

**MINUTES**  
**LOUISIANA OPTICAL NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE**  
**MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

October 13, 2020

The Louisiana Optical Network Infrastructure (LONI) Management Council (MC) met at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 13, 2020 virtually. Dr. Mike Asoodeh, Chair, called the meeting to order and asked for a roll call. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

**Council Members Present:**

Mike Asoodeh  
Kenneth Boe  
Gene Fields  
Paul Helton  
Lonnie Leger  
Brad Masters  
Ramu Ramachandran  
J. Ram Ramanujam  
Rachel Vincent-Finley  
Craig Woolley  
Noel Wong

**Council Members Absent:**

Beth Courtney  
Gabriel Fagbeyiro  
Terrence Ginn  
Richard Howze  
Eric Setz  
Mark Shoemaker

**Guest:**

Lance Neal  
Angela Mastainich

## APPROVAL OF AUGUST MINUTES

**On the motion of Dr. J. Ram Ramanujam, seconded by Mr. Paul Helton, the LONI Management Council voted unanimously to approve the August Council meeting minutes.**

## CHAIR BUSINESS

### FY23-26 SUBSCRIPTION FORMULA RECOMMENDATION

Mr. Lonnie Leger presented the FY23-FY26 subscription formula to the Council. Mr. Leger informed everyone that the formula and numbers would be based on FY21 going forward in FY22-26. Mr. Leger used the remaining time to address any concerns the council had regarding the motion. Additionally, the council was notified that the subscription formula is subject to change based on future conditions. More information is available via email that was sent from Mr. Leger on August 12, 2020. The five-year fee structure is to align with the PaaS offering term. There were concerns with the institutions not having the ability to opt-out of the five-year agreement. There was a request to have a strategic plan, statement of work, and an agreement reviewed by the institutions before the Council approves the five-year subscription formula. There was an additional request to approve the formula annually without the institutions committing to a five-year agreement. The purpose of the motion is to allow a trajectory for recipients and providers. There was a detailed explanation of the derivation of the formula. Regents and LONI will execute the term and conditions annually based on finances and the formula. The Council will receive an analysis on the formula every August. There was a request to approve the formula and components of the formula and explore a five-year commitment option. Dr. Asoodeh notified the council that Southeastern is only able to make the commitment to the subscription for one year at a time, not the complete five-year commitment. Mr. Leger informed the council that the subscription commitment is for five years, which will be paid annually over five year, not all at once. There was further discussion over if the price changes would institutions be able to opt out. Mr. Leger informed the council that when or if price change arises how institutions respond would be further discussed with the Commissioner at that time. The council suggested that language for solutions should be added to the motion before approval for FY23-26.

Mr. Leger clarified that the motion is to approve in principle the components of the formula, which determines what each institution owes. Then it is up to either the executive director or the Commissioner of Higher Education acting on behalf of LONI to negotiate or to come to agreements with the various campuses. "

**On the motion of Mr. Leger, seconded by Mr. Gene Fields, voted to approve the subscription formula as presented for FY23-FY26.**

Dr. Asoodeh and Dr. Rachel Finley abstained from the vote.

#### OFFICER NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

The nominating committee nominated Dr. Rachel Vincent-Finley as the Chair, Dr. Ramu Ramachandran as Vice-Chair, and Mr. Eric Setz as Secretary. The committee recommends that Chair and Vice-Chair serve a 1-year term and change the Vice-Chair title to Chair-Elect. The committee plans to present the bylaw Vice-Chair to Chair-Elect to the Council at the December meeting.

**On the motion of Mr. Fields, seconded by Dr. Asoodeh, the LONI Management Council voted unanimously to accept the nominating committee's nominating committee and revise the term of the chair and secretary.**

#### STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE

The Board of Regents is reviewing the next steps of engagement with the peer-review consultants.

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 1, 2020. The Council received the below dates for upcoming meetings:

- Tuesday, February 23, 2021

- Tuesday, May 11, 2021
- Tuesday, August 24, 2021
- Tuesday, November 30, 2021

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the LONI Management Council, Dr. Asoodeh asked for a motion to adjourn. On the motion of Dr. Ramu Ramachandran, seconded by Mr. Fields, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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