

## MINUTES

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE, BOARD OF REGENTS

1920 Van Hise Hall

Madison, Wisconsin

November 9, 2000

The November 9, 2000 meeting of the Education Committee was called to order by Regent JoAnne Brandes at 1:50 p.m. Regents Axtell, Boyle, Mohs, and Olivieri were present. Regent Smith joined the committee for the discussion of its 2000-01 agenda. Regent Randall joined the meeting in progress.

1. Approval of the minutes of the October 5, 2000 meeting of the Education Committee.

It was moved by Regent Mohs, seconded by Regent Axtell, that the minutes of the October 5, 2000 meeting of the Education Committee be approved.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

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

(a) Good News

Interim Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Gary A. Thibodeau, reported three good news items: (1) UW-Superior and the Lac Court Oreilles Ojibwa Community College have formed a partnership to build an asynchronous learning environment through which both institutions will simultaneously offer a one-year certificate program, a two year associate degree and, ultimately, a four year baccalaureate degree in Information Technology. The National Science Foundation, through its advanced Technological Education Program, has awarded \$641,000 over two years to support the first of the program's three phases. (2) The U.S. Department of Education has awarded UW-Eau Claire a two-year \$742,000 grant to provide American Indian students the opportunity to earn a college degree and teaching licensure. The grant will be administered by the College of Menominee Nation through a partnership that includes UW-Eau Claire, the College of Menominee Nation, the Lac du Flambeau School District, the Wisconsin Indian Education Association and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. (3) William Bader, Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State, praised the WITCO report in a recent visit to Wisconsin. Regent Axtell was vice chair of the task force that developed the report.

(b) Discussion with Chancellor Donald Langenberg, University of Maryland System

Donald Langenberg, Chancellor of the University of Maryland System, joined the committee to discuss PK-16 issues. He was joined by Chancellor Ann Lydecker and Karen Viechnicki, Dean of the School of Education and Graduate Studies, both of UW-River Falls.

Responding to Regent Axtell, Chancellor Langenberg stated that the Maryland PK-16 Council has not dealt directly with such issues as parochial schools, vouchers, choice, magnet and charter schools, but has attempted to be as inclusive as possible in dealing with all issues.

Responding to Regent Boyle's question about poor teachers, Chancellor Langerberg noted that: (1) some are not certified; (2) state certification requirements vary; and (3) many unqualified teachers are placed in classrooms in response to pressures to fill classrooms in late August.

In response to Regent Brandes, the Chancellor agreed that PK-16 partnerships could help focus on the 0-5 population, especially since universities are doing much of the research on how children in this age group learn.

Responding to Regent Mohs, Chancellor Langerberg said that universities can confront negative attitudes toward educational success, especially among minority groups. He cited the University of Maryland-Baltimore County as an institution that has focused on attracting African-American students with an interest in mathematics and science. He stressed the need to promote academically gifted and successful individuals as role models.

In response to Regent Olivieri, the Chancellor stated that one role for the Board of Regents in improving teacher education can be to establish clear expectations and make it clear that it is watching to see that those expectations are met.

Chancellor Lydecker encouraged the Regents to challenge Chancellors to focus the resources of the entire campus on teacher education. She stressed the importance of helping PK-12 and university teachers find ways to share information and coordinate activities. Chancellor Langerberg supported this idea, stressing the "enormous benefits" to be gained from bringing these two groups together as professional peers.

Dean Viechnicki reinforced the importance of creating partnerships to unite Education professors with those in the Arts and Sciences.

(c) Low Enrollment Programs

Interim Senior Vice President Thibodeau discussed low enrollment programs. He noted that because institutions must mount new programs from their base budgets, there is a built in pressure to eliminate or merge low enrolling programs. As a result only 26 of the 677 undergraduate programs (4 percent) had an average of fewer than five declared majors over the last five years. In some cases, decisions are made to maintain programs with a small number of majors, such as languages or sciences, because courses offered in these disciplines serve students in other majors. During the last five years 45 programs were added to the program array, while 40 programs were eliminated.

(d) Market Indicators for New programs

Interim Senior Vice President Thibodeau discussed market analyses done for proposed new programs. He noted that the request for an entitlement to plan requires "information on student demand and market demand for graduates." In addition, the request for authorization to implement a new academic program must address regional, state and national needs by including discussion of "estimated future employment opportunities" for program graduates. New program proposals must also "compare the estimated need for graduates" with the estimated number of graduates from three sources: (1) the proposed program; (2) comparable programs within Wisconsin; and (3) comparable programs outside Wisconsin. In addition, institutions are asked "where appropriate, [to] provide documentation by citing data from organizations such as the Bureau of Labor Statistics and/or professional associations."

Finally, the UW System Market Research Division is available to those institutions developing new programs.

Regent Olivieri observed that new program requests are uneven and unsystematic in the way they present market justifications. He stated his concern about the consistency and strength of the process used to determine the market for a program. Interim Senior Vice President Thibodeau replied that campuses are being made aware of the committee's demand for consistent market data as part of new program presentations.

Regent Axtell took time to commend chancellors for their response to the board's request for developing international education programs. Regent Brandes noted that international education remains a priority for the committee.

