

Minutes of the UW System Board of Regents

Education Committee Meeting on

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Education Committee

The Education Committee convened at 10:48 a.m. in the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Gordon Dining and Event Center, Symphony Room. In attendance were Regents Millner (Chair), Jones (Vice Chair), Evers, Higgins, Klein, Ring, and Tyler.

Committee Actions

The Education Committee unanimously adopted the February 8, 2018, Meeting Minutes. No conflicts of interest were reported. Eight resolutions were unanimously approved, including:

- **Resolution I.1.c.**, Approval of the collaborative online Master of Science in Healthcare Administration, from UW-La Crosse, UW-Parkside, UW-Platteville, UW-Stevens Point, and UW-Stout, with support from UW-Extension;
- **Resolution I.1.d.**, Approval of the Master of Arts in Translation and Interpreting Studies from UW-Milwaukee;
- **Resolution I.1.e.**, Approval of the Bachelor of Science in Software Technology from UW-Oshkosh;
- **Resolution I.1.f.(1)**, Approval of the Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts in Early Child Care and Education from UW-Whitewater;
- **Resolution I.1.f.(2)**, Approval of the Bachelor of Arts in Film Studies from UW-Whitewater;
- **Resolution I.1.f.(3)**, Approval of the Online Master of Science in Finance from UW-Whitewater;
- **Resolution I.1.g.**, Approval of the UW-Parkside Faculty Policies and Procedures relating to Faculty Layoff and Termination; and
- **Resolution I.1.h.**, Approval of the request from UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee to the Vilas Trust Fund

Vice President's Report: Jim Henderson, Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, introduced to the committee, Dr. Benjamin Passmore, who is the new Associate Vice President for the UW System Office of Policy Analysis and Research.

Vice President Henderson also provided an update on the UW System Math Pathways Initiative, which has been awarded a \$2.3 million grant from the Great Lakes Foundation. The key initiative at this time focuses on math pathway gateway courses, which will: (1) assist new students to choose a major that matches their interests; and (2) ensure transfer of courses with no questions asked by the higher education institutions to which students seek to transfer. Each institution has appointed an institutional change taskforce and funds have been transferred from the \$2.3 million grant to each of the campuses. 90% of the grant funds are scheduled to be directly transferred to the campuses, in support of their work. The grant timeline is over a two year time period, and the current goal is to have the courses ready for students who will be entering in the Fall of 2019.

Approval of the Collaborative Online Master of Science in Healthcare Administration: UW-La Crosse, UW-Parkside, UW-Platteville, UW Stevens Point, and UW-Stout, with support from UW-Extension.

Appearing in support of the degree program were: Robert Ducoffe, Provost, UW-Parkside; Aaron Brower, Provost, UW-Extension; and Emmanuel Otu, Dean of Natural Sciences at UW-Parkside.

Provost Ducoffe reported that the collaborative online Master of Science (M.S.) degree program in Healthcare Administration benefits from the combined academic resources of five UW institutions and support from UW-Extension. It is designed for healthcare professionals seeking to advance to management positions in a variety of healthcare settings. Development of the M.S. in Healthcare Administration responds to rapid growth of the healthcare industry, and the associated need for aspiring leaders with the skills required to successfully navigate and lead innovation in this continuously evolving industry. Graduates of the program will primarily serve in middle to upper management positions within for-profit and nonprofit organizations, including hospitals, community health clinics, medical practices, long-term care facilities, managed care organizations, and health services organizations.

The curriculum also will include significant content related to rural healthcare interests. It is assumed that the majority of students will enroll part-time. The growth rate for this degree is projected at nine percent. Within the southeast region of Wisconsin, it is anticipated that the greatest increases will be for positions that require post-graduate degrees. The proposed degree is a collaborative interdisciplinary program that follows a home campus model. Once admitted, the institution to which the student applied becomes the academic home for the student, who will have an academic advisor for admission, graduation, and financial aid counseling. UW-Parkside serves as the lead institution for approval and accreditation with the HLC. Tuition will be identical at all five institutions, fixed rate, no tuition differential for out-of-state student.

Provost Brower described how the collaborative degree program operates. He stated that this program represents the eleventh collaborative degree within the UW System, and it is projected to break even at about the third year of the five year business model. Of the current ten degree programs, eight are revenue generating, with gross revenue of approximately \$12 million, and net profit of approximately \$2.7 million, per campus. Thus, collaborative degree programs have become a steady source of income for participating campuses. Moreover, because these degree programs are tailored to high demand areas, enrollment has increased dramatically and steadily for each program.

Regent Higgins asked how students would choose a home campus. Dean Otu responded that students usually choose their home campus, based upon where they reside. This is because there is exceptional value in going to campus to access university facilities, such as libraries, and to meet personally with advisors about courses, financial aid, and student services. Especially for students who pursue degrees in an online environment, it can be immensely helpful to meet in person with a campus advisor.

