Thursday, December 5, 2019

Education Committee

The Education Committee convened at 10:46 a.m. in Room UC 275 of the James R. Connor University Center on the UW-Whitewater campus. All committee members were present, including Regents Klein, Manydeeds, Hall, Plante, Stanford Taylor, Walsh, Whitburn, and Woodmansee. The minutes passed unanimously.

Vice President’s Report. Dr. Anny Morrobel-Sosa, UW System Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, reported on three items. For the third item, the Vice President was joined by Dr. Carleen Vande Zande, UW System Associate Vice President for Academic Programs and Educational Innovation. The items were:

1. Update: UW System Triennial Remedial Education Report
2. Update: Campus Academic Program Array Reports
3. Annual Report: UW System Academic Program Array

Regent Walsh asked who is ultimately responsible for determining whether a program remains relevant, and who owns the task of communicating with students that a program was no longer viable. Dr. VZ answered that each campus has a cyclical review process at the campus level. She stated that each campus has constructed their own process, but they are very similar across each of our UW System institutions. Provost Scholz stated that the Deans of respective schools and colleges would communicate with students when a program was going to be discontinued. Dr. VZ stated that an institution must utilize a teach out plan and communicate that plan to students.

Regent Klein asked for an explanation as to why we suspend and eliminate programs at a smaller rate than the approval of new programs. Provost Scholz stated that in his experience as Dean of the College of Letters and Science at UW-Madison, the rates of elimination are on par with the addition of new programs. Provost Summers of UW-Stevens Point stated that there is a lot of curricular innovation within degree programs, such that a new degree program is often an elevation of existing concentrations within majors.

The University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health: The Wisconsin Partnership Program Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Report. As required by law, the UW School of Medicine and Public Health and its Oversight and Advisory Committee presented an annual report to the Board of Regents, regarding the activities and expenditure of funds by the Wisconsin Partnership Program. The Education Committee also reviewed the FY 2019 Annual Report of the Wisconsin Partnership Program. The presented was provided by Robert Golden, Dean, UW-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health, and the Robert Turell Professor in Medical Leadership; Vice Chancellor for Medical Affairs at UW-Madison; and Chair of the Board of UW Health.

Regent Klein expressed gratitude to Dean Golden and Dr. Amy Kind for their work in support of the WPP, in particular in guiding the audit of WPP.
Report on UW-Madison’s Nonresident Enrollment Limit Waiver and Revisions to Regent Policy Document 7-3, “University of Wisconsin System Freshman Admissions Policy.” On October 9, 2015, per Regent Resolution 10582, the Board of Regents waived the 27.5-percent nonresident enrollment limit (Regent Policy Document 7-3, section III) for UW-Madison, for 2016-17 through 2019-20. To maintain access for resident students during the waiver period, UW-Madison was required to enroll and maintain a minimum of 3,600 Wisconsin residents in each new freshman class. Further, to enable the Board to determine future action on the waiver, UW-Madison was required to not only provide an interim report, in December 2017, but also a report that describes admission and enrollment activity and other relevant outcomes that result from the waiver, in December 2019. UW-Madison Chancellor, Rebecca Blank, delivered this report to the Education Committee.

Regent Klein expressed gratitude to Chancellor Blank not only for presenting to the Education Committee, but also for her spectacular leadership of UW-Madison. She highlighted her work with Wisconsin Prime, as well as UW-Madison’s move to the common app which has rendered more out of state students. She also highlighted Bucky’s Tuition Promise, which increases access to students form low income families. And finally, she highlighted the 3.96 average graduation time for students at UW-Madison.

