

Education Committee Meeting Minutes Thursday, December 6, 2018

Education Committee

The Education Committee convened at 10:38 a.m. on the UW-La Crosse campus, in Room 2120 of the Student Union. Present were Regents Millner, Jones, Klein, Peterson, Plante, Ring, and Tyler. Absent was Regent Evers. The October 4, 2018 Meeting Minutes passed unanimously. Regent Tyler moved for approval and Regent Ring seconded the motion.

Regent Policy Documents. Regent Millner discussed this agenda item with the Education Committee. She explained that the Board of Regents Secretary's Office recommended combining RPDs 1-1 and 1-2 into a single policy, which incorporates the UW System mission, ensures compliance with state law and accreditation requirements, and meets the standards found in RPD 2-3 for Regent Policy Documents. The Secretary's Office also recommended removal of two Regent Policy Documents that became obsolete after July 1, 2018, including: (1) RPD 18-1: "Organization of Extension and Outreach Activity"; and (2) RPD 18-2: "Implementation of Regent Policy Document 18-1."

This recommendation derives from Resolution 10956, which, along with subsequent resolutions, reorganized the structure of UW Colleges and UW-Extension, effective July 1, 2018. The reorganization returned many of the primary functions of UW-Extension to Wisconsin's land-grant institution, which is a similar structure used to administer extension activities in other states. Specifically, the Board of Regents transferred several UW-Extension divisions and units to UW-Madison, including the Division of Broadcasting and Media Innovations, which includes Wisconsin Public Television and Wisconsin Public Radio; the Division of Cooperative Extension; and UW Conference Centers. The Board also approved transferring to UW System Administration the Division of Continuing Education, Outreach, and E-Learning; the Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service; and the Division of Business and Entrepreneurship.

The Resolution passed unanimously. Regent Tyler moved for approval and Regent Jones seconded the motion.

Vice President's Report. Karen Schmitt, Interim Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, provided an update regarding the UW Colleges and UW-Extension Restructuring Initiative. As part of her remarks, Vice President Schmitt discussed the Division of Continuing Education, Outreach, and E-Learning (CEOEL), which now provides programs and services under the UW System Administration. She introduced Dr. Aaron Brower, UW System Senior Associate Vice President and CEOEL Executive Director. Dr. Brower provided a Powerpoint presentation that described the Division's ongoing efforts to grow the number of people with quality postsecondary education, which is essential to a healthy Wisconsin economy and citizenry. In addition, Dr. Brower discussed: (1) Rebranding of the Division from "CEOEL" to the "UW Extended Campus"; (2) The Collaborative Course Exchange; and (3) Planning for the Collaborative Online Associates Degree.

After completing his presentation, Dr. Brower explained that the Division seeks to increase student enrollment, as part of an enrollment growth strategy for the UW System. He also stated that the

Division provides distinct services from those that are traditionally provided by the UW System Administration. This is because the Division provides academic programming in collaboration with UW System campuses. Thus, the Division provides funding and personnel to support campus-level academic degree programming, and these types of services have not previously been provided by the UW System Administration.

UW-Stevens Point. The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point had three items on the Education Committee meeting agenda. They included the following:

- (1) Update: Point Forward Proposal.** Chancellor Bernie Patterson and Provost Greg Summers described the process for advancing the “Point Forward Proposal” on the UW-Stevens Point campus. Chancellor Patterson explained that on November 12, 2018, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point leadership team presented its vision for the 21st Century comprehensive university to both the campus community and members of the public. On March 5, 2018 the leadership team issued a draft version of the Point Forward proposal to the UW-Stevens Point campus and community. The final version of the Point Forward Proposal was published on November 12, 2018. Subsequently, the campus shared governance groups have established a consultative committee in compliance with Regent Policies. This committee will provide a report and recommendation to the Chancellor in February of 2019. Once Chancellor Patterson receives this report, he will review and provide his recommendation to President Cross. Thereafter, President Cross will provide a recommendation to the Board of Regents in April 2018.
- (2) Approval of the Procedures Relating to Financial Emergency or Program Discontinuance Requiring Faculty Layoff and Termination.** Regent Millner discussed this agenda item with the Education Committee. She explained that on March 10, 2016, the Board of Regents adopted RPD 20-24: “Procedures Relating to Financial Emergency or Program Discontinuance Requiring Faculty Layoff and Termination.” The policy states that “faculty layoff can be invoked only in extraordinary circumstances, and only after all feasible alternatives have been considered.” It also states that: “faculty tenure is of vital importance to the protection of academic freedom, and to the overall academic quality of the University of Wisconsin System institutions.” Thus, UW System institutions are required to submit for approval by the Board of Regents any institutional policy developed in accord with RPD 20-24.

