

## MINUTES

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE, BOARD OF REGENTS Room 1820, Van Hise Hall, UW-Madison Madison, Wisconsin

April 10, 2003

Regent Boyle convened the meeting of the Education Committee at 3:05 p.m. Regents Boyle, Axtell, Brandes, Mohs and Smith were present.

a. Approval of the minutes of the March 6, 2003, meeting of the Education Committee.

It was moved by Regent Axtell, seconded by Regent Brandes, that the minutes of the March 6, 2003, meeting of the Education Committee be approved.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

b. Report of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

1. National Poetry Month

In recognition both of National Poetry Month and of the outstanding creative activity in which UW System faculty engage, Senior Vice President Marrett introduced poet Marnie Bullock Dresser, Professor of English at UW-Richland. Professor Dresser read several poems, including one she wrote especially for the Regents entitled "The Voice of the Legislator."

2. Report on orientation programs and information provided to students on sexual assault and sexual harassment

Senior Vice President Marrett summarized the Report on orientation programs and information provided to students on sexual assault and sexual harassment. This report complies with Wisconsin Statute section 36.11(22), that directs the Board of Regents to annually submit this report to the Chief Clerk of each house of the Legislature. In response to a question from Regent Axtell, Senior Vice President Marrett explained that only the report is statutorily required. She recognized Jan Sheppard, Academic Planner in the Office of Academic and Student Services, who further explained that the report does not contain numbers for sexual assaults and incidents of sexual harassment, but that the Department of Justice receives those figures from the institutions, as required by law. The report does contain summaries of the various methods institutions are using to provide information to all new and continuing students on the prevention of sexual assault and sexual harassment. The institutions are required by law to disseminate this information to all students.

Senior Vice President Marrett outlined for the Education Committee some of the activities undertaken by her office, in response to the Committee's request a year ago to provide information on what differences institutional efforts are making in this arena. These activities include working with United Council, with the Chief Student Affairs Officers at each institution, and working to ensure consistency in the data that is being reported. Senior Vice President Marrett indicated that the number of *reported* incidents of sexual assault has gone up in the last few years. She explained, however, that the increased number means that *more individuals are reporting assaults*, not that more assaults are necessarily taking place. She expressed her abhorrence that any assault takes place at UW System institutions, but noted that it is good news that more assaults are being reported because nationally,

sexual assault is a severely under-reported crime. She assured the Committee that, in collaboration with the institutions, System Administration is making concerted efforts to understand more fully and accurately the level of reporting, and how prevention efforts can be both assessed and made more effective.

Regent Boyle asked for a motion on the Resolution to approve the Report.

I.1.c.(2): It was moved by Regent Axtell, seconded by Regent Brandes, that, upon recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System and pursuant to 1989 Wisconsin Act 177, s.36.11(22)(b), Wis. Stats., the Board hereby accepts the report on implementation of the Act (the report on orientation programs and information provided to students on sexual assault and sexual harassment) and directs that the report be submitted to the chief clerk of each house of the legislature for distribution to the appropriate standing committees under s.13.172(3).

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

### 3. 2002 Minority and Disadvantaged Student Annual Report

The Senior Vice President next highlighted some of the information contained in the 2002 Minority and Disadvantaged Student Annual Report. This report is also statutorily required and includes information on precollege initiatives and activities, enrollment of new undergraduate students of color, retention rates and degrees conferred for targeted race/ethnic groups, expenditures for students of color and disadvantaged student programs, and student financial assistance data. Senior Vice President Marrett reviewed some of the figures contained in the report, and acknowledged the mixed results of the report. She reminded the Committee that in October, 2003, the Board will hear a presentation on the second phase of Plan 2008. At that time, her office plans to take up a more nuanced discussion of the lessons learned from Phase I of Plan 2008, and a more cohesive plan for how the System should move forward in Phase II.

The Committee engaged in a heated discussion of how the UW System might arrive at more than incremental progress in the recruitment, retention and graduation of students of color. Following a query from Regent Mohs, the Committee discussed whether funding levels for diversity efforts were appropriate (\$16 million in GPR funding plus an additional \$2 million in extramural funds). Many members of the Committee expressed their belief that the money allocated is not nearly enough to make the kind of progress the UW System needs and wants to be making. Regent Smith recounted what he heard at UW-Madison's recent forum on the progress of Plan 2008, which included participants from the campus, the community, and industry. Proctor and Gamble was very direct in what UW-Madison's lack of progress means for them: they will not recruit as heavily as they used to at UW-Madison because Madison is significantly below the national and the Big Ten averages for the numbers of minority students graduated. Regent Brandes concurred that corporate America is loud and clear on what kinds of employees they want to hire: students who have been educated in truly diverse environments and who therefore have the academic and social preparation to be future leaders.