Regent Hall asked whether the data could be disaggregated, especially as to trends affecting students of color. Chancellor Blank stated that she is happy to provide this data, and stated that enrollment data already can be disaggregated and is available online. Chancellor Blank also stated that she would be happy to return to speak UW-Madison has

UW-Milwaukee Update: Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin. This initiative builds upon the collective assets of all 13 campuses to collaborate on freshwater research, training, innovation and economic development. At its June 6, 2019, the Board of Regents requested periodic updates on the Freshwater Collaborative. This presentation is the second in a series of such updates, and was provided by Chancellor Mark Mone and Provost Johannes Britz provided on the current status of the Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin (FCW). Provost Britz stated that in response to a grant from WEDC and the UW System, the FC is now hiring an Executive Director to administer the initial goals of the FC. Chancellor Mone provided a legislative update. He stated that UWM has been working very closely with Speaker Voss and Senate Chair Darling on language to be presented to the legislature in January, in support of the FC. They hope to have funding in place by July 1, 2020. The funding will be less than the initial ask and it will have to be applied in freshwater resources in both urban and rural settings. One key pillar in the next biennial budget will be the support and activity of the Board in leading up to the biennial budget process will be vitally important for UWM to successfully build the FC into the next biennial budget.

Regent Klein asked when the new Executive Director will be brought and whether it would be December of 2019. Provost Britz stated that this is the aspiration of the hiring committee, but it will depend upon the candidate who is offered the position.

Regent Klein also asked whether there is a timeline for accomplishing the goals of the FC, especially in regard the integrated curriculum. Chancellor Mone stated that the FC would be happy to provide a timeline. Much of the timeline depends upon base budget funding from the legislature in the off-cycle budget and in the next biennial budget process. The start-up funding from WEDC and UWS allows a start, in terms of building administrative structure, but base funding will be necessary in order to achieve the goals of the FC.
UW-Whitewater Host Campus Presentation: Academic Programs that Inspire, Engage, and Transform Students for Success. Interim Provost Greg Cook provided the host campus presentation on behalf of UW-Whitewater. He stated that the mission for all academic programs is to inspire, engage, and transform students. The presentation highlighted business programs that engage students internationally and propel students to first-place performances in competitions against students from the top business schools in the nation. This presentation also featured an interdisciplinary program in Media Arts and Game Development, with unique levels of academic innovation and collaboration. To demonstrate UW-Whitewater’s unique mission to serve students with disabilities, the presentation concluded by describing a degree program, which provides a new level of university access to adults with moderate to severe cognitive disabilities. Combined, these programs demonstrate UW-Whitewater’s commitment to inclusive excellence—supporting success for all students. Joining Interim Provost Cook were Dr. John Chenoweth, Dean, College of Business and Economics; Dr. Eileen Hayes, Dean Colleges of Arts and Communication; Dr. Jeff Herriott, Coordinator, Media Arts and Game Development; Dr. Robin Fox, Interim Dean, College of Education and Professional Studies; and Dr. James Collins, Associate Professor, Department of Special Education.

Regent Walsh thanked UW-Whitewater for its special education program, and what it needs in order to grow the program. Professor Collins stated that he sought to start small with the program, and that in the three year long-range plan, they hope to double the size of the program each year, by adding eight students per year. He also stated that he hopes to see the program budget grow, particularly as more students enroll. Regent Walsh also asked Dr. Collins whether students who graduate from the program would be tracked in order to determine the impact of the program upon their lives.

Provost Cook closed the program by highlighting the amazing faculty on campus who bring forth ideas like Dr. Collin’s program and that he wished he had the budgetary resources to fund all of these ideas, as Dr. Collins ideas have been funded. He also stated that Dr. Collin’s program fits with UW-Whitewater’s mission to serve students with disabilities.

Regent Klein stated that Agenda Item O has been removed from the agenda. She stated that agenda items g-p, minus o, ought to be placed together and voted on en banc. She asked whether any agenda items ought to be removed from the consent agenda. She also stated that Item k on the agenda should have been limited as a bachelor of business science degree.

