

MINUTES

EDUCATION COMMITTEE, BOARD OF REGENTS

The Pyle Center
Madison, Wisconsin
April 1, 2004

Regent Olivieri convened the meeting of the Education Committee at 2:55 p.m. Regents Axtell, Burmaster, Davis, Mohs, Olivieri, Pruitt, and Richlen were present. Regent Marcovich joined the meeting in progress.

1. Approval of the minutes of the March 4, 2004, meeting of the Education Committee.

It was moved by Regent Davis, seconded by Regent Axtell, that the minutes of the March 4, 2004, meeting of the Education Committee be approved.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

2. Report of the Senior Vice President

a. National Poetry Month

Senior Vice President Marrett began her report by introducing poet Amy Quan Barry, an award-winning poet and professor of English at UW-Madison. In honor of National Poetry Month, Professor Barry read two poems to the Committee, "Lunar Eclipse" and "Portes des Morts." Senior Vice President Marrett noted how important it is for the Board of Regents to experience from time to time the rich scholarship and creative activity of UW System faculty. Regent Olivieri expressed appreciation on behalf of the Committee for the opportunity to interact with faculty.

b. Report on Orientation Programs and Information Provided to Students on Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment

Senior Vice President Marrett next informed the Committee that it had two, legislatively mandated annual reports to approve. She characterized the two reports in the context of the UW System's accountability to its stakeholders, not only to the Legislature, but also, and equally important, to students, parents, and the citizens of Wisconsin.

In presenting the *Report on Orientation Programs and Information Provided to Students on Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment*, Senior Vice President Marrett explained that this was the fourteenth annual report summarizing institutional efforts to educate students on sexual assault and sexual harassment. The 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. The statute also requires that each UW institution annually report to the Wisconsin Department of Justice Assistance, statistics on sexual assaults and sexual assaults by acquaintances that occurred on each campus during the previous year. Dr. Marrett noted that when this report was submitted to the Education Committee last year, Regent Axtell requested that the statistical report that goes to the Department of Justice Assistance, be included with the report to the Education Committee. This year's report includes, therefore, statistical information on the number of assaults being reported to institutional officials, in addition to the statutorily required information on education and prevention efforts.

The report also summarizes some of the best practices and most notable efforts in programming and service that institutions have undertaken to inform students and support victims of sexual assault.

The campuses are using a broad and innovative range of strategies to disseminate sexual assault information and reduce incidents of sexual assault. Senior Vice President Marrett announced that in Fall 2004, in collaboration with the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault, the UW System Office of Academic and Student Services would be holding a workshop for UW System institutions to share the research and prevention programs that are currently being piloted around the system.

Senior Vice President Marrett continued her remarks by noting that the UW System currently collects statistics from the UW System institutions on the number of reports of sexual assaults that occur on institutionally controlled land and in off-campus areas where substantial numbers of students live or congregate. However, as she has explained to the Committee before, this information is not entirely reliable and the figures must be viewed with caution. Research studies nationally and studies at UW institutions indicate that sexual assault is a severely underreported crime. Some UW System institutions have undertaken prevalence studies to try to get a handle on the number of incidents of sexual assault that may actually be occurring on or near campus.

Over the next several years, Senior Vice President Marrett's Office will be encouraging all system institutions to develop strategies for getting data on actual incidence of sexual assault. Once they have data on both the prevalence of sexual assaults, and on the number of assaults being reported they can design assessment tools to determine whether the strategies to encourage reporting are working. In a similar fashion, Dr. Marrett's Office will be encouraging all institutions to develop assessment strategies of their educational and prevention efforts in order to better understand what educational and prevention programs can have an impact on reducing the numbers of sexual assaults on campus. Regent Olivieri noted the important role System needs to have in holding up as models the programs that can be replicated, which the fall workshop clearly plans to do. Chancellor Mash reminded the Committee of the role student consumption of alcohol plays in the problem of sexual harassment and assault on campus, and Chancellor Wells referred to UW-Oshkosh's efforts to address the under-reporting problem through campus-wide surveys. Regent Richlen suggested that anonymous reporting be more widely available to student victims of assault.

Senior Vice President Marrett acknowledged the work of Assistant Vice President Larry Rubin and Academic Planner Jan Sheppard from the Office of Academic and Student Services, and other individuals at the institutions who work so diligently to ameliorate the security of UW students and to ensure a climate that safe for all campus citizens.

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

I.1.c.(2): It was moved by Regent Davis, seconded by Regent Mohs, 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.

c. NCA Accreditation Report and Institutional Report on General Education, UW Colleges

The Committee moved out-of-order to the UW Colleges NCA Accreditation Report. Last month, Senior Vice President Marrett reminded the Committee, UW-Parkside presented a report on their NCA

Accreditation and their General Education program. This month, it was the turn of the UW Colleges and the Committee received a report from Provost Margaret Cleek on the Colleges' NCA re-accreditation and their General Education program.

