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

November 5, 1998

The November 5, 1998 meeting of the Education Committee was called to order by Regent JoAnne Brandes at 1:50 p.m. Present were Regents Benson, Boyle, MacNeil, Randall, Smith and Staszak.

1. Approval of the minutes of the October 8, 1998 meeting of the Education Committee.

It was moved by Regent Boyle seconded by Regent Benson, that the minutes of the October 8, 1998, meeting of the Education Committee be approved.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

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

Senior Vice President Ward had two good news items: (1) announcing that the UW-Milwaukee Foundation has received a gift of $1 million from the Rath Foundation to establish the V. Duane Rath Merit Scholarship Fund, which will provide scholarships to top undergraduate business students at UWM who graduated from a high school or transferred from a University of Wisconsin College; and (2) congratulating UW-Madison and its School of Business on the school’s being ranked in the top 25 U.S. business schools by Business Week magazine.

Senior Vice President Ward responded to the report on teacher supply and demand recently released by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. The report’s general methodology matches persons who have completed a teacher certification program in the last 12 months with new teacher hires in Wisconsin’s public schools as of the third Friday in September. On this basis it attempts to assess the general supply of, and demand for, teachers in many fields, including elementary special education. Senior Vice President Ward noted that generalizing from the data and methodology leads to several conclusions about employment of teacher education graduates that are not entirely supported by the data. For example, the report does not count individuals: (1) hired in a private K-12 school in Wisconsin; (2) hired after the third Friday in September in a Wisconsin public school; (3) hired or taking a job in a K-12 school located out of state; and (4) working part-time or as a substitute teacher in Wisconsin. Senior Vice President Ward noted that the UW System worked with DPI to include an appendix in the current Supply and Demand report that helps interpret the new hire data and explains what else needs to be taken into account to get a complete picture of job prospects and employment of teacher education graduates. In addition, a project is in development that may lead to a follow-up survey of 1997-98 teacher education graduates to get an accurate benchmark of their employment status after graduation. The goal of these and related efforts is to improve the accuracy of information provided to Wisconsin teacher education students and graduates.

Senior Vice President Ward introduced Chancellor William Messner, UW Colleges, who introduced a presentation on the status of the UW Colleges. Chancellor Messner noted that FTE
has increased from 5,983 in 1996 to 6,901 in 1998, and reviewed strategies for promoting the colleges, including a new name and logo, market research, and expanded and more coordinated advertising. He stressed that the Colleges’ goal is to serve students “anytime and anyplace” by functioning as a single integrated institution operating out of 13 primary sites and using overall resources to achieve efficiencies of scale. Methods of achieving this goal include the enhanced use of distance education, improved collaboration with UW System, and collaboration with the Wisconsin Technical College System. Finally, Chancellor Messner described a proposed improved salary structure for faculty and staff, as well as the goal of shifting emphasis from instructional academic staff to full-time faculty through a more integrated use of faculty resources and program delivery systems.

Rex Heiser, Chair of the UW Colleges Senate Steering Committee, added a faculty perspective to Chancellor Messner’s remarks. Professor Heiser noted that the mood of College faculty is generally positive in light of increased enrollments and the increased funding that comes with them. He noted that, while supported by the faculty, the activities described by Chancellor Messner take time and institutional resources away from more traditional faculty activities.

In response to a question from Regent Smith, Professor Heiser said the situation with regard to supplies has improved, e.g., strides are being made in upgrading computer capacity for faculty. Responding to Regent MacNeil, Chancellor Messner noted that campuses are working with UW-Extension in program development. In response to Regent Brandes, the Chancellor observed that academic areas represent the greatest challenge for integrating programming. Responding to Regent Staszak, he noted that the Colleges are seeking involvement in areas beyond their thirteen sites, with efforts being made in the River Falls area, as well as in Madison and Milwaukee. Responding to Regent Boyle, Chancellor Messner said the physical capacity of the thirteen College campuses is approximately 8,000 students, adding that the use of distance education technology could raise that figure to 9,000-10,000 students. Regent Smith praised the progress made by the Colleges and voiced his support for the strategies and concepts articulated by the Chancellor.

3. **Authorizations to Recruit.**

Regent Staszak moved, and Regent MacNeil seconded the motion, to approve the following four motions:

98-70 That the Chancellor of UW-La Crosse be authorized to recruit for a Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, at a salary that may exceed the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.

98-71 That the President of the UW System be authorized to recruit for a Chancellor, UW-Whitewater, at a salary that may exceed the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.

