Louisiana Board of Regents Academic Program Progress Report

DATE: August 23, 2018

Name of institution submitting report:

University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Title/ CIP/ Degree/Certificate Awarded upon completion:

Master of Science in Informatics

Date approved by Board of Regents:

May 22, 2017

Date program initiated:

January 2018

Contact Person & Access Info (if clarification is needed):

Michael W. Totaro, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Associate Director (Operations) and Informatics (MS) Graduate Coordinator

School of Computing and Informatics Ray P. Authement College of Sciences University of Louisiana at Lafayette James R. Oliver Hall, Room 203

P. O. Box 41808

Lafayette, LA 70504-1808

USA

Office: (337) 482-5697 Fax: (337) 482-5791 Email: miket@louisiana.edu

1. Brief description of the program and what has been accomplished since approval by Board of Regents.

The Mission and Purpose of the Master of Science in Informatics (MSI) program at UL Lafayette are to educate graduate students in the application of the scientific method to computing and information technologies, as well as to educate graduate students in the design, maintenance, and adaptation of information systems that solve problems pertinent to human needs. MSI graduates will be prepared to design and implement technological solutions in a range of industries and organizations. In particular, the MSI program focuses on the information technology aspect of enterprise computing, including the analytics, reporting, database management and other software solutions systems. The curriculum incorporates courses in informatics and computing and is designed so students can apply their degree at any level in, and across, any organization or area.

Since approval by the Board of Regents, much has been accomplished. All courses were approved by the various curriculum committees, and were subsequently created and entered into the Catalog. Concurrently, the Graduate School, along with the University's Office of Communications & Marketing, made available considerable time and resources to deploy a Web presence for the new M.S. Informatics program, as well as to advertise and market the program. The projected enrollment for Year 1 was 10. Enrollment for the Spring 2018 exceeded this projection, with 17 students enrolled. Additionally, the University provided full Graduate Assistantship support to two M.S. Informatics students. As indicated in the approved program proposal, four courses were rolled out in Spring 2018 (inaugural semester), as follows:

- INFX 500 Introduction to Informatics
- **INFX 501 Foundations of Informatics**
- INFX 510 Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) in Informatics
- INFX 540 Informatics Network Infrastructures and Management

Barring any unforeseen issues, we will adhere to the course rollout plan as indicated in the program proposal.

Interest in the program continues to grow, as evidenced by current "unofficial" enrollment of 22 graduate students for Fall 2018. Moreover, applications for Spring 2019 and Fall 2019 are already in the pipeline.

2. Enrollment Data

Enrollment – Graduate Program:	
Declared Majors	
Fall 2017	N/A
Spring 2018	17

3. Completer Data

Completers	
	N/A
	N/A