Since 2016, four UW Institutions have sought approval for campus level policies and procedures, including: UW-Madison, UW-Green Bay, UW-River Falls, and UW-Parkside. Subsequently, UW-Stevens Point sought approval to be the fifth UW Institution with campus level procedures. These procedures were approved by both the UW-Stevens Point Faculty Senate and Chancellor Patterson. President Cross and the Office of General Counsel reviewed the procedures, and recommended Board approval. Therefore, the Education Committee is now asked to approve the UW-Stevens Point campus level policy and procedures.

The Resolution passed unanimously. Regent Jones moved for approval and Regent Ring seconded the motion.

- (3) Approval of the Physical Therapy Doctorate.** Provost Summers described this academic degree program for the Education Committee. He stated that residents of central and northern Wisconsin have unmet health rehabilitation needs, due to a shortage of physical therapists practicing in this part of the state. Therefore, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point College of Professional Studies and School of Healthcare Professions propose to establish a Doctor of

Physical Therapy (DPT). The proposed DPT will be a 112-credit, eight-semester, professional entry-level degree, where students are admitted as a cohort in the summer of every year with eight continuous semesters of coursework, as well as an opportunity for an additional semester of electives to develop concentrations in areas of interest and/or community need. The curriculum was developed in partnership with local healthcare providers, and has the specific intent of graduating physical therapists ready to collaborate and serve the evolving and diverse needs of rural communities. The curriculum was also designed to meet the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) accreditation criteria.

Regent Millner asked whether the program would be distinct from a PhD degree, because it is a professional degree program. Provost Summers stated that in the simplest terms, a professional degree tends to be more applied for utilization in a professional field. He also stated that only UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee can offer PhDs, but other campuses can offer professional doctorates, such as the Doctorate in Physical Therapy.

Regent Jones asked whether there was a trend from accrediting agencies to require professional doctorates. Provost Summers stated that there has been such a trend within several fields, especially in the health sciences.

The Resolution passed unanimously. Regent Jones moved for approval and Regent Tyler seconded the motion.

UW-Green Bay. The University of Wisconsin-Green Bay proposed to establish a Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) in Writing and Applied Arts. Provost Greg Davis appeared before the Committee in order to describe the degree program. Provost Davis stated that implementation of the proposed degree program is well timed, as emerging markets for storytelling production and writing in numerous genres—especially the entertainment industry—have exploded in recent years. Two recent business models also have increased the need for creative writers. They include streaming television services like Amazon and Netflix, and crowdfunding resources like Kickstarter. Courses within the degree program will be delivered via a single institution—across all four of the UW-Green Bay campuses. The UW System Restructuring of UW Colleges added three branch campuses for UW-Green Bay, which increased by 80% the number of faculty who teach writing. Thus, this degree program is already fully staffed, and it will be available at the branch campuses for students who do not reside in Green Bay. The campus also will work with partners at Northeastern Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC) to develop complementary and transferable coursework, which will serve both students enrolled in the proposed program and those enrolled in related NWTC programs. Courses will be delivered primarily face-to-face, or in a hybrid format, with no more than 50% of courses delivered via distance education. Supervised practicum, internships, and experiential learning experiences will occur at several community sites. Graduates will be equipped to meet market demand for nonfiction writers, science writers, screenwriters, podcasters, literary outreach coordinators, editors, publishers, librarians, booksellers, literary agents, technical writers, and other arts industries.

Regent Tyler expressed gratitude for the partnership with NWTC, in developing this degree program. He stated that it is important for the UW System institutions to provide opportunity for all students, regardless of where they gain entry into higher education.

The Resolution passed unanimously. Regent Jones moved for approval and Regent Ring seconded the motion.

UW-Milwaukee: Provost Johannes Britz presented on behalf of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He stated that the campus proposes to build upon two, existing degree programs by adding both a Master of Arts (M.A.) in African and African Diaspora Studies, and a clinical Doctorate in Occupational Therapy (OTD). He then described each degree program in more detail.

