

Proposed Agenda Item

Board of Trustees Meeting

Complete this form and submit it to the Office of the President by 5:00 pm on the eleventh day before the following Tuesday meeting of the Board of Trustees. If this form does not provide enough space, you may use an expanded version *as long as you follow the format specified below*.

Date of Board Meeting: July 21, 2020 Date of This Proposal: June 17, 2020

SUBJECT: Approval for the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) Grant

RECOMMENDATION: Approval for \$200,000 TEES award

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE: This item explains the use of funding (\$200,000) from the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES): Nuclear Engineering and Science Center for the enhancement of the Learning Assistance Centers and other support to improve student learning and retention. The Learning Assistant Centers, located on the Wharton, Richmond, and Sugar Land Campuses, provide tutoring support to all students to help improve their success, ultimately improving retention and graduation rates.

First, TEES funds aid in converting the tutoring labs into Facilitated Learning Centers that will engage students more broadly than the current discipline-specific tutoring services. The Learning Facilitator and other support personnel will create workshops, study groups, and student engagement sessions on a myriad of topics such as success tips on learning and utilization of online student support resources. Second, the funds support the purchase of additional instructional materials specifically for the nuclear power labs in Bay City. Third, the funds provide for the addition of a collaborative student area in the Pioneer Student Center. The collaborative student area supports career assessments and development, academic group advising and registration, plus presentations to promote STEM fields. All of these student support services focus on graduating highly qualified students to meet the workforce needs in highly skilled STEM fields.

Estimated Cost and Budgetary Support (how will this be paid for?): <u>\$200,000 grant</u>; no cost to the College.

RESOURCE PERSON(S) [name(s) and title(s)]: Leigh Ann Collins, VP of Instruction & Lindsey McPherson, Dean of Student Success

SIGNATURES:

Lindsey McPherson

Originator

Cabinet-Level Supervisor

PRESIDENT'S APPROVAL:

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Date

Date

7-14-20

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