98-72 That the Chancellor of UW-Eau Claire be authorized to recruit for a Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, at a salary that may exceed the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.
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98-73 That the Chancellor of UW-Eau Claire be authorized to recruit for a Vice Chancellor for Business and Student Services.

The motion PASSED unanimously.

4. UW System Information Technology Report.

Edward Meachen, Associate Vice President for Learning and Information Technology, reviewed the highlights of the 1998 University of Wisconsin System Information Technology Report. Responding to Regent Boyle, Associate Vice President Meachen observed that, in terms of technology, distance education and the network are one and the same. Senior Vice President Ward suggested adding a program section to the report in order to demonstrate the outcomes produced as a result of the UW System’s investment in information technology.

5. New Program Authorizations.

98-74 It was moved by Regent Staszek, seconded by Regent Benson, that the Chancellor of UW-Platteville be authorized to implement the M.S. in Project Management.

In discussion, Regent Randall voiced two concerns: (1) that the program is not based on prior experience with a B.A. in Project Management, and (2) about the market for program graduates.

The motion PASSED unanimously.

The committee held an initial review of a proposed B.S. in Computer Engineering, UW-Madison. Michael Corradini, Associate Dean of Engineering, introduced the program. Regent MacNeil voiced strong support for the program. Regent Randall agreed with Regent MacNeil, noting that the degree has great currency at the B.A. level and encouraging the department to seriously consider qualified women and minorities for the two positions for which it is recruiting.


Tess Arenas, Assistant to the President for Multicultural Affairs, reviewed the status of Plan 2008 and noted that it has received a positive response from individuals and institutions across the country. Responding to Regent MacNeil, Dr. Arenas observed that the current national climate is not conducive to efforts like this one. Regent Randall praised the UW System’s recognition of women of color systemwide in a ceremony held at UW-Eau Claire. He emphasized the impressive contributions to the UW System made by the individuals honored at the ceremony and emphasized that the event left a clear impression that UW System is serious about Plan 2008.

7. Additional items.

The committee reviewed a proposed 1998-99 work agenda comprised of five major topics: (1) Diversity; (2) Faculty for the 21st Century; (3) Accreditation; (4) K-12 and the UW; and (5) International Education.
8. Closed session to consider personnel matters, as permitted by s.19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats.

It was moved by Regent Randall, seconded by Regent Staszak, 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 Brandes, Boyle, MacNeil, Randall, and Staszak voting “yes,” and no regents voting “no.”

In closed session:

98-75 It was moved by Regent MacNeil, seconded by Regent Staszak, that Carolyn Aita, College of Engineering and Applied Science, UW-Milwaukee, be reappointed Wisconsin Distinguished Professor, for the period July 1, 1998 to June 30, 2003.

The motion PASSED unanimously.

Regent Boyle moved, and Regent MacNeil seconded the motion, to approve the following five motions:


98-77 That Mark S. Boyce, College of Natural Resources, UW-Stevens Point, be reappointed Wisconsin Distinguished Professor, for the period January 1, 1999 to December 31, 2003.

98-78 That Roderic S. Lakes, College of Engineering, UW-Madison, be appointed Wisconsin Distinguished Professor, for the period January 1, 1999 to December 31, 2003.

98-79 That Robert W. Pricer, College of Business, UW-Madison, be appointed Wisconsin Distinguished Professor, for the period January 1, 1999 to December 31, 2003.

98-80 That Rolf D. Reitz, College of Engineering, UW-Madison, be appointed Wisconsin Distinguished Professor, for the period January 1, 1999 to December 31, 2003.

The motion PASSED unanimously.

98-81 It was moved by Regent MacNeil, seconded by Regent Boyle, that the Chancellor at UW-Madison be authorized to approve a base salary adjustment, resulting in a salary that exceeds the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.

The motion PASSED unanimously.
98-82  It was moved by Regent Randall, seconded by Regent Boyle, that the Chancellor at UW-Madison be authorized to approve a base salary adjustment, resulting in a salary that exceeds the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.

The motion PASSED unanimously.

98-83  It was moved by Regent MacNeil, seconded by Regent Randall, that the Chancellor at UW-La Crosse be authorized to appoint an Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

The motion PASSED unanimously.

Resolutions I.1.c.(1), (2), (4), and (5); I.1.e.(1), and I.1.h.(1) through (6) were referred to the full session of the Board at its Friday, November 6, 1998 meeting.

Resolutions I.1.h.(8), (9), and (10) were referred to closed session of the full board following its Friday, November 6, 1998 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.