Regent Evers asked how in an online format students gain applied learning experiences. Dean Otu explained that applied learning opportunities follow the natural progression of the degree program, which follows accreditation and assessment principles. Thereby, the major culminates with a capstone project, which requires applied learning opportunities in the field of healthcare administration.

Regent Klein asked why these specific campuses participated, but not others, such as UW-Eau Claire. Provost Brower explained that the degree program partners are self-selected. UW-Extension always puts out a call, describing the degree programs that they are likely to develop in the next two year time period, and then campuses can choose to participate in planning and development of the new degree program.

UW-Milwaukee Academic Program Authorization: Master of Arts in Translation and Interpreting Studies.

Provost Johannes Britz appeared on behalf of UW-Milwaukee. He explained that the proposed academic program will build upon, and replace, an existing concentration offered under the M.A. in Language, Literature and Translation. The change will make the program much more visible both on campus and nationally in the field. Presently, UW-Milwaukee does not appear in national database searches by students and funding agencies in the field. Graduates of the program will demonstrate deep knowledge of the fundamental tenets in Translation and Interpreting Studies, as well as the professional skills needed for employment in the language services industry, as translators, interpreters, project managers, and localizers.

UW-Oshkosh Academic Program Authorization: Bachelor of Science in Software Technology

Provost John Koker appeared on behalf of UW-Oshkosh. He explained that the proposal is for a degree completion program, which will allow students with a Software Developer Associate in Applied Science degree from a Wisconsin technical college to complete a Bachelor of Science in Software Technology at UW-Oshkosh. Building on the skills and knowledge that students have acquired in their technical college program, students who earn a degree in Software Technology will possess technical skills in information systems, including web and mobile application development, and user interface design and human computer interaction. Program graduates will be prepared to thrive in collaborative business and technical environments because of a combination of advanced software development, teamwork, project management, and business-oriented skills. Provost Koker also stated that this degree program was developed in direct response to employer demand in the region. Thus, the degree program will provide UW-Oshkosh with the opportunity to draw new students in the region to pursue a new and distinct career pathway.

UW-Whitewater: The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater gained approval from the Education Committee for three degree programs, including the: Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts in Early Child Care and Education; Bachelor of Arts in Film Studies; and Online Master of Science in Finance

(1) Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts in Early Child Care and Education

Provost Susan Elrod, and Dean Katy Heyning of the College of Education, appeared on behalf of the campus. Provost Elrod explained that this is a degree completion program, which is designed for nontraditional students currently working in early childhood settings. The program design will allow students to apply the credential-based credits they previously earned at technical colleges or universities, toward the completion of a bachelor's degree, with an emphasis on teaching or leadership. This flexible and innovative 120-credit program will meet the growing demand from early childhood working professionals to enhance their knowledge and skills, related to teaching and supporting young children and their families in early child care settings. These professionals work in non-licensed positions

as: trainers, technical advisors, consultants, teachers, directors, and administrators of child care centers, preschools, and Head Start programs.

Provost Elrod also explained that this is UW-Whitewater's first degree program for early child care providers. It was created to ensure that professionals working with Wisconsin's youngest children are better prepared to use research based practices in support of children on the job. The program was initiated by a grant from the Early Childhood Foundation.

Regent Tyler thanked the campus for recognizing the acceptance of courses and credits from the technical colleges and from other UW institutions. Regent Millner concurred.

Regent Evers asked whether a career ladder had been considered for students who want to eventually become teachers in the K-12 system. Dean Heyning stated that UW-Whitewater has multiple options for students who come in with a bachelor's degree to complete licensure through credentialing, and this program is designed for students throughout the state to enroll in these kind of classes.

(2) Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Film Studies

Provost Elrod, and Dean David Travis of the College of Letters and Science, appeared on behalf of the campus. Provost Elrod explained that the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) program in Film Studies, expands upon the courses that already are offered within a successful interdisciplinary minor. As of Fall 2017, the minor had 46 enrolled students. Thus, the Film Studies major will provide these students with an interdisciplinary background in writing and analysis skills, as well as creative and critical thinking skills. Film Studies students will learn how visual narratives are created, the cultural contexts that inform them, and how to effectively and persuasively analyze and write about them. Graduates will have the skills necessary to participate in rapidly expanding fields related to the creation, presentation, and interpretation of visual media, in television, radio, social media, and internet-based businesses and public service organizations.

Dean Travis stated that the program will prepare students for growing job opportunities in screenwriting digital and online story telling. It will also prepare students for immediate job opportunities in the field, as well as graduate programs at UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee.

Regent Millner complimented the campus on the interdisciplinary nature of the program. Regent Higgins commented that 24 credits per year does not encourage students to graduate in 4 years, and that our campuses need to encourage students to take 30 credits per year, in order to graduate within 4 years.

