REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL #2020-001
Digital Badging/Micro Credential Platform
RESPONSE ADDENDUM #01

DATE: August 28, 2019

QUESTIONS

1. Item #32 in the Requirements Section says, "Provide flexible licensing options." Can you please provide greater explanation as to what this means?
    ANSWER: "Flexible licensing options" refers to the pricing options that might vary, such as "by the number of students" and "by the number of campuses" etc.

2. Related, Section 1.1.3 references adult learners. Are these adult learners included in the ~40,000 students of UMS? Or are these learners additional and, if so, how many should we include and how should they be attributed to each university for pricing purposes?
    ANSWER: Currently, adult learners (those 25+ in age) account for 35% of the UMS enrollment. We anticipate increased enrollment of adults but cannot predict which campuses this enrollment may occur at. The percentage of adults varies by campus – % of enrollment: UMA: approx. 57% (of 4100 students), UM: approx. 6% (of 11404), USM: approx. 20% (of 8140); UMF, 5% (of 2040); UMFK 26% (of 1794); UMPI 21% (of 1554) and UMM 32% (of 675).

3. Does UMS intend to phase in use of the digital badging platform, meaning in year one, a cohort of students will employ the platform, in year two a second cohort will be added, in year three a third cohort will be added and then by year 4 the full learner population will be using the platform? If so, how large will each cohort be at east university?
    ANSWER: This will be phased in but we have no way of anticipating the size of each cohort nor can we predict by campus.

4. Could you please describe your desired workflow?
    ANSWER: We are seeking a solution that will serve all campuses of UMS. Accordingly, we are interested in pricing options that would allow selection of either site-wide licensing or an FTE-based model that may offer a greater value proposition. Our desire to partner with a vendor/platform to design and derive an optimal workflow to support learners across the UMS.

5. Is integration with the Learning Management System required?
    ANSWER: Optimally, yes

6. Are you trying to automate the issuance of badges to streamline processes?
    ANSWER: We are looking to automate elements of the process, but not necessarily the entire process. As noted in #4 above, the design of the workflow should be done with the vendor/platform to optimize the process and experience.

7. Are you expecting students to claim badges or do you want to automate this process?
    ANSWER: As noted in #4 above, we expect the design of the workflow to be done in partnership with the vendor/platform to optimize the process and experience.

8. Is it important for the solution to provide students with a unified learner profile to store not only the badges with their evidence but also other important artifacts to show evidence of additional skills attained through the curriculum and

experiences?
ANSWER: This is our ultimate goal but the starting point is focused on the badges

9. How do you anticipate the roll out of the badging initiative? Will all campuses participate with all students or do you anticipate each campus starting at different times with certain cohorts and scaling over time? Any anticipated estimate of how many students will be involved from the start and expected growth across the system/ per campus over the life of the contract?
ANSWER: We anticipate different start dates with different cohorts and scaling over time. This is a new initiative and we cannot anticipate expected growth.