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**Minutes**  
**Board of Regents' Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission**  
**September 16, 2020**

The Louisiana Board of Regents' Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission met virtually on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at 10:01. Chair Fontenot called the meeting to order. Following an introduction and word of welcome from Chair Fontenot to new Commission member Chris Broadwater, an appointee of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, and the administering of the Oath of Office to Mr. Broadwater by Assistant Attorney General Patricia Wilton, the roll was called.

**Commission Member Present**

Melanie Amrhein  
Chris Broadwater  
James Dorris  
James Fontenot, Chair  
Jada Lewis  
Mary Lou Potter

**Commission Members Absent**

Sherrie Despino  
Carmen Million

**Staff Members Present**

Courtney Britton  
Chandra Cheatham  
Kristi Kron  
Denise Kirkland

**Guests Present**

(See Appendix A)

The first item of business was the approval of the minutes from its meeting of July 14, 2020.

**On motion of Melanie Amrhein, seconded by Chris Broadwater, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously adopted the minutes of the July 14, 2020 Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission meeting.**

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was an initial license application from iWeld Institute, LLC, located in Houma, Louisiana, and represented by the school's owner, Mr. Derrick Prentice. Ms. Britton reviewed the materials for the Commission members, informing them that the institution was proposing to offer one program of study in Basic Welding that would be a 280 clock hours program and that iWeld Institute, LLC, had met all the legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion regarding the market for skilled welders, iWeld's curriculum with focus on hands on training, plans for bringing women and minorities into the welding field, the potential income for certified welders, tuition costs of the program, and the school's plans for implementing safety measures to address Covid-19 protocols.

**On motion of James Dorris, seconded by Mary Lou Potter, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents approve an initial operating license for iWeld Institute, LLC, located in Houma, Louisiana.**

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was an initial license application from The Microblading Institute, located in Maurice, Louisiana, and represented by the school's owner, Mrs. Victoria Racca. Ms. Kron reviewed the materials for the Commission members, informing them that the institution was proposing to offer one program of study in Microblading Basics that would be a 28 clock hours program and that The Microblading Institute, had met all the legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion regarding the history and industry of microblading, where

students might find employment after completing the program, marketing plans for the school, the need for more skilled microblading practitioners in Louisiana, and specifics of the class and program structure, possible expansion, tuition costs and potential salary ranges for microblading artists.

**On motion of Melanie Amrhein, seconded by James Dorris, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents approve an initial operating license for The Microblading Institute, located in Maurice, Louisiana.**

The next agenda item considered by the Commission involved a change of ownership license application from United Training Academy, formerly New Horizons Computer Learning Center of New Orleans. United Training Academy is a limited liability company that is located in Metairie, Louisiana, and was represented by the institution's Manager of Career Development Compliance, Alexis Amburgey. This school has been licensed by the Board of Regents since May 25, 2000. Ms. Kron reminded the Commission that the Proprietary Schools Law requires that a change of ownership be treated no differently than an initial license application. Under the change of ownership at United Training Academy, the new owner is continuing to offer the following programs: Network System Administrator Professional - 540 clock hours / 30 Weeks, Security IT Associate - 180 clock hours / 10 Weeks, Medical Office Administration - 180 clock hours / 10 Weeks, Business Administration Professional - 540 clock hours / 25 Weeks, and Business Administration Associate - 216 clock hours / 12 Weeks. United Training Academy had met all the legal and administrative requirements to be approved for a change of ownership license.

Following further discussion regarding student funding for programs from GI Bills, Workforce funding and how students pay for courses, as well as internships for students, motivation for the sale of original franchise and the new owner's purchase of this location and several other schools across the country, as well as the stability of upper management structure.

