

MINUTES

EDUCATION COMMITTEE, BOARD OF REGENTS

Room 1820, Van Hise Hall, UW-Madison

Madison, Wisconsin

September 12, 2002

Regent Boyle convened the meeting of the Education Committee at 1:00 p.m. Regents Boyle, Axtell, Brandes, Burmaster, and Mohs were present. Regents Gottschalk and Marcovich joined the meeting in progress.

1. Approval of the minutes of the June 6, 2002, meeting of the Education Committee.

It was moved by Regent Mohs, seconded by Regent Axtell, that the minutes of the June 6, 2002, meeting of the Education Committee be approved.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

2. 2001-2003 Education Committee Agenda.

Regent Boyle began with a summary of the Education Committee's activity at its August retreat, including the adoption of the overarching theme that will guide the Committee's agenda for the academic year 2002-2003: "promoting student success through quality programs that foster effective teaching and learning." He encouraged the Committee to understand in the broadest of terms possible both "student" and "success"; all the citizens of Wisconsin are potentially students: they are diverse, traditional and non-traditional, full-time and part-time, etc. Likewise, success means much more than achieving a 4.0. Regent Boyle asked that the Committee interpret "student success" broadly, and view it in terms of Board President Gottschalk's idea to "Engage Wisconsin."

He then turned the podium over to Senior Vice President Marrett, who presented plans for the work the Office of the Senior Vice President will undertake in academic year 2002-2003. Senior Vice President Marrett outlined some of the organizational changes being put into place to improve the more efficient use of staff and other resources, noting in particular the reasons behind two name changes of units in her office. The Office of Academic Affairs has been renamed the Office of Academic and Student Services (ACSS); the Office of Multicultural Affairs has been renamed the Office of Academic Diversity and Development (OADD). Both these name changes reflect more accurately the core functions under their purview. She also presented an overview of the six strategic directions she has developed regarding the critical roles and work in which the Office of the Senior Vice President is engaged. The strategic directions provide continuity with the Committee's goals to address student success and to address quality. Senior Vice President Marrett enumerated several of the activities and outcomes that were a part of each strategic direction, activities about which the Board will hear more in the coming months.

Senior Vice President Marrett invited Associate Vice President Ron Singer and Associate Vice President Frank Goldberg to elaborate on some of the areas she referred to: Program Planning and Quality. Associate Vice President Singer described program planning as occurring at the heart of the academic enterprise. He outlined the new program review process, from entitlement to authorization, to implementation and the joint 5-year review, emphasizing the extent to which the process involves a partnership between

System and the institutions. The Board, he concluded, serves as the arbiter of program array, raising appropriate questions in regard to resources, quality, and institutional mission.

Associate Vice President Goldberg reviewed the multitude of reports produced by his office, the Office of Policy Analysis and Research, and the wealth of data available in those reports. All of these reports contain a mass of information to be distilled and analyzed, as well as an array of performance indicators and measures to be utilized. Next month, he and Associate Vice President Singer will engage the Regents in a more focused discussion of performance and quality, offering some initial measures that will be useful in gauging quality in the UW System throughout the year.

The ensuing discussion covered the following points:

- Programs are reviewed both by reviewers internal and external to the UW System and that the reviews often generate changes to a program before it comes before the Board;
- The Board should pay attention to “subjective” and not only “objective” quality indicators: i.e., information should be gathered on how UW System graduates feel about their educations, how employers feel about UW graduates, and on what kind of people are being produced by a UW System education;
- The Education Committee should look at the professional schools and the kinds of quality indicators they use;
- Benchmarks outside of Wisconsin should be identified, i.e., explicit examples of outstanding institutions or programs that would serve as models within the state;
- The Committee should explore the area of “emotional intelligence” as a guide to framing quality in more expanded terms;
- The Board, System Administration and the institutions need to address the disconnect between the rhetoric of the System’s mission and vision for educating students, and the specific indicators used to measure whether that education is successful. For example, civic engagement and productive citizenship are educational objectives included in most institutional missions, but it is difficult to develop specific measures to assess them;
- The UW System must be sure that it is educating *all* students, especially those who are first-generation college students, from disadvantaged backgrounds, and who are publicly educated;
- The Board will need to pay attention in the coming months to issues like the Higher Education Reauthorization Act, and to initiatives like the Campus Compact, which will have different kinds of impact on the effort to achieve quality and success in broad terms.

Regent Boyle proposed that, as the Education Committee moves forward in its discussion of quality and student success, Regent members of the Committee assume leadership roles in presenting various agenda items.