### 3. 2000-01 Education Committee Agenda.

Regent Brandes distributed a draft matrix as a basis for discussion of the committee's priorities for the 2000-01 academic year. After discussion, three priority areas were established: (1) responding to the Economic Summit; (2) the Quality of the Educational Experience, with emphasis on international education, diversity and technology; and (3) PK-16 educational initiatives and the role of the UW System in forging PK-12 partnerships.

Responding to Regent Mohs, Regent Brandes assured the committee that the matrix is flexible and will be revised appropriately as the committee moves through its year's agenda.

Regent Olivieri noted that the discussions of information technology through the year will enable the committee to provide useful input into the preparation of the UW System Information Technology Plan that will be presented in October 2001.

Regent Axtell asked that the committee be provided with a firm grounding in technology issues as a background for its discussions. Regent Olivieri agreed, but stressed the need for a balance between receiving input and discussing substantive issues.

### 4. 2000 Research and Public Service Reports.

Interim Senior Vice President Thibodeau introduced the 2000 Research and Public Service Reports. During 1999-2000, \$63 million were spent on GPR funded Research. Of that amount, 84.2 percent (\$53,211,294) is in the UW-Madison budget; 12.7 percent (\$8,006,332) is in the budget at UW-Milwaukee; 1.7 percent (\$1,072,478) is in the budget for the comprehensives and UW Colleges; and 1.5 percent (\$921,141) is available systemwide. These funds support 20 projects at UW Madison, six at UW-Milwaukee and three systemwide. The GPR Public Service budget totals \$53.1 million, 75.8 percent of which is devoted to fourteen programs included in the UW-Extension budget.

- I.1.d. It was moved by Regent Boyle, seconded by Axtell, that upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents accepts the 2000 Research and Public Service Reports for transmittal to the Governor and the Joint Committee on Finance, pursuant to s. 36.45(3), Wis. Stats.

Regent Boyle questioned the need for this report, noting that it gives an incomplete picture of the research and public service activities of UW System institutions. President Lyall indicated she will be happy to inquire of the state whether the report still has utility.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

5. Authorization to Recruit.

I.1.e.(1) It was moved by Regent Boyle, seconded by Mohs, that upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Parkside be authorized to recruit for a Provost and Vice Chancellor at a salary within the 2000-01 Regent Salary Range.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

6. New Program Authorizations.

The committee heard an initial review of three proposed new programs:

Charles Cohen, Professor of History and Director of the Religious Studies Program, reviewed the proposal to establish a B.A. in Religious Studies at UW-Madison. Regent Mohs strongly supported the program, but raised a question about the lack of Arab Studies at UW-Madison. Professor Cohen cited the Middle Eastern Studies Program and other options available to UW students. Regents Olivieri and Brandes encouraged making the program available via distance education. Regent Boyle praised the program's curricular design and interdisciplinary character. In reply to Regent Axtell, Professor Cohen described the program's science and religion component. Responding to Regent Olivieri, Professor Cohen noted that program graduates may enter a variety of professions, but stressed the fact that the program's key component is providing students a critical perspective on a fundamental element of human cultures.

The proposal to establish a B.A. in Jewish Studies, UW-Madison, was introduced by Professor Gilead Morahg, Chair of the Department of Hebrew and Semitic Studies, and Professor Daniel Pekarsky, Education Policy Studies. Responding to Regent Mohs, Professor Morahg noted that most students will not view participation in the program as a career move, but as an opportunity for educational enrichment. Responding to Regent Boyle, Professor Pekarsky stated that attaining teacher certification would require at least an additional year or two. Regent Boyle noted the potential for a five-year program, while Regent Olivieri encouraged establishing the goal of a four-year program. Regent Olivieri also encouraged offering the program via distance education.

UW-Parkside Provost John Ostheimer and Timothy Fossum, Professor of Computer Science introduced a proposal to establish the M.S. in Computer and Information Systems at UW-Parkside. Regent Axtell commended the program's collaboration with the business community. Regent Boyle encouraged the use of distance education technology in offering the program.

7. Renaming the School of Library and Information Science, UW-Milwaukee

- I.1.g. It was moved by Regent Olivieri, seconded by Regent Axtell, that the UW-Milwaukee School of Library and Information Science be renamed the School of Information Studies.

Regent Boyle questioned the rationale for the name change, noting arguments that employers are attracted to graduates of programs with "science" in their title. Dean Mohammed replied that the change reflects national trends and that the School has many programs that include a science component.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

8. Additional items.

There were no additional items to come before the committee.

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

It was moved by Regent Axtell, seconded by Regent Randall, 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 Axtell, Boyle, Brandes, Mohs, Olivieri and Randall voting "yes," and no regents voting "no."

In closed session:

- I.1.i.(1) It was moved by Regent Randall, seconded by Regent Mohs, that Depak Rohatgi, UW-Milwaukee, be reappointed Wisconsin Distinguished Professor for the period March 8, 2001 through March 7, 2006.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

- I.1.i.(2) It was moved by Regent Mohs, seconded by Regent Axtell, that Richard Wilke, UW-Stevens Point, be reappointed Wisconsin Distinguished Professor for the period March 8, 2001 through March 7, 2006.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

Resolutions I.1.d., I.1.e.(1), I.1.g. and I.1.i.(1)-(2) were referred to the full session of the board at its Friday, November 10 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

