



**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM  
BOARD OF REGENTS  
SPECIAL CALLED TELEPHONE MEETING  
OCTOBER 15, 2012**

CONVENE IN OPEN SESSION TO RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO *TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE*, CHAPTER 551

9:00 a.m.

1. Consultation with Attorney Regarding Legal Matters or Pending and/or Contemplated Litigation or Settlement Offers – Section 551.071
  - a. **U. T. System Board of Regents: Discussion with Counsel on pending legal issues**
  - b. **U. T. System Board of Regents: Discussion regarding legal issues concerning a proposed master agreement with edX Inc. related to online and blended learning**
2. Personnel Matters Relating to Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Assignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of Officers or Employees – Section 551.074

**U. T. System: Discussion and appropriate action regarding individual personnel matters relating to appointment, employment, evaluation, compensation, assignment, and duties of presidents (academic and health institutions), U. T. System Administration officers (Executive Vice Chancellors and Vice Chancellors), other officers reporting directly to the Board (Chancellor, General Counsel to the Board, and Chief Audit Executive), and U. T. System and institutional employees**

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION TO CONSIDER ACTION, IF ANY, ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS AND TO CONSIDER AGENDA ITEM

9:30 a.m.

**U. T. System Board of Regents: Discussion and appropriate action concerning a proposed master agreement with edX Inc. related to online and blended learning**

**Action**  
*Chancellor Cigarroa*

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ADJOURN

10:00 a.m.

**U. T. System Board of Regents: Discussion and appropriate action concerning a proposed master agreement with edX Inc. related to online and blended learning**

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs, and the Vice Chancellor and General Counsel that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve execution of a master agreement to be entered into between The University of Texas System and edX Inc. related to online and blended learning and delegate to Chancellor Cigarroa authority to execute and take actions necessary to implement the agreement.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

edX Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation founded by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to provide excellence in online and blended education for the purpose of transforming and enhancing the quality, efficiency, and scale of education through technology and research for the benefit of campus-based students and the worldwide community of online and blended learners. Working collaboratively with edX Inc., the U. T. System will provide courses, through the edX website, that will reflect sound instructional design and active and collaborative learning, such as embedded diagnostics, personalized adaptive learning tools, and learning analytics.

A partnership between edX Inc. and the U. T. System can benefit all U. T. System institution students by expanding access to courses of the highest quality taught by noted experts and by accelerating time to degree while reducing costs. The partnership will also augment research to better understand student learning aimed at enhancing student success.

Additionally, the U. T. System will join Harvard, MIT, and the University of California at Berkeley in launching the X University Consortium (Consortium). The Consortium will consist of institutional members who will gather to share best practices in online and blended education and to disseminate new knowledge focused on enhancing student learning and outcomes.