

MINUTES

EDUCATION COMMITTEE, BOARD OF REGENTS 1820 Van Hise Hall Madison, Wisconsin

December 4, 1997

The December 4, 1997 meeting of the Education Committee was called to order by Regent Jay Smith at 1:10 p.m. All regents were invited to the first portion of the meeting. Present were Regents Barry, Benson, Boyle, Brandes, DeBraska, De Simone, Hempel, James, Lubar, MacNeil, Marcovich, Mohs, Orr, Randall, and Staszak.

1. 1997 Accountability Report.

In the all-regents session, President Katharine Lyall presented the UW System 1997 Accountability Report. She reported that, despite budget reductions, the UW System has met 13 of 18 accountability goals. Students and alumni satisfaction surveys give the System high marks. Ninety-three percent of UW System graduates report having found employment or continued their education, two percent are still seeking work, and five percent report they are not looking for work. Ninety-three percent of Wisconsin employers rate UW System graduates as having excellent or good basic skills and excellent or good professional knowledge and skills. President Lyall observed that UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee combined brought in nearly \$305 million in external funding for research in 1997.

Among areas of concern, i.e., where the UW System did not improve, President Lyall cited facilities maintenance, a decline in the overall faculty share of instruction, and a slight decline in the six-year graduation rate. The UW System's graduation rate of 54 percent for full-time students is significantly higher than the national average of 42.7 percent.

Characterizing the report as very good, Regent Smith cited two areas of difficulty which he represents as trends, rather than problems of the moment: (1) the decreasing proportion of faculty contact hours with students, and (2) facilities maintenance. In response to Regent Orr's question of whether the issue of decreased faculty time with students is a function of including the doctoral campuses, President Lyall stated that she expects this trend to be characteristic of most System institutions, since they have made substantial use of teaching academic staff in response to budget cuts. Regent Hempel noted that perhaps this trend should not be noted as a negative one, but rather as a reflection of efficiency. Regent Staszak encouraged the committee to examine the effect of the increased use of academic staff on students, especially in areas like advising, that depend heavily on out-of-class contact.

Regent Barry observed that, rather than adopting a competitive stance toward Wisconsin's other educational institutions, the UW System might be better served by working with them to assist potential students to find the type of institution most appropriate to their goals.

Following a discussion of planning for the 1999-2001 biennial budget, this portion of the meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m. After a brief recess, the Education Committee reassembled at 2:15 p.m. Present were Regents Benson, Boyle, MacNeil, Orr, Randall, Smith and Staszak. Regent Randall left the meeting in progress.

2. Approval of the minutes of the November 6, 1997, meeting of the Education Committee.

97-86 It was moved by Regent Randall, seconded by Regent Staszak, that the minutes of the November 6, 1997, meeting of the Education Committee be approved.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

3. Report of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Senior Vice President David J. Ward introduced Ken Frazier, Director, UW-Madison Libraries and Kathy Pletcher, Associate Provost for Information Technology, UW-Green Bay, who made a presentation on libraries' need for traditional holdings. They identified several myths about libraries, e.g., (a) that the Internet is free and everything is there, whereas in reality only about ten percent of new information is on the Web; (b) that books are disappearing, whereas in fact they will not disappear, because they are convenient, easily copyrighted and durable; (c) that all information in the future will be in electronic form, whereas in reality most books, maps and manuscripts are more useful in paper form; and (d) that the library will be unnecessary in the future. In fact, libraries will remain crucial to the selection and organization of information and as a student-centered learning place. They reported that the UW System is falling behind comparable institutions in its ability to maintain information resources.

In response to Regent Staszak's question of whether improving inter-library loan could compensate for the shortage of books, Mr. Frazier predicted that the use of interlibrary loan will soar. Asked by Senior Vice President Ward what kind of investment is required, Mr. Frazier indicated that much of the needed investment for interlibrary loan is in place and that what is needed is incremental investment in a better delivery system to transport library materials physically and electronically. Ms. Pletcher observed that "if we don't own it, we can't loan it." She noted that it costs three times as much to go out of state for a text and this is not always a timely process. In response to Regent Smith's question of why journal costs are rising, Mr. Frazier replied that foreign ownership contributes, as does the fact that subscription rates rise as more libraries cancel their subscriptions. He noted that publishers understand the value of scientific and technical knowledge to the modern world and set their prices accordingly. In response to Regent Benson, Mr. Frazier estimated that approximately 70 percent of the acquisitions budget is devoted to journals. He reported that librarians and others in the academy are beginning to take collective action in response to rising costs.

