need for this program, and it was predicted that between 2020 and 2025 there would be a shortage of over 600 Physical Therapists to serve the community in our area, and that number was even larger nationally with over 1,500 vacancies. Dr. Short mentioned that this program would be housed in the new Health and Biomedical Sciences Building 2 within the department of Health and Human Performance.

On motion of Regent Agrawal, seconded by Regent McElvy, and by a unanimous vote of the regents in attendance, the Approval of Doctorate in Physical Therapy at the University of Houston was approved.

On motion of Regent McElvy, seconded by Regent Taaffe, and by a unanimous vote of the committee members present, the following five (5) action items were placed on the Board of

Regents' Consent Docket Agenda for final Board approval at the Board meeting held later that day, August 25, 2016, as listed below.

1. Approval of the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology at the University of Houston-Clear Lake – University of Houston-Clear Lake
2. Approval of the Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Care and Education at the University of Houston-Clear Lake – University of Houston-Clear Lake
3. Approval of the Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Houston-Clear Lake – University of Houston
4. Approval of Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences in Early Childhood Education and Family Systems at the University of Houston-Downtown – University of Houston-Downtown
5. Approval of Doctorate in Physical Therapy at the University of Houston – University of Houston

The last item presented to the Committee was Item H, Presentation of Manufacturing Institute Applications for the University of Houston – University of Houston – A&SS-H. Regent Mendoza introduced Dr. Ramanan Krishnamoorti, Interim Vice Chancellor for Research and Technology Transfer to present this item.

Dr. Krishnamoorti began his presentation by discussing how Chancellor Khator and the university were taking the advances made in research by faculty and students to the commercial world. The Obama administration started a National Network for Manufacturing Innovation about three (3) years ago and have created nine (9) such institutes across the country, they are either on the west or east coast, with nothing in the south central part of the country. Dr. Krishnamoorti stated that UH was up front and center to try and revolutionize that and have submitted two (2) applications this summer. The first application was in the area of superconductivity which was created through the Advanced Superconductor Manufacturing Institute (ASMI). The science behind this had been pioneered at the University of Houston in the early 80's.

The advances that the University of Houston has made are to take something such as big transmission wires and create two thin strips to replace it and achieve the same results. Dr. Krishnamoorti posed the question of how do we take these advances to commercial success, make it in kilometer lengths and replace all transmission wires, but not stop there, change MRI machines, change the way we look at oil and gas exploration and production, etc. The federal government has a \$70 million dollar program that is run through the Department of commerce, and the University of Houston had put together an initial pre-proposal two (2) years ago and got seed-granted this program and then they went on about building a proposal this summer. Dr. Krishnamoorti explained that a team was created across the country and it is centered around the University of Houston. This program requires a minimum of one-to-one (1:1) cost share from the industry, it has to be industry-liked to solve industry challenges, and must have a technology readiness level of between three (3) and seven (7). Dr. Krishnamoorti mentioned that with this 1:1 cost share a partnership was created and UH raised around \$160 million dollars in cash and in-kind support and have applied for this grant program. Dr. Krishnamoorti said that he believes that, if funded, UH would be able to bring this technology to revolutionize manufacturing in the US and outcompete those who were taking up leadership in this round. Funding opportunity will be finalized by September 2016, and if funded, UH would have a \$250 million dollar program to further advance superconductivity and revolutionize the industry.

Dr. Krishnamoorti talked about another example of how UH was advancing. The University of Houston worked with Louisiana State University (“LSU”) to put together a program that focused on the chemicals and petroleum refining industry. This program worked on how to push this industry to the next generation, to make improvements on certain areas, such as how to increase our trade by several hundred billion dollars, reduce energy consumption by this industry by about 20%, etc. UH and LSU came up with a proposal and have many well-known companies supporting this proposal. \$175 million dollars has been raised in cost-share for a \$70 million dollar program. Dr. Krishnamoorti stated that there was a 50-50 chance of winning this proposal and funding would be finalized by October 2016.

Dr. Krishnamoorti finished his presentation by stating that these were significant advances, and that this was the first time UH had submitted these kind of proposals: two (2) completed so far, and he was looking to do more and when it came to the manufacturing industry , he really wanted to put the University of Houston on the map!

A copy of Dr. Krishnamoorti’s presentation has been filed in the Board of Regents Office.

This item was presented for information only and required no committee action.

It should be noted that no Executive Session was held.

Regent Mendoza concluded by complimenting the University of Houston and University of Houston-Clear Lake in working together in developing programs to serve our community. In addition, Regent Mendoza mentioned about the positive comments regarding Chancellor Khator and thanked her for what she does for the advancement of the University of Houston and its students.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:38 p.m.

All documentation submitted to the Committee in support of the foregoing action items, including but not limited to “Passed” agenda items and supporting documentation presented to the Committee, is incorporated herein and made a part of these minutes for all purposes; however, this does not constitute a waiver of any privileges contained herein.

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Others Present:

Renu Khator  
Dona Cornell  
Paula Myrick Short  
Elwyn Lee  
Lisa Holdeman  
Jim McShan  
Eloise Stuhr  
Jason Smith

Mike Johnson  
Abner Fletcher  
Ben Aldrich  
Valerie Ferguson  
Chris Stanich  
Sabrina Hassumani  
Myra Ayla  
Maureen Croft

David Oliver  
Brian Thomas  
David Bradley  
Raymond Bartlett  
Phil Booth  
Wayne Beran  
Shannon Harrison  
Mike Glisson

Others Present (cont'd):

Richard Walker  
Don Guyton  
Raymond Vic Morgan  
Michael Olivas  
Bill Staples  
Ed Hugetz  
Jessie Pisors  
Caesar Moore  
Gerry Mathisen

Carly Kehn  
Coach Hughey  
Cathy Horn  
Dana Rooks  
Brett Collier  
Pam Muscarello  
Joe Brueggman  
Patricia Oliver  
Brenda Robles

Jon Aldrich  
Iggy Harrison  
Jane Ottinger  
Matthew Castillo  
Katie Brown  
Jessie Pisors  
Marquette Hobbs  
Don Price