

MINUTES

EDUCATION COMMITTEE, BOARD OF REGENTS 19th Floor Van Hise Hall Madison, Wisconsin

September 10, 1998

The September 10, 1998 meeting of the Education Committee was called to order by Regent JoAnne Brandes at 1:30 p.m. Present were Regents Benson, Boyle, MacNeil, Randall, Staszak and Smith.

1. Approval of the minutes of the June 4, 1998 meeting of the Education Committee.

It was moved by Regent Staszak, seconded by Regent Boyle, that the minutes of the June 4, 1998 meeting of the Education Committee be approved.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

2. 1998-99 Education Committee Agenda.

Regent Brandes distributed a list of suggested 1998-99 agenda items for consideration by the committee. Items included are: (1) following up the major 1997-98 areas of advising, diversity, technology, UW Colleges and UW-Extension; (2) completing the UW Colleges discussion; (3) advising in relation to the 1999-01 budget request; (4) diversity; (5) PK-12 and the UW; (6) accreditation; (7) financial aid; (8) public broadcasting; (9) curricular changes in higher education; (10) distance education; and (11) international education. Regent Brandes noted that United Council would like the committee to consider transfer issues and differential tuition.

Regent MacNeil emphasized the importance of following up on last year's major areas and encouraged examination of the relationship between UW institutions and PK-12 schools. In response to a question from Regent Benson, Regent Brandes stated that the committee would look at specific outcomes for each item and noted that a general goal is to educate regents. She will develop and circulate a committee work plan. Regent Staszak urged early consideration of differential tuition and public broadcasting. Regent Randall proposed that the committee examine the question of the board's role in tenure issues. Regent Boyle supported the main ideas on the list, noting that others can be added as appropriate. Regent Smith encouraged the committee to establish priorities, given the length of the list. Regent MacNeil noted the importance of bringing in outside resources when appropriate.

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

Senior Vice President Ward reported that UW System students fared very well on the 1997 National CPA Examinations. On the May exam, three of our institutions were among the top ten colleges and universities in the nation ranked by percentage passing all subjects taken: UW-Whitewater, UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee. In November, four UW institutions ranked in the top ten in the nation in this category: UW-Madison, UW-Whitewater, UW-La Crosse and UW-Oshkosh.

Senior Vice President Ward congratulated DPI Superintendent John Benson and the state's K-12 schools on Wisconsin students' excellent performance on the ACT exam. The average ACT composite score of Wisconsin students remained stable at 22.3, equaling the all-time high for the state established last year. The number of Wisconsin graduates taking the ACT exam increased by 5% compared to last year and reached a five-year high of 41,327. Wisconsin's ACT Composite score of 22.3 is 1.3 score point above the national average of 21 and Wisconsin continues to rank as the leading state in the nation when compared to the ACT averages of other states where the ACT is the predominant college entrance test.

As stipulated in The University of Wisconsin System Unclassified Personnel Guideline #5, Senior Vice President Ward reported three intentions to recruit for a dean at a salary below the Executive Salary Group Six maximum: (a) College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science, UW-Platteville; (b) College of Business, Industry, Life Science and Agriculture, UW-Platteville; (c) Dean of Faculties, UW-Superior.

4. Annual Report on Fall 1997-98 Drop Rates.

Senior Vice President Ward introduced the Annual Report on Fall 1997-98 Drop Rates. He noted that one institution, UW Colleges, exceeded the five percent threshold in Spring 1996-97, with a drop rate of 8.3 percent. In Fall 1997-98, two institutions exceeded the five percent threshold, UW Colleges, with a drop rate of 8.4 percent, and UW-Milwaukee, with a drop rate of 5.3 percent. To address students' drop rate, UW Colleges will emphasize four areas: (1) advising under-prepared students into more developmental math and English courses; (2) scheduling more freshman orientation courses dealing with adjustment to college and development of study skills; (3) providing more linked courses and learning community formats to promote peer support; and (4) addressing retention needs of non-traditional students.

Senior Vice President Ward emphasized the good job done by UW System campuses in managing available classroom seats. He noted that, system-wide, the Fall term drop rate has decreased from 5.5 percent in Fall 1988, when this report was first required, to 3.7 percent in Fall 1997. Spring term drop rates have fallen from 5.1 percent in Spring 1989 to 3.6 percent in Spring 1997. On an annual basis, the drop rate has fallen from 5.3 percent in 1989 to 3.7 percent in 1997.

