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**Minutes**

**Board of Regents' Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission  
March 12, 2013**

The Louisiana Board of Regents' Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission met on Tuesday, March 12, 2013, at 10:05 a.m. in Room 1-190 of the Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge. Chair Bender called the meeting to order and the roll was called.

**Commission Members Present**

Tina Begnaud  
Ralph Bender, Chair  
Richard D'Aquin  
James Dorris  
James Fontenot

**Staff Members Present**

Nancy Beall  
Chandra Cheatham  
Ann Evans  
Kristi Kron  
Carol Marabella  
Larry Tremblay

**Commission Members Absent**

Chris Gorman  
Keith Jones, Vice-Chair  
Raymond Lalonde  
Gloria Simmons

**Guests Present**

(See Appendix A.)

The first item of business was the approval of the minutes from its meeting of January 8, 2013.

**On motion of Mr. D'Aquin, seconded by Ms. Begnaud, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously adopted the minutes of the January 8, 2013 Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission meeting.**

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was two initial license applications, the first from Alpha Medical College, LLC, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and represented by the owner, Ms. Mary A. Alcee. Ms. Kron reviewed the materials for the Commission, informing it that the institution would be offering one program of study, Nurse Aide Training, which is a six week, 80.0 clock hour program (inclusive of both classroom and clinical experience which has received prior approval from the Department of Health and Hospitals, Health Standards Section. Alpha Medical College, LLC, had met all the legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion regarding the estimated time frame for the school to become financially solvent, the owner's purpose for establishing the school, the anticipated competition in the programmatic offering, and the duties and estimated salaries of the certified nursing assistant versus the patient care assistant,

**On motion of Mr. Fontenot, seconded by Mr. Dorris, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents approve an initial operating license for Alpha Medical College, LLC, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.**

The second initial license application considered by the Commission was from Amazing Careers in Dental Assisting, LLC, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and represented by the owners, Dr. Byron D. Basco and Ms. Shannon Newchurch. Ms. Kron reviewed the materials for the Commission, informing it that the institution would be offering one program of study, Dental Assisting, which is a fifteen week, 75.0 clock hour program (inclusive of both classroom and lab experience). The classes will be held in Dr. Basco's dental office on Saturdays. Amazing Careers in Dental Assisting, LLC, had met all the legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion regarding the location of the school, the anticipated competition in the programmatic offering, and the inclusion in the curriculum of the radiology component which leads to certification,

**On motion of Mr. Fontenot, seconded by Mr. D'Aquin, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents approve an initial operating license for Amazing Careers in Dental Assisting, LLC, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.**

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was an application for an associate in occupational studies (AOS) degree from Fortis College, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and represented by Dr. Vaughn Hartunian, Campus President, and Ms. Mary Elizabeth Ricaud, Campus Business Manager.

Ms. Marabella reminded the Commission that the Proprietary Schools Law requires that AOS degrees be offered only by schools that hold recognized accreditation and that the Board of Regents must approve all AOS degree program offerings. Fortis College is accredited by the

Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools. Fortis College has previously been approved to offer Surgical Technology as a diploma program. The proposed curriculum for the AOS Degree in Surgical Technology is 105.0 quarter credit hours/1,670.0 clock hours, and full-time students should be able to complete the program in 84 weeks. Fortis College's proposed AOS degree program had met all the legal and administrative requirements to be approved by the Board of Regents.

Following further discussion regarding the differences between the diploma and AOS degree programs, the anticipated competition in the programmatic offering, the duties of the surgical technologist, and the estimated salary of surgical technologists,

**On motion of Mr. Fontenot, seconded by Ms. Begnaud, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents approve the Associate in Occupational Studies Degree program in Surgical Technology for Fortis College, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.**

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was operating license renewals. Ms. Marabella informed the Commission that there were fourteen (14) schools seeking renewal. These schools scheduled for renewal were in complete compliance, having met all the legal and administrative requirements to be re-licensed.

Following further discussion,

**On motion of Ms. Begnaud, seconded by Mr. Fontenot, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents renew the licenses of the following proprietary schools (initial license date in parentheses):**

**Baton Rouge School of Court Reporting (01/26/06)**  
**Blue Cliff College--Lafayette (01/27/00)**  
**Central Louisiana School for Dental Assistants (01/26/06)**  
**Coastal College--Hammond (02/23/89)**  
**Court Reporting Institute of Louisiana (01/27/11)**  
**Dryades YMCA School of Commerce (02/27/97)**  
**ITI Technical College (01/27/00)**  
**Lafourche Merchant Marine Training Services (01/27/10)**  
**Louisiana Dental Assistant School, LLC (01/27/05)**  
**Moore Career College, Inc. (01/27/10)**  
**Multi-Cultural Educational Community Center of Achievement, Inc. (MECCA)**  
**(01/22/09)**  
**Southwest Dental Academy, LLC (01/25/12)**  
**Tulsa Welding School--Jacksonville Campus (01/27/10)**  
**WyoTech--Florida (01/27/10)**

Ms. Marabella informed the Commission that there were two institutions that chose not to renew their license: Creative Floral Design School, LLC (02/27/86) and Kaplan, Inc.--Baton Rouge (02/06/85). Staff will follow through to secure the student records from the schools.

The next item on the agenda was an update on program approvals. Chair Bender reminded the Commission that staff approved these updates administratively and course approvals were being shared with the Commission for information purposes only.

Under Report from Staff, Dr. Tremblay informed the Commission that with the upcoming retirement of Ms. Evans, in the interim, her specific job duties will be assigned to existing staff. At the end of the fiscal year, an evaluation will be conducted to determine if there is a need to hire a permanent replacement.

Ms. Marabella provided the Commission with an update on the aftermath of the closure of American Commercial College, formerly located in Shreveport, and that the student records from the closed school have been transferred to this office for safekeeping as required by law.

The next meeting of the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, May 14, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., in an alternate meeting room (Room 1-165) of the Claiborne Building. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

APPENDIX A  
GUESTS

Mary Alcee	Alpha Medical College, LLC
Byron Basco	Amazing Careers in Dental Assisting, LLC
Angelique Duhon Freel	LA Department of Justice
Vaughn Hartunian	Fortis College
Danny Head	Unitech Training Academy, Inc.
Shannon Newchurch	Amazing Careers in Dental Assisting, LLC
Mary Elizabeth Ricaud	Fortis College