Asked by Regent Orr to clarify their two-pronged strategy, Ms. Pletcher stated that one was the sharing of information among libraries and the other is purchasing systemwide licenses whenever possible. Regent Orr suggested a legislative strategy along these lines: (1) demonstrate that we are behind and slipping further behind, and (2) prepare a budget request to fix the problem, and (3) demonstrate how we will use such funds efficiently in solving the problem.

Senior Vice President Ward announced that 251 faculty have been selected to receive sabbatical leaves during 1998-99. Of these, 162 are for one semester and 89 for the full academic year. Thirty-three percent were awarded to women and 12 percent to minorities. He noted that the UW System does not receive separate state funding to support sabbaticals.

Senior Vice President Ward reported that UW-Stevens Point intends to search for a Dean, College of Natural Resources, at a salary below the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.

Senior Vice President Ward made three good news announcements: (1) Professor Richard F. James, UW-Whitewater Department of Business Education and Office Systems, is one of 24 recipients of the Leavey Award for Excellence in Private Enterprise Education, presented by the Freedom Foundation, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. (2) More than 1,600 prospective students and another 1,700 guests registered for UW-Milwaukee's third annual Open House, an increase of more than 1,000 persons over the first two events. (3) The Learning Information Center, under the leadership of Executive Director Mike Offerman, is making progress and will report on its activities to the board in the near future.

4. Annual Informational Report of Program Review Activity and Program Changes.

Senior Vice President Ward presented the Annual Information Report of Program Review Activity and Program Changes in the UW System. He noted that during 1996-97:

- 129 institutional level program reviews were received from 15 institutions;
- 10 new articulation agreements were established between WTCS units and UW institutions;
- Seven degree programs were discontinued, as were 29 minors, submajors, concentrations, emphases or certification programs;
- 57 new minors or submajors were added;
- 8 new programs received entitlement to plan;
- 5 new programs received authorization to implement; and
- 9 new programs were implemented.

As part of his report, Senior Vice President Ward introduced a program by UW-Extension on *Program Planning and Decision-making*. Interim Chancellor Albert J. Beaver introduced three panelists: Tom Miller, Associate Vice Chancellor for Extension at UW-Eau Claire; Ellen Fitzsimmons, Associate Dean of Cooperative Extension; and Byron Knight, Director of WHA Television and Wisconsin Public Television. In his introduction, Dr. Beaver observed that, while the presentation focuses on extension programs addressing environmental issues, this is but one example of many from which they could have chosen.

Senior Vice President Ward next invited three individuals to describe programs on their respective campuses. Chancellor Charles Sorensen, UW-Stout, discussed his university's involvement in the Consortium for Doctoral Studies in Technology. Dean Al Hartman, UW-Oshkosh College of Business Administration, discussed trends in university and corporate education, emphasizing university-corporate relationships and the use of technology. Provost John Wiley, UW-Madison, described the MA in Engineering template being developed by the UW-Madison College of Engineering.

5. Update reports.

The committee heard three update reports:

(1) Diversity. Tess Arenas, Assistant to the President for Multicultural Affairs, reported that her office is instituting a Web page, with an e-mail response option. Eighty-five percent of the campus visits have been completed with some institutions requesting a return visit. Over ninety percent of the external surveys have been completed. A draft report will be available in the last half of December. In response to Regent Smith, Dr. Arenas reported that the Web page is being advertised through mailings to campuses and by informing everyone with whom her office is in contact. Responding to Regent MacNeil, Dr. Arenas stated that the business representatives who will be asked to make a presentation in February will be selected from a both national and state employers. Regent Smith emphasized that the deadline for completing the project remains April 1998.

(2) 21st Century. Associate Vice President Kathleen Sell reported on progress made in implementing the 21st Century Study of the UW System. She distributed a matrix indicating the status of each of the 52 recommendations of the Study as of November 1997. She reported that 48 of the 52 items are well underway. Regent Smith commented that the report contains a great deal of material and encouraged committee members to review and respond to it. These responses will be discussed at the committee's February meeting.