(1) M.A. in African and African Diaspora Studies. In fall 2008, UW-Milwaukee implemented an African and African Diaspora Studies doctoral program. This academic discipline encompasses the study of, and research about, the African continent and persons of African descent. The proposed masters program will provide an option for doctoral students who must exit doctoral study due to personal or professional reasons, or simply because the M.A. program is better aligned with their professional goals. The program also is designed to meet the demand of local professionals and entrepreneurs who seek additional credentialing and advanced knowledge of African and African-American peoples as they engage these communities in either service or commerce.

The Resolution passed unanimously. Regent Tyler moved for approval and Regent Ring seconded the motion.

(2) Clinical Doctorate in Occupational Therapy. This program responds to a forthcoming accreditation requirement from the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) to convert the existing master's-entry Occupational Therapy (MSOT) program to doctoral-entry by 2027. Per future accreditation expectations, the OTD will subsume the MSOT and become the primary Occupational Therapy professional degree at UW-Milwaukee no later than 2027. The program also responds to requests from current and prospective students for an advanced Occupational Therapy degree, and it will support a strategic priority of the UW System to produce more healthcare professionals who can meet the increasing demand for healthcare services by Wisconsin citizens, especially in underserved areas.

The Resolution passed unanimously. Regent Klein moved for approval and Regent Peterson seconded the motion.

Teacher Education Initiative. In support of the Education Committee's Teacher Education Initiative, two undergraduate students and two recent graduates of the UW-La Crosse Teacher Education Program completed a presentation, titled: "What is the Experience of Students and Graduates of UW System Schools and Colleges of Education? The presentation was videotaped, so that members of the public can view it via the website of the Board of Regents Secretary's Office.

Regent Millner expressed gratitude to Regent Ring for suggesting that the panel provide a student perspective on teacher education and the teaching profession to the Education Committee. She also expressed gratitude to Dr. Marcie Wycoff-Horn, Dean, UW-La Crosse School of Education, Professional & Continuing Education, for her work in assembling the panel members.

Dean Wycoff-Horn introduced the four panelists, including: (1) Undergraduate student: Aidan Murphy from Suamico, Wisconsin, who is completing his first field experience in a sixth grade classroom in the La Crosse School District; (2) Undergraduate student: Melanie Matheus from Germantown, Wisconsin, who is completing her second field experience in a second grade classroom in the La Crosse School District; (3) 2016 alumnus: Kelsey Kutzke from La Crosse, Wisconsin who is in her second year of teaching at Longfellow Middle School in the La Crosse School District; and (4) 2014 alumnus: Garrett Zimmerman

from Hillsboro, Wisconsin, who teaches seventh and eighth grade at the La Crosse Design Institute in the La Crosse School District.

After the panelists completed their presentation, Regent Ring expressed gratitude for their willingness to join the Education Committee and to present the student perspective. He asked: What are some barriers that you feel hinder you from actually entering the profession?

Aidan Murphy stated that employment upon graduation causes concerns for students, especially those in fields that are not in high demand.

Regent Klein asked the panelists about certification and licensure. She asked them to describe the kinds of certification that are available to teacher education program graduates, and whether math certification is also an option for graduates.

Melanie Matheus, Garrett Zimmerman, and Kelsey Kutzke described the certifications that students have available to them at UW-La Crosse, across all grade levels and including math certification.

Regent Tyler stated that he cannot imagine trying to manage 20-30 kids in a classroom, and thus, he expressed gratitude for the work that each of the panelists does in teaching children. He also thanked them for the role they play in shaping the future of society by choosing to be teachers. In closing, Regent Tyler stated that sometimes teachers are overlooked in society, and he thanked them for stepping up to be teachers and to shape the future for students and society.

Regent Millner congratulated the panelists in the progress they have made in their studies and profession. She also expressed sincere gratitude to the panelists for their time and outstanding presentation.

Teacher Education Task Force. Regent Millner instructed Vice President Schmitt to charge a Task Force to address two, specific questions related to teacher education in the State of Wisconsin. They are:

- (1) How can the UW System work collaboratively with key stakeholders to develop financial incentive programs for students to: improve affordability; reduce student loan debt; address teacher workforce shortages; and increase access, enrollment, and graduation from teacher education and administrative leadership programs at our UW Colleges and Schools of Education?
- (2) How can the UW System engage with key stakeholders to understand their concerns, and consider how to raise public esteem for the teaching profession in the State of Wisconsin?

Host Campus Presentation: UW-La Crosse Provost, Betsy Morgan, delivered a presentation titled: "UW-La Crosse Community-Based Experiential Learning."

The Education Committee Meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.