(3) Online Master of Science (M.S.) in Finance

Provost Elrod, and Dean John Chenowith of the College of Business and Economics, appeared on behalf of the campus. Provost Elrod explained that the College of Business and Economics currently offers an M.B.A. with eleven different emphases, including an emphasis in Finance. The proposed M.S. in Finance complements the M.B.A. by adding a graduate program specifically tailored toward professionals who are interested in financial analysis. This program will develop finance professionals with a solid foundation in modern finance theory, as well as the capabilities to perform applied research. Further, UW-Whitewater's M.S. in Finance program focuses on industry needs and practical aspects of finance, which is different from traditional M.S. in Finance programs. Students can maintain full-time employment while pursuing a master's degree that will enhance their career opportunities. The online format of the M.S. in Finance program creates a flexible, positive, and inviting environment for multicultural students, students with disabilities, and nontraditional students.

Provost Elrod stated that the program is offered in recognition of the fact that nationally the primary growth in MBA programs is in specialized programs. This new program will provide those interested in advanced study with higher levels of education and training. She also stated that unlike other program proposals this budget shows an expense that shows the actual cost of the program, which benefits from online support. The program starts off with a slight deficit, but it will grow as enrollments grow.

Dean Chenowith described the advisory council, which helped to identify the need for an advanced degree program that develops in students specific skills within the finance arena. He stated that this degree program will help prepare students for certification exams, because of its alignment with CFA exams. Finally, he explained that students will be directly supported throughout their coursework by dedicated online instructional designers and academic advisors.

Regent Jones asked whether there had been market research to assess competitors in this degree program. Dean Chenowith stated that UW-Whitewater is the first mover in this space with a specialized online degree in Finance.

Regent Klein stated that this program builds upon the already demonstrated success at UW-Whitewater in the online, specialized MBA space.

Approval of the UW-Parkside Faculty Policies and Procedures Relating to Faculty Layoff or Termination Policy.

On March 10, 2016, the UW System Board of Regents created Regent Policy Document (RPD) 20-24, Procedures Relating to Financial Emergency or Program Discontinuance Requiring Faculty Layoff and Termination, which states that: "UW System institutions shall submit to the Board of Regents for approval any institutional policy developed in accordance with this Regent policy."

Accordingly, the UW-Parkside Faculty Senate voted in February of 2018 to approve new Policies and Procedures Relating to Faculty Layoff or Termination. Chancellor Deborah Ford submitted a formal request for approval from the Board of Regents of these new procedures. The UW System Office of General Counsel and the Office of Academic and Student Affairs reviewed and approved the proposed policies and procedures, which were unanimously approved by the Education Committee.

Provost Robert DuCoffe appeared on behalf of UW-Parkside. He stated that the UW-Parkside policy was reviewed and approved by both the Faculty Senate and Chancellor Deborah Ford, as well as the UW System Office of General Counsel and Office of Academic and Student Affairs. Therefore, Provost DuCoffe requested final approval from the Board of Regents.

Approval of the Request from UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee to the Vilas Trust Fund.

In the first of an annual, two-step approval process, the Education Committee approved UW-Madison's and UW-Milwaukee's requests to the trustees of the William F. Vilas Trust Estate for \$11 million to \$13.5 million for fiscal year 2018-2019. These funds will support student scholarships, student fellowships, academic programs, Vilas Research Professorships, and Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professorships at both UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee in Biological Sciences, Physical Sciences, Social Sciences, Music, Arts and Humanities. In addition, the Vilas Trustees will provide funding for the Special Building Fund this year, as part of the \$5 million dollar Vilas pledge in support of the UW-Madison School of Music.

Regent Klein raised a point for the record. She expressed concern regarding the changes in academic programming that currently are underway at UW-Stevens Point, and stated that this issue raises a critical question regarding good governance. Regent Klein stated that the Regent policy for academic program discontinuance does not have a clear role for the Board of Regents to review and approve campus recommendations related to discontinuing academic programs. She explained that it is important, in the spirit of good governance, for the Education Committee to hear about program discontinuance from campus leaders. In closing, Regent Klein stated that the Regent policies and UW System guidelines ought to be revised, so that the Board of Regents reviews academic program discontinuance, just as it currently reviews campus requests for new academic programs.

Presentation: *An Overview of 20+ Years of UTeach and Its Impact.*

In order to advance the Education Committee’s ongoing discussion regarding the future of teacher education programs in Wisconsin, Provost Mary Ann Rankin delivered a presentation entitled: “An Overview of 20+ Years of UTeach and Its Impact.” Dr. Rankin was joined in her presentation by Dr. Michael Marder, who currently is the Executive Director of the UTeach Program.

Their presentation described the UTeach Program, which is an innovative teacher training program at the University of Texas at Austin. Over the past 20 years, UTeach has generated a significant increase in highly-qualified STEM teachers in Texas, as well as a significant increase in student learning outcomes in science and math classes, which are gateway courses for postsecondary degree attainment. The UTeach Institute also provides guidance and resources to universities across the United States, to ensure successful implementation and sustainability of similar teacher education programs.