The Colleges, like its sister institutions, spent two years preparing for the visit of the NCA team, engaging in institution-wide assessment and self-study. Provost Cleek reported that the NCA did vote to continue the accreditation of the Colleges for the maximum ten-year period. However, the process was more complicated than it is for the System's comprehensive or research institutions. The actual visit by the NCA team presented a different set of challenges for the Colleges, given that they have thirteen campuses spread out all over the state. It was impossible for the NCA team to visit all of them so the team split up, visited six of them, and took virtual tours of the remaining seven. As a result, the team had some difficulty in developing a unified understanding of what kind of institution the Colleges are: their campuses are not community colleges; they are not technical colleges; they are not baccalaureate-degree granting institutions. They do not have majors or programs like baccalaureate institutions, but they do grant associate degrees in General Education. The Colleges, Provost Cleek explained, had to work extra hard to counter the NCA team's inclination to evaluate the Colleges as much for what they are not and do not have, as for what they are and what they do offer.

Nonetheless, Provost Cleek informed the Committee that the evaluation report did result in a list of strengths and challenges for the Colleges, many of which the Colleges recognized as well and will be valuable as they move forward. Assessment was the most significant of these areas, and ultimately the NCA visit helped Colleges faculty to acknowledge more fully that assessment was not going away, and they really did need to do it. The Colleges are already increasing attention to their assessment activities, and the NCA has asked for a monitoring report on the assessment of student academic achievement in 2006.

In response to several questions from the Committee, Provost Cleek responded that students transferring from the Colleges to one of the 4-year institutions had a very high graduation rate (approximately 81 percent). There are also a growing number of articulation agreements for students who graduate with an associate's degree, many of which allow place-bound students to remain in their home communities and complete college at another institution. The Committee expressed its appreciation for Provost Cleek's report noting that it was beneficial to the Committee, especially to the new members, in helping to better understand the unique role the Colleges play in the UW System and their singular identity.

d. 2003 Minority and Disadvantaged Student Annual Report

Assistant Vice President Tess Arenas presented the key findings from the *2002-03 Minority and Disadvantaged Student Annual Report*, which is another report that is statutorily required for submission to the Legislature each April. As required by statute, the annual M & D report focuses on precollege programming, recruitment and retention plans, and the funding for these plans and programs. Essentially, Dr. Arenas explained, this is a fiscal report and she gave the Committee an overview of the funding situation.

The UW System receives a total of almost \$35.27 million for its M & D program funding. This includes money raised by the institutions from private sources, as well as GPR money. The GPR money includes Fund 402, which is legislatively mandated money designated exclusively for M & D programs and totals about \$8.3 million. There is additional GPR money, to the tune of \$7.3 million, which institutions reallocate from other areas of their budgets. Of the roughly \$35 million spent on M & D program, clarified Dr. Arenas, \$20 million of it is non-GPR money that the institutions are finding on

their own. The Committee reviewed financial aid information for students of color, and the distribution of Fund 402 expenditures. Senior Vice President Marrett explained the difficulty of tracking the impact of expenditures, given that they cover a range of programs and people, including some staff. In response to comments from Regents Olivieri and Davis, she agreed that UW System Administration would work on better budgetary tracking, and on improving the ability to assess efforts and determine needed levels of investment in the specific areas of the Plan. In response to a question from Regent Axtell, Senior Vice President Marrett explained that state funds can be used only for federally designated minority students; international students are not eligible. The Committee did note that in the last five years, more money has been diverted to precollege programs. Assistant Vice President Arenas noted that the Board can play a role in securing funding, particularly in the area of financial aid.

The Committee discussed the clear need for more data, on, for example, the college readiness of students of color; on income levels of students of color; on where students of color who do not enroll at UW institutions are going to college; on the truly eligible pipeline compared to apparently lower service rates in recent years. Senior Vice President Marrett reiterated from the full-Board presentation earlier in the day that Plan 2008 is just one part of the diversity work the System needs to be doing and is doing. The work is multi-faceted and defies easy solutions to complicated issues involving access, recruitment, retention, graduation, and funding. With Associate Vice Chancellor Bernice Durand from UW-Madison, Dr. Marrett stressed retention as an area that would need a redoubling of efforts. Regent Pruitt reminded the Committee of Regent Davis's earlier comment that, for whatever reasons, Plan 2008 and the System's commitment to diversity has lost momentum. The Committee discussed several ways that a renewed sense of focus and urgency could be developed, by the Regents, by UW System Administration and by the institutions. Regent Burmaster pressed for continued coordination and partnerships with the PK-12 sector, as public schools face many of the same dilemmas as the UW System. Regent Axtell requested a broadened focus on diversity that would include international students and perspectives. Regent Pruitt suggested that the final report from the yearlong Regent Study include recommendations on diversity.

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

I.1.c.(3): It was moved by Regent Axtell, seconded by Regent Mohs, that, upon recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents accepts the 2002-03 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.

1. Approval of Requests to the Vilas Trust

Regent Olivieri explained to the new members of the Education Committee that each year, the UW System—UW-Madison in particular—is the beneficiary of the William F. Vilas Trust Estate. The Vilas Trust designates funding for undergraduate and graduate scholarships and fellowships, from which thousands of students on the Madison campus have benefited over the years. The Trust funds named professorships and provides additional research funding for faculty and students. Additionally, the Trust has designated a specific amount of its income for certain building projects, focusing in recent years on the building of the Microbial Sciences Building which is part of the BioStar program. Finally, UW-Milwaukee has also been designated as a recipient of certain pockets of Vilas funding, including an annual music request and the funding of a Vilas Research Professor in the Department of English.