UW-Oshkosh: Approval of the Bachelor of Science in Rehabilitation Science. The University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh seeks to establish a Bachelor of Science in Rehabilitation Science. This proposal is driven by demand from current and prospective UW-Oshkosh students, as well as healthcare employment trends. As a result, the major will provide the flexibility and rigor to prepare students for the recently approved M.S. in Athletic Training at UW-Oshkosh. It also will prepare students for entrance into advanced programs in occupational therapy, physical therapy, and chiropractic medicine, along with graduate study in cardiac rehabilitation or the other exercise sciences. The degree will require 120 credits, including 49 credits of general education and 61 credits required for the major. With recent expansion in the breadth of faculty expertise, as well as improvements to laboratory facilities, the department is well-positioned to offer this major without the need for any additional resources.
UW-Platteville: Approval of Three Degree Programs, and the Restructuring of the Bachelor of Business Arts Program.

Bachelor of Science in Construction Management. The University of Wisconsin-Platteville proposes to establish a Bachelor of Science in Construction Management (BSCM) with two emphasis areas: Construction Management and Construction Safety Management. The program, while new in name, is more accurately described as the elevation of two long-standing emphases within the Industrial Technology Management major. The development of this program responds to a workforce demand for individuals who can fill the unmet need for construction managers in an industry that is experiencing historically low unemployment levels and a growing demand for new construction. Establishing the program will provide students with a solid grounding in construction management theory and application, including the high-impact experiences associated with a construction laboratory. Graduates of the program will be highly equipped to oversee a construction project and manage risk and safety issues.

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and Conservation. The University of Wisconsin-Platteville proposes to establish a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science and Conservation (ESC). Environmental science is intimately linked to the state’s major economic drivers of agriculture, engineering, and natural resource management. UW-Platteville has offered a minor with high enrollments in environmental science for many decades. The proposed academic degree program will expand on the enrollment of this popular minor, and provide students with an interdisciplinary and dynamic scientific curriculum. Students will learn to think critically and draw connections among the physical, ecological, social, and information sciences that comprise the growing complexity of environmental issues. Graduates will be equipped to immediately enter the workforce and effectively address, critically process, and solve current and future environmental problems. Program graduates will also be well prepared for graduate studies. Full-time students—those taking 15 credits per semester—will be able to complete the program in four years.

Master of Science in Information Systems Management. The University of Wisconsin-Platteville proposes to establish a Master of Science in Information Systems Management. The program is designed for working mid-career professionals who seek an advanced information systems management degree for promotion in their organizations. Thus, the School of Business will coordinate the degree program with the Center for Distance Learning (CDL), to offer courses online, via asynchronous online modality. As a result, this program will be available to individuals wherever they live and work, and at times that best fit their schedules. The program emphasizes management practices, concepts, and theories rather than technical computer programming skills, such as those found in M.S. in Information Technology Management programs. Upon completion of the program, graduates will be highly equipped to enter middle and senior leadership roles within information systems areas of organizations, such as information technology (IT), management information systems (MIS), business analytics/intelligence (BA/BI), or cybersecurity in a wide variety of organizations.

Restructuring of the Bachelor of Business Arts Degree Program. The University of Wisconsin-Platteville proposes to restructure its existing Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA) degree program. Specifically, the campus seeks to elevate to stand-alone degree programs, six emphases that currently are active in the BSBA degree program. These include:

The change is necessary for several reasons. Feedback from industry partners and alumni indicates that additional depth of knowledge and professional development for students would be valuable in the specific sub-disciplines of business. Hence, these stand-alone degree programs are projected to create more employment opportunities for graduates. In addition, these programs are projected not only to address employer needs for subject-matter specific competencies, but also to attract new students to campus who seek in-depth, subject matter knowledge and professional development opportunities. Finally, from a curriculum standpoint, the reformulation and renaming of the program will improve alignment between the name and the content of each degree program. Lastly, the new program is ultimately a reformulation of an existing program within the School of Business’ program portfolio. This nominal change is an opportunity to improve the relationship between the name and the actual content of the program to better communicate the value that UW-Platteville offers to stakeholders.