3. Program Authorization – First Reading.

B.S. in Athletic Training, UW-Oshkosh

Associate Vice President Ron Singer introduced the presenters of the two programs to go before the board for initial review. This program proposal is similar to the UW-Eau Claire Athletic Training program approved by the Board in May. At that time, the Education Committee received a general overview of the field, including a report on the accreditation changes taking place. Keith Miller, Provost at UW-Oshkosh, and Dr. Hal Strough, Director of Athletic Training Education at UW-Oshkosh, presented the B.S. in Athletic Training. The proposed change involves elevating the program from an emphasis to a major. (The Physical

Planning Committee is addressing the facilities question.) The change to a major more accurately reflects the academic experience already being offered to students, and also meets the changing requirements recently announced by the national Athletic Training accrediting body. There is high demand for the program, especially in light of the fact that the new accreditation requirements have caused many of the state's other athletic training programs to close their doors: seven UW System and two private institutions no longer offer Athletic Training majors. In the future only eleven of what had been twenty programs statewide will remain – six programs at UW System institutions and five at private colleges. The Oshkosh program has had excellent results placing its students in jobs, as well as high pass rates on the certifying exam. The program also involves regional collaboration with hospitals, health care providers, and high schools. In response to questions from Regent Boyle, Dr. Strough assured the Committee that the resources were in place to accommodate the change from minor to major.

Master's of Social Work , UW-Green Bay and UW-Oshkosh

Associate Vice President Singer introduced Sue Hammersmith, the new Provost at UW-Green Bay, and Keith Miller, Provost at UW-Oshkosh, to present the collaborative Master's of Social Work degree. Provost Miller pointed to the innovative, truly collaborative, student-focused nature of the program, one designed to meet the needs of the communities involved and that drew upon the strengths of both institutions' graduate programs. Jane Muhl, Interim Dean of Professional Studies and Outreach at UW-Green Bay, elaborated upon how the collaborative program works: students are admitted to and eventually graduate from either UW-Green Bay or UW-Oshkosh, but their coursework is shared between the two institutions, as are the costs of the program. The program emerged from an expression of great need by health care agencies in the northeast region of Wisconsin, and student demand is significant. The program requires no new resources. A portion of the necessary resources will come from federal funding; another portion will be funded through reallocation. In response to a question from Regent Mohs, the program presenters explained how reallocation occurs at the institutional level by re-prioritizing and shifting resources over the course of several years.

4. Program Authorizations – Second Reading.

I.1.d.(1): It was moved by Regent Burmaster, seconded by Regent Mohs, that, upon recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor be authorized to implement the B.A. in Global Studies.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

5. Report on 2001 Undergraduate Drop Rates.

I.1.e.: It was moved by Regent Mohs, seconded by Regent Burmaster, that, upon recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents accepts the Annual Report on 2001 Undergraduate Drop Rates for submission to the Joint Committee on Finance.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

6. Research and Public Service Report.

Regent Boyle provided some history on the Research and Public Service Report, explaining that it was mandated by the Legislature, beginning in the early 1990s, in response to legislative questions about why research money had to be continued once a particular project was completed. At that time, the UW System clarified that research funding from the state was used to cover direct and indirect costs of research projects, including infrastructure, matching funds, staffing, and thereby became combined with other funding sources. The discussion with the Legislature led to the UW System's commitment to prepare an annual report to describe the process for allocating the state's funds for both research and public service projects. The report provides a comprehensive review of how funds are used, although, Regent Boyle noted, it is not necessarily a report on the UW System's funding priorities.

Regent Axtell remarked on the impressive scope and variety of projects covered in the report, and on the fact that the state's investment in these projects obviously generates many new funding sources in turn. He expressed the concern, however, that the Education Committee was giving its approbation to the report without fully digesting all the information within it. Regent Axtell asked that some kind of assurance be given that "sound fiscal management has been used" before the Board of Regents approves reports like the one under consideration. John Torphy, Vice Chancellor for Administration at UW-Madison, responded that the funds and projects in the report are subject to a broad range of oversight and audits. Regent Boyle proposed that the Committee approve the report but include in the minutes a statement of Regent Axtell's concern, as well as request that UW System Administration include assurances that procedures for fiscal oversight are in place and will be scrupulously adhered to.

I.1.f.: It was moved by Regent Brandes, seconded by Regent Axtell, that, upon recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents accepts the 2002 Research and Public Service Report for submission to the Joint Committee on Finance.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

The Committee moved into closed session to discuss the appointment of a named professor at UW-Stout, as permitted by s 19.85(1)(c), Wis.Stats.

Resolutions I.1.d.(1), I.1.e., I.1.f., and I.1.h. were referred as consent agenda items to the full session of the Board of Regents at its Friday, September 13, 2002 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.