98-49 It was moved by Regent MacNeil, seconded by Regent Randall, that the Board of Regents accepts the Annual Report on 1997-98 Undergraduate Drop Rates for submission to the Joint Committee on Finance.

The motion PASSED unanimously.

5. Research and Public Service Report.

Senior Vice President Ward introduced the Research and Public Service Report by pointing out that the report demonstrates how effectively UW campuses are using state resources in funding research and public service to meet the needs of the state. In the area of public service, the report shows that UW-Extension and the campuses are doing this through such activities as: (1) groundbreaking efforts with the Milwaukee Public Schools, (2) UW Learning Innovations, and (3) Small Business Development Center regional partnerships.

98-50 It was moved by Regent Boyle, seconded by Regent Randall, that the Board of Regents accepts the Research and Public Service Report for transmittal to the Governor and the Joint Committee on Finance, pursuant to s. 36.45(3), Wis. Stats.

In discussion, Regent Boyle asked whether the report is used by those who receive it and, encouraged UW System Administration to find ways to benefit from the report. Regent MacNeil supported his remarks.

The motion PASSED unanimously.

6. Authorizations to Recruit.

Regent Staszak moved, and Regent Benson seconded the motion, to approve the following resolutions:

98-51 That the Chancellor of UW-Madison be authorized to recruit for a Professor Department of Medicine, Cardiology Section Chief, Medical School, at a salary that may exceed the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.

98-52 That the Chancellor of UW-Madison be authorized to recruit for a Professor Department of Economics, Colleges of Letters and Science, at a salary that may exceed the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.

98-53 That the Chancellor of UW-Madison be authorized to recruit for an Associate Professor or Professor, Department of Accounting, School of Business, at a salary that may exceed the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.

98-54 That the Chancellor of UW-Madison be authorized to recruit for an Associate Professor or Professor, Information Systems, School of Business, at a salary that may exceed the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.

98-55 That the Chancellor of UW-Madison be authorized to recruit for an Assistant Professor, Finance, School of Business, at a salary that may exceed the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.

98-56 That the Chancellor of UW-Madison be authorized to recruit for an Associate Professor or Professor, Finance, School of Business, at a salary that may exceed the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.

98-57 That the Chancellor of UW-Madison be authorized to recruit for an Associate Professor or Professor, Management and Human Resources, School of Business, at a salary that may exceed the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.

- 98-58 That the Chancellor of UW-Madison be authorized to recruit for an Associate Professor or Professor, Operations and Information Management, School of Business, at a salary that may exceed the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.
- 98-59 That the Chancellor of UW-Madison be authorized to recruit for an Assistant Professor, Associate Professor or Professor, Interdisciplinary—Cluster and Bioscience, at a salary that may exceed the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.

The motion PASSED unanimously.

7. New Program Authorization.

A proposed B.S./B.A. in General Studies, UW-Stevens Point, was introduced for initial review. Provost William Meyer and Dean Justus Paul, Dean of the College of Letters and Science, introduced the program. In response to questions from Regent Boyle, Dean Paul stated that some sort of senior experience, possibly an internship, will be part of the program; that entrance requirements will be the same for this program as for programs currently in existence at UWSP; and that the program will be evaluated after three years to determine whether it should be scaled back or eliminated. Regent Staszak requested clarification of the budget to be provided when the program comes before the committee in October.

8. NCA Accreditation Report: UW-Oshkosh.

Chancellor John Kerrigan reviewed the UW-Oshkosh NCA reaccreditation report. At its meeting November 12-14, 1997, the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools' Commission on Institutions of Higher Education voted to continue the accreditation of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh for the maximum ten-year period. The next comprehensive evaluation is scheduled for 2006-07.

In discussion, Regent Randall stated his concern about: (1) the lack of women in some faculty areas and (2) the presence of very few minorities among students, faculty/staff and administration. He emphasized that he expects improved results in these areas. Chancellor Kerrigan replied that more women than men have been hired at the assistant professor rank in recent years, so that situation should begin to resolve itself. He noted that the administrative staff is highlighting diversity as a campus concern and that he has met with UW-Oshkosh minority alumni in Milwaukee to discuss improved ways to identify minority applicants from the Milwaukee area. Responding to Regent Brandes, the chancellor said that percentages of minority students, faculty/staff and administrators on campus are better than those in the surrounding community.

