#### Memorandum of Understanding Louisiana Community & Technical College System and Southeastern Louisiana University

## **Honors Pathway**

#### **Purpose**

The Honors Pathway between the Louisiana Community & Technical College System, herein called LCTCS and Southeastern Louisiana University, herein called Southeastern, will continue to enhance both the efficiency and effectiveness of post-secondary education for Louisiana.

This partnership motivates high-achieving students to take full advantage of the additional support for academic development provided by honors program membership at every level. The purpose of this pathway is to establish a partnership between Southeastern and LCTCS to promote educational excellence, facilitate seamless transfer pathways, and enhance opportunities for students to engage in honors education.

The primary goal of this agreement is to facilitate a seamless transfer for 2-year college students with honors status wishing to continue honors programming while they complete the bachelor's degree.

## **Implementation**

LCTCS colleges, who currently have an honors program or pathway or who may start an honors program or pathway in the future, and Southeastern agree to partner to offer the Honors Pathway to high-achieving students seeking to build upon their community college academic foundation and transfer into the Honors Program at Southeastern.

Additionally, Southeastern will work with LCTCS to facilitate routine inter-system communication between honors program leaders that will celebrate honors student scholarship and provide opportunities to collaborate.

Participating colleges of the Louisiana Community & Technical College System will:

- Offer an honors program or pathway comprised of general education honors courses on the transfer pathway.
- Offer honors courses to students who meet well-defined and rigorous eligibility requirements for honors program/pathway participation.
- Identify the honors courses on the transcript.

- Offer timely and frequent advising to honors students to oversee their progress toward transfer.
- Identify an honors liaison to coordinate with Southeastern's Honors Program and provide opportunities to recruit honors students on campus.

#### Southeastern will also:

- Admit into the Southeastern Honors Program any LCTCS Honors Program completer that meets Southeastern's active honors status threshold.
- Support LCTCS honors programming through sharing best practices for honors contract courses, curriculum, programming, and assessment.
- Accept up to 9 honors credits from the transfer pathway toward Southeastern's Honors Diploma for any transferring LCTCS Honors Program student.
  Southeastern's Honors Director retains the right to award additional hours of honors credit at his or her discretion.
- Accept LCTCS honors courses as their equivalent honors courses at Southeastern.
- Provide personalized transfer planning advice to LCTCS students regarding Honors Program admission and graduation requirements and the details of this partnership.
- Grant honors transfer students all perks given to existing Southeastern honors students (e.g., priority registration, research presentation opportunities, participation in Honors Student Association events and leadership roles, eligibility for College of Honors & Excellence Ambassadors)

## **Program Modification**

Changes may be made to this agreement at any time with a 60-day notice and mutual understanding of Southeastern Louisiana University and the Louisiana Community & Technical College System. This agreement is effective upon signing and can be terminated only through a written notice to the other party 90 days prior to the date of termination.

# **Approval**

Signatures below demonstrate an understanding and agreement with the above-listed provisions and that to the extent permitted by law the Louisiana Community & Technical College System will hereby hold harmless, discharge, and release Southeastern Louisiana University from any and all liability, claims, causes of actions, damages or demands of any kind and nature whatsoever that may arise from or in connection with the participation in the Honors Pathway.

This agreement is in effect from December 1, 2024 until December 31, 2029. At that time, presidents will revisit the agreement to ensure it continues to address the needs of transfer honors students and the academic institutions that serve them.

Dr. William S. Wainwright, President Southeastern Louisiana University

December 11, 2024

Dr. Monty Sullivan, President Louisiana Community & Technical

College System

December 11, 2024