Regent Olivieri explained that the Vilas Trust comes before the Education Committee each April and May in a two-part process. At the April meeting, the Regents formally approve the total requests made by UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee, which are spelled out in the Executive Summary and supporting documents. Following that approval, President Lyall sends a formal request to the Vilas trustees, who then determine the amount of income that will be available for the various awards.

This year the request totals \$5,351,390. Regent Axtell expressed the Board's extreme gratitude for the generosity of the Vilas bequest. At its May meeting, the Board will find out the exact amount proffered by the Trust, whereupon the Education Committee will again act to accept the proffer.

I.1.d.: It was moved by Regent Mohs, seconded by Regent Davis, 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 \$5,351,390 for fiscal year July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005, as provided by the terms of the William F. Vilas Trust.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

4. UW-Milwaukee Charter School Proposal

The Committee approved the seventh charter school to come out of UW-Milwaukee's Office of Charter Schools. The proposed school is the Capitol West Academy and the Committee agreed that it seemed to be a well-designed option for elementary- and middle-school-aged children in the city of Milwaukee. In response to Regent questions, UW-Milwaukee Provost John Wanat and Professor Bob Kattman from the Office of Charter Schools explained that the contract for this school is similar to others the Education Committee has approved but there is even more accountability built in to this proposal, in part in response to the "No Child Left Behind" legislation. They referred to the rigorous approval process for proposed charter schools, as well as a rigorous review process for the ones already approved. They assured the Committee that, as always, the charter school contract was reviewed and approved by the UW System Office of the General Counsel. They also indicated that the first charter school the Board approved is scheduled for its formal, 4-year review before the Education Committee in the next few months. The Committee also learned that there is no financial input by UW-Milwaukee into charter schools. In fact, the Office of Charter Schools is funded entirely by the administrative fees collected from the charter schools for the consulting, chartering and monitoring services rendered.

Regent Burmaster reminded the Committee that charter schools are public and are subject to all DPI and federal standards and requirements (i.e., charter schools should not be confused with the City of Milwaukee's school voucher program). The Committee requested at a future meeting an overall review of the charter school movement in Wisconsin, the UW System's role in it, and a more detailed progress report of how Board-approved charter schools are doing. In response to a question by Regent Richlen, Dr. Kattman explained that for now, few UW-Milwaukee students are involved with the charter schools. Because they are such new schools, professors are reluctant to place student teachers in them. Regent Burmaster suggested that there might be service learning opportunities in the charter schools for UW-Milwaukee students and others.

I.1.e.: It was moved by Regent Davis, 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 Board of Regents approves the charter school contract with the Capitol West Academy, Inc.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

5. UW-Whitewater Faculty Personnel Rule Changes

The Committee next discussed extensively revised faculty personnel rule changes at UW-Whitewater, which were reviewed and approved by System General Counsel as required. UW-Whitewater Provost Richard Telfer informed the Committee that the institution took a great deal of time, and debated and consulted extensively with relevant campus constituents—including the institution’s affirmative action and equal opportunity personnel and its students—to arrive at the rule changes. The results comprise an entirely new set of rules, replacing the previous version, which detail a revamped process and new criteria for promotion and tenure. In response to a question from Regent Richlen, Provost Telfer responded that students are involved in the tenure and promotion process, having input predominantly through student evaluations.

I.1.f.: It was moved by Regent Davis, seconded by Regent Axtell, that, upon recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the revisions to the UW-Whitewater Faculty Personnel Policies and Procedures.

The resolution PASSED unanimously.

6. UW System Appointments to the Natural Areas Preservation Council

The Committee approved without discussion the appointment of three UW System representatives to the Natural Areas Preservation Council, which is a legislatively mandated board to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources’ State Natural Areas Program. A fourth UW System appointment will remain vacant until the Council forwards another name to the Board of Regents.

I.1.g.Revised: It was moved by Regent Axtell, seconded by Regent Davis, that, upon recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the appointments of three University of Wisconsin System representatives to the Natural Areas Preservation Council.

7. Authorization to Expand UW-Extension’s Board of Visitors

Chancellor Kevin Reilly explained the rationale behind UW-Extension’s request to expand their Board of Visitors from 15 to 21 members, which requires Board approval. The most important reason behind the expansion was that Extension’s statewide presence and reach requires a larger Board of Visitors. Regent Davis sought and received assurance that the expanded Board included a diverse group of people.

I.1.h.: It was moved by Regent Mohs, seconded by Regent Axtell, that, upon recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Extension and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents authorizes the expansion of the UW-Extension Board of Visitors to twenty-one members.

Resolutions I.1.c.(2), I.1.c.(3), I.1.d., I.1.e., I.1.f., I.1.g. Revised, and I.1.h. were referred as consent agenda items to the full session of the Board of Regents at its Friday, April 2, 2004 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m.