(3) Advising. Betsy West, Academic Planner, discussed activities underway to promote advising, e.g.: (1) collaboration with ACT; (2) creation of a UW System Academic Advising Advisory Committee; (3) a pilot advising program to be established at one comprehensive institution; (4) development of a brochure explaining the Transfer Policy; and (5) two projects sponsored by the UW HELP office, namely, (a) a new careers section for the UW System Web site, and (b) development of an academic advising module for distance education students.

6. New Program Authorizations.

The committee heard a first review of the proposed Biomedical Engineering program at UW-Madison. Dean John Bollinger presented the program. Responding to a question from Regent MacNeil, Dean Bollinger stated that the program had been in development approximately three years.

7. Revision to UW System Freshman Admission Policy.

97-87 It was moved by Regent Staszak, seconded by Regent Benson, that the revised UW System Freshman Admissions Policy be adopted.

The motion passed unanimously.

In discussion following passage of the motion, Regent MacNeil sought assurance that the Competency-Based Admission Policy not be used to replace the traditional admission process. Senior Vice President Ward noted that the number of students using the Competency-Based process would probably be low in the first few years. Regent Benson agreed that it will take some

time for the policy to take hold and emphasized that training must be provided to high school personnel if the policy is to be used widely.

Responding to Regent MacNeil's request, Senior Vice President Ward agreed that the UW System will report annually on the number of applicants using the Competency-Based Admission process, doing so in the Occasional Research Brief on New Freshman Admissions. In addition, students opting for this approach will be tracked to determine their success, and a report will be provided in three years indicating how well they have done.

Senior Vice President Ward clarified that the Competency-Based option is part of the regular admissions process and not subject to limitations established for the number of exceptional admissions allowed on each campus. In response to a concern raised by Regent MacNeil, he emphasized that standards will not be lowered by instituting the Competency-Based Admission process.

8. Revised Faculty Personnel Rules: UW-Extension.

97-88 It was moved by Regent MacNeil, seconded by Regent Boyle, that the revised Faculty Personnel Rules, UW-Extension, be adopted.

The motion passed unanimously.

9. Closed session to consider personnel matters, as permitted by s.19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats.

It was moved by Regent Staszak, seconded by Regent Benson, that the committee adjourn to closed session to consider personnel matters, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats.

The resolution PASSED by a roll call vote, with Regents Benson, Boyle, MacNeil and Staszak voting "yes," and no regents voting "no."

In closed session:

Regent Staszak moved and Regent Boyle seconded the motion to approve the following resolutions reappointing and appointing Wisconsin Distinguished Professors:

97-89 Richard Amasino, Department of Biochemistry, College of Letters and Sciences, UW-Madison (January 1, 1998 through December 31, 2002);

97-90 Y. Austin Chang, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, College of Engineering, UW-Madison (January 1, 1998 through December 31, 2002);

97-91 Michael L. Corradini, Department of Engineering Physics and Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering, UW-Madison (January 1, 1998 through December 31, 2002);

97-92 Alan C. Filley, School of Business, UW-Madison (January 1, 1998 through December 31, 2002);

- 97-93 James E. Hodder, School of Business, UW-Madison (July 1, 1997 through August 31, 2002);
- 97-94 John R. Nevin, School of Business, UW-Madison (January 1, 1998 through December 31, 2002);
- 97-95 Urban Wemmerlov, School of Business, UW-Madison (January 1, 1998 through December 31, 2002);
- 97-96 Michael W. Pariza, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, UW-Madison (January 1, 1998 through December 31, 2002).

The motion PASSED unanimously.

- 97-97 It was moved by Regent MacNeil, seconded by Regent Benson, that Michael C. Fiore, Department of Medicine, UW-Madison, be appointed to the Glaxo Wellcome Professorship for Study of Tobacco Dependence, effective immediately.

The motion PASSED unanimously.

- 97-98 It was moved by Regent MacNeil, seconded by Regent Staszak, that a base salary adjustment be approved for a specified individual, UW-Madison, resulting in a salary above the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.

The motion PASSED unanimously.

Resolutions I.1.h, I.1.i., and I.1.k.(1) through I.1.k.(9) were referred to the full session of the Board at its Friday, December 5, 1997 meeting.

Resolution I.1.k.(10) was referred to closed session of the full Board at its Friday, December 5, 1997 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.