Regent Boyle expressed concern about curricular implications of the NCA visiting committee's finding that the line between undergraduate and graduate programs at UW-Oshkosh is blurred. Chancellor Kerrigan responded that the campus has appointed a committee to review the situation in the context of what the NCA considers a proper balance between graduate and undergraduate programs.

In response to Regent Smith, Chancellor Kerrigan stated that the reaccreditation process cost approximately \$100,000 - \$150,000.

9. Update reports.

The committee heard three update reports:

(1) Four Year Graduation Contract

Provosts John Wiley, UW-Madison, and Kenneth Watters, UW-Milwaukee, reported on their institutions' pilot program introducing the Four-year Graduation Contract. At UW-Madison, 51 students signed contracts. The students' intended majors placed them in six schools or colleges: Agriculture and Life Science (2), Business (6), Education (6), Engineering (4), Nursing (11), and Letters and Science (22). Of the initial 51 students signing Four Year Graduation Contracts, 45 remain in the program. Four students voluntarily withdrew from the program and one student did not return to UW-Madison for the spring semester.

At UW-Milwaukee, 37 students signed contracts. The majors of 17 of the students were in the School of Business; 20 were in Letters and Science. Of the initial 37 signing contracts, 16 remain in the program. One student voluntarily withdrew from the program; two withdrew from UW-Milwaukee, and two changed majors. The other 16 students were dropped from the program because they failed to continue to meet the eligibility criteria (e.g., they failed to maintain the required grade point, did not fulfill the advising criteria, or did not complete the required number of credits).

Neither UW-Madison nor UW-Milwaukee reported any serious problems during the pilot year. Responding to a question from Regent Brandes, Provost Wiley stated that the board had required the agreement to be called a contract. Regent MacNeil observed that numbers are less important than the fact that the contract is offered. Regent Smith expressed his hope that the existence of the contract will help take the issue of time-to-degree off the table.

(2) Plan 2008 Guidelines

Tess Arenas, Assistant to the President for Multicultural Affairs, reported on UW System guidelines for implementing Plan 2008. She said that some campuses are well on the way to establishing base-line data and expressed her belief that momentum and interest are building in support of the plan's implementation. Responding to Regent Randall, Dr. Arenas said that the base-line year will vary for each campus. For UW System Administration, the base-line year will be the last year of *Design for Diversity*. Regent Staszak stated his concern that the process had begun over the summer without student input. Dr. Arenas responded that campus procedures must be approved by the appropriate campus governance units. Regent Smith praised the plan, but stated his concern about the length of time campus were given to develop their guidelines. Regent Boyle raised a concern that the Plan is too comprehensive and detailed, and may stifle creativity. Dr. Arenas replied that the appendices were requested by campuses, while the body of the instructions is relatively brief.

(3) Student and Faculty/Staff Technology Survey

Ed Meachen, Associate Vice President for Information Technology, reported that the recently completed Student and Faculty/Staff Technology Survey shows that the 1997-99 budget request to enhance use of technology in the curriculum is bearing fruit, as technology is penetrating deeply into the classroom. The survey indicates that faculty need additional support in two areas: (1) using technology in the classroom; and (2) obtaining better PCs for their desktops.

10. Additional items.

There was one additional item to come before the committee.

98-60 It was moved by Regent Staszak, seconded by Regent MacNeil, that the Chancellor of UW-Milwaukee be authorized to recruit for a Dean, College of Allied Health Professions, at a salary that may exceed the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.

The motion PASSED unanimously.

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

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

In closed session:

98-61 It was moved by Regent Boyle, seconded by Regent Randall, 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.

98-62 It was moved by Regent Staszak, seconded by Regent Randall, 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.

98-63 It was moved by Regent Randall, seconded by Regent Boyle, that the Chancellor at UW-Madison be authorized to approve a temporary base salary adjustment, resulting in a salary that exceeds the Executive Salary Group Six maximum.

The motion PASSED unanimously.

Resolutions I.1.d., I.1.e., I.1.f.(1) through I.1.f.(9) and I.1.J.(1) were referred to the full session of the Board at its Friday, September 11, 1998 meeting.

Resolutions I.1.k.(1) through I.1.k.(3) were referred to closed session of the full board following its Friday, September 11, 1998 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.