Chancellor Zimpher emphasized that the pipeline is the most significant factor in improving the UW System's numbers: until more students of color graduate from high school, UW institutions will remain challenged in their recruitment and retention efforts. She recommended that more active partnerships be developed between System programs, like the PK-16 Council, and the individual institutional efforts and precollege programs that operate separately throughout Wisconsin. Senior Vice President Marrett agreed that there are some complementary programs around the state, at both the higher and secondary educational levels, and these efforts need to be united. The Committee

expressed its strong endorsement of such partnerships, indicating that it would look to System Administration to lead this effort. The Committee also asked that the record show that it is concerned and dissatisfied with the lack of progress that has been made.

Regent Boyle asked for a motion on the Resolution to approve the Report.

I.1.c.(3): It was moved by Regent Axtell, seconded by Regent Brandes, that, upon recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents accepts the 2002 Minority and Disadvantaged Student Annual Report for submission to the governor and to the chief clerk of each house of the legislature, pursuant to s.36.25 (14m) (c), Wisc. Stats., for distribution to the appropriate standing committee under s.13.172 (3) Wisc. Stats.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

#### 4. Academic Program Consolidation Principles

Associate Vice President Ron Singer presented to the Committee the Principles for Academic Program Consolidation and Elimination, as promised to the Board at its March meeting. The principles were developed with input from the institutions, and include the practice of evaluating academic programs for consolidation and elimination in the broader context of ongoing institutional academic program planning and review, as well as examining the quality and viability of existing academic programs on an ongoing basis. This leads to program consolidation, elimination, and creation.

Associate Vice President Singer stressed that the potential savings from program consolidation and elimination are long-term in nature, that such decisions also have associated costs, and are made in an environment of shared governance and collaboration. He also emphasized that UW System institutions offer a wide variety of environments in which these decisions must be made, with institutions whose program arrays range from 32, to over 400 academic programs. The set of principles attempts to take into account this diversity. They include consideration of quality; contribution to institutional mission, and state and student needs; program array; and resource implications. The shared goal is to preserve and strengthen, to the extent possible within budget constraints, a program array that is of high quality, is accessible to Wisconsin residents, and meets their needs and the needs of the state. This item was presented for information only; no action was required.

#### c. Approval of Requests to Trustees of the William F. Vilas Trust Estate

Regent Boyle reminded the Committee that each spring, the Education Committee approves the requests made by UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee to the Trustees of the William F. Vilas Trust Estate. This year, the combined requests total \$5, 311,158 for fiscal year 2003-2004. Following approval, President Lyall sends a formal request to the Vilas trustees, who will determine the amount of income that will be available for the various awards. The value of the proffer will be reported to the board at its meeting in May. Regent Boyle mentioned for the record that there is likely to be an additional, late request from UW-Milwaukee. A search is currently underway for the Vilas Research Professor in the Department of English at UW-Milwaukee. If the appointment is made, UW-Milwaukee plans to make a special request seeking Vilas Trust support in the amount of \$40,000.

I.1.d.: It was moved by Regent Axtell, seconded by Regent Brandes, that, upon recommendation of the Chancellors of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approve the request to the Trustees of the William F. Vilas Trust Estate for \$5,311,158 for fiscal year July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004, as provided by the terms of the William F. Vilas Trust.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

Regent Axtell commented on the fact that the annual Vilas request has become a rather perfunctory part of Education Committee business. He asked, however, that the Committee reflect on the generosity and magnitude of this gift, and also questioned how large the Vilas Trust is. UW-Madison Provost Peter Spear responded that there is about \$110 million total in the Trust, and that it contains very specific conditions for how the money may be spent. He called attention to Madison's effort to request additional scholarships for undergraduates—as much as the Trust would allow—and its proposal of 4 Vilas Teaching Professorships, as complements to the highly prestigious Vilas Research Professorships. Regent Axtell suggested that the Committee acknowledge its gratitude to this remarkable and generous endowment.

d. Program Authorizations – Second Reading

1. B.S. or B.A. in Web and Digital Media Development, UW-Stevens Point

I.1.e.(1): It was moved by Regent Brandes, seconded by Regent Axtell, that, upon recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor be authorized to implement the B.S./B.A. in Web and Digital Media Development.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

2. Ph.D. in Health Sciences, UW-Milwaukee

I.1.e.(2): It was moved by Regent Brandes, seconded by Regent Axtell, 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 Ph.D. in Health Sciences.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

After approving the two programs, the Committee observed that, even in these tough budget times, the UW System is able to respond to areas of critical demand in the state's economic development and workforce. The Committee also noted, in Regent Axtell's words, the "frugality" of both programs: neither of them require any new resources but are being implemented through reallocation.

e. Revised Mission Statement, UW-Colleges – First Reading

Chancellor Bill Messner briefly explained revisions to the UW Colleges Mission Statement, which constitute a revised statement, not a revised mission. Once the Colleges hold a public hearing reviewing the revisions, the Revised Mission Statement will come before the Education Committee for its approval.

f. Consent Agenda

Resolutions I.1.c.(2), I.1.c.(3), I.1.d., I.1.e.(1) and I.1.e.(2) were referred as consent agenda items to the full session of the Board of Regents at its Friday, April 11, 2003 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.