**On motion of Mary Lou Potter, seconded by Chris Broadwater, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously recommends that the Board of Regents approve a change of ownership license for United Training Academy, located in Metairie, Louisiana.**

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was operating license renewals. Ms. Britton informed the Commission members that there were thirty (30) schools seeking renewal. These schools scheduled for renewal were in complete compliance, having met all the legal and administrative requirements to be re-licensed.

**On motion of Melanie Amrhein, seconded by Mary Lou Potter, 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).**

**AAA Crane and Rigging, LLC (8/28/19)**  
**Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy - Baton Rouge (08/26/15)**  
**Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy - Denham Springs (08/24/11)**  
**Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy - Lafayette (08/26/15)**  
**Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy - Monroe (08/26/15)**  
**Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy – Slidell (08/26/15)**  
**Advance Nursing Training, LLC (08/27/14)**  
**Arch Dental Assistant Academy (Formerly: Louisiana Dental Assistant Academy (Baton Rouge)) (08/28/19)**  
**Ark-La-Tex Dental Assisting Academy (08/26/10)**  
**Aspire Medical Training Academy (08/24/16)**  
**Baton Rouge School of Computers (08/28/97)**  
**Camelot College (08/28/86)**  
**Coastal College—Alexandria (08/28/97)**  
**Crescent City School of Gaming & Bartending (09/14/83)**  
**Digital Media Institute at InterTech (08/27/14)**

**Fortis College (08/26/10)**  
**Healthcare Training Institute (08/27/08)**  
**Life Care, LLC (08/21/13)**  
**Louisiana Driver Training & Vocational Career Center, Inc. (08/28/19)**  
**Medical Training College (08/22/96)**  
**N.O.D.C. School for Dental Assisting (08/24/11)**  
**Opelousas Academy of Nondestructive Testing (08/23/17)**  
**RelyOn Nutec USA, LLC (08/24/11)**  
**Remington College - Baton Rouge Campus (08/23/17)**  
**River Cities School of Dental Assisting, Inc. (08/24/06)**  
**Rock Bridge Training Institute, LLC (08/26/15)**  
**Stick It Phlebotomy (08/26/15)**  
**Unitech Training Academy--Lake Charles (08/27/09)**  
**Universal Technical Institute of Northern Texas, LLC (08/24/16)**  
**Vista College (08/23/17)**

Ms. Britton informed the Commission that there was one institution that did not renew their license this renewal cycle and one that closed prior to its renewal next cycle: Louisiana Dental Assistant Academy (Alexandria) and Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy - Mandeville. Both schools were operated by organizations who maintain currently licensed schools in Louisiana and staff has confirmed that the corporations will continue to maintain student records for the closed schools.

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

Under Report from Staff, Ms. Denise Kirkland of the Board of Regents' Finance Division presented a financial summary of the proprietary school activities, as well as a summary of the Student Record Administration Account of the Student Protection Fund for FY 2019-2020. Ms. Britton shared with the Commission a numerical summary of proprietary school activities for the past fiscal year. Commission members asked if staff had seen any change in the number of open schools

due to Covid. Ms. Britton shared that staff believes that any Covid-19 effects would be more apparent on FY21 numbers, and that based on staff's conversations with current schools there is an expectation of increased program additions or modifications as schools work to add online or hybrid courses to their catalogs. Ms. Britton also added that staff had been in touch with schools located in Lake Charles after Hurricane Laura, and that all schools had escaped major damage and the storm had limited effect on operations compared to other post-secondary schools in the area.

Under Other Business, Ms. Britton discussed the schedule of proposed meeting dates for calendar year 2021 for members to review for formal adoption at the November 2020 meeting of the Commission. The next meeting of the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, 2020, at 10:00 a.m, but format will be decided closer to time based on the current phase of reopening. Mr. Dorris and the other commission members extend additional welcome to Mr. Broadwater and there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

APPENDIX A  
GUESTS

Alexis Amburgey

United Training Academy

Derek Prentiss

iWeld Institute, LLC

Victoria Racca

The Microblading Institute

Patricia Wilton

LA Department of Justice