**UW-Whitewater: Approval of the Bachelor of Science in Human Performance and the Master of Science in Communication.**

**Bachelor of Science in Human Performance.** The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater proposes to establish a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) program in Human Performance. This proposal reflects the elevation and replacement of the current emphasis in Health, Human Performance and Recreation (HHPR) in the Bachelor of Science in Education (B.S.E.) in Physical Education. The HHPR emphasis enrolled 213 students in Fall 2018. The elevation of the emphasis to a major will redefine and update the program to better serve the needs of professional and graduate school demands. Establishing the program at UW-Whitewater will provide students preparation for rewarding careers in fields based on kinesiology and performance sciences. Graduates will be equipped to pursue opportunities in exercise science, cardiac rehabilitation, exercise physiology, fitness/strength training, health coaching, and graduate studies in exercise science, athletic training and administration, and physical therapy. The 120-credit B.S. in Human Performance will require 47 credits in the major which includes a 6-credit internship and 3-credit capstone requirement.

**Master of Science in Communication.** The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater proposes to establish a Master of Science (M.S.) in Communication, which will replace the current M.S. in Communication. The new program structure and curriculum will substantially differ from the current program, because it will be delivered via distance education, and is designed for working adult learners who are likely to enroll part-time. The development of the program responds to workforce demand for more flexible and varied graduate credentials. Courses will be offered in eight-week terms (six weeks in summer), expediting time to degree or certificate. Students may opt to complete and stack individual certificates, applying the credits toward the degree requirements. Students will demonstrate strong applied communication skills relevant to practicing communication at the intersection of diversity, technology, and social influence. Graduates will not only be equipped to apply principles of effective communication to address practical problems and opportunities, but will also demonstrate advanced abilities to gather, investigate, document, analyze, interpret, evaluate, and synthesize complex information in communication-intensive professions.
Approval of Changes to Regent Policy Document: 20-5, “Faculty Sabbatical Leave Program.” The committee will consider a proposal to rescind and recreate RPD 20-5, “Faculty Sabbatical Leave Program,” to conform with the standards for a Regent Policy Document. The proposed policy clearly states the delegation of authority to the UW System President to establish policies and procedures for awarding sabbaticals, while recognizing that UW Chancellors are responsible for granting sabbaticals. The proposed policy reiterates the important statutory requirement found in s. 36.11(17)(f), Wis. Stats., that faculty must return to the institution that awarded the sabbatical for one year or return any compensation received from the UW System during the sabbatical, highlighting the obligation and the consequences for failing to return to the institution after completing sabbatical.

Approval of Changes to Regent Policy Document: 4-19, “Naming of University Academic Units.” The committee will consider amending RPD 4-19, “Naming of University Academic Units,” to establish standards for naming academic units for corporations or other legal entities. The Capital Planning and Budget Committee is considering a separate proposal to amend RPD 19-14, “Naming of University Facilities and Land,” to establish standards for naming buildings, facilities and land for corporations or other legal entities. Both RPD 4-19 and RPD 19-14 address situations where UW institutions choose to name academic units, buildings, facilities or parcels of land to recognize the scholarship, service, or financial contributions of individuals. However, there is a growing national trend toward naming university facilities after corporate or other legal entities, usually in exchange for a financial contribution to the institution. Adoption of this proposal revises RPD 4-19 to accommodate the considerations required when naming university academic units for a corporation or other legal entity rather than an individual. Corporations or other legal entities include for-profit businesses, non-profit organizations, foundations, trusts, or any similar non-university organization.

Approval of Appointments to the Oversight and Advisory Committee of the Wisconsin Partnership Program. The Regents are asked to approve the appointments of three committee members to the UW School of Medicine and Public Health Oversight and Advisory Committee of the Wisconsin Partnership Program for a one-year term for Dr. Cedric A. Johnson, Dr. Megan A. Moreno, and Dr. Manish Shah. If approved, they will serve for one year as committee members to the UW School of Medicine and Public Health Oversight and Advisory Committee of the Wisconsin Partnership Program, and their terms will expire on October 31, 2020. Attached are their resumes/biographical sketches.