

BOARD OF REGENTS
EDUCATION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

June 15, 2004

Persons in attendance (not all-inclusive):

Committee members: Mary Ellen Becker (Chair), John Forsyth (ex officio), David Neil, Sue Nieland, Jenny Rokes.

Others: Robert Downer, Owen Newlin, Greg Nichols, Robert Barak, Pam Elliott, Tom Evans, Marcia Brunson, Deb Hendrickson, Joan Racki, Tony Girardi, Elaine Newell, Dotti Hale, Barb Briggie, David Skorton, Michael Hogan, Patricia Cain, Gregory Geoffroy, Ben Allen, Robert Koob, Aaron Podolefsky, Tom Schellhardt, Dennis Thurman.

Regent Becker called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

Draft Responsibilities of Committee

Committee members agreed to add "review of Board policy decisions regarding funding of athletics" to the Committee's responsibilities and work plan. At its September meeting, Committee members will discuss a time table for the study.

MOTION: Regent Neil moved to approve the purpose and responsibilities of the Education and Student Affairs Committee. Regent Nieland seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Draft Committee Work Plan

MOTION: Regent Neil moved to approve the Committee's work plan, as modified to include a study of Board policy decisions regarding funding of athletics. Regent Nieland seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Proposed Quality Assurance Projects

MOTION: Regent Becker stated the Committee received the report on the status of existing program review procedures and endorsed the process, by general consent.

MOTION:

Regent Rokes moved to recommend to the Board the undertaking of an assessment of the new program approval procedures of the Board of Regents to be completed by September 2004. Regent Nieland seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Discussion of Athletic Department Recruitment Policies

President Forsyth and President Pro Tem Downer have discussed athletic department recruitment policies. There was an incident related to athletic recruitment at one of the Regent campuses within the last year. Although a determination was made that there was no wrongdoing on the part of the institution or any of its officials, Regents Forsyth and Downer believe the institutions need to have clearly-articulated policies that indicate what activity is and is not appropriate during recruiting. The recruitment policies could be presented to all persons involved with the recruitment process so there would be no misinterpretations.

Regent Becker asked if the intention was to have each institution develop policies for Board review or whether there should be unified policies for all three universities.

Regent Downer said the policies should be uniform, where possible, and eventually there would be a uniform Board policy among the three universities. There may be some differences because of the size of the institutions or because of the conferences. He stated that high standards should be adopted in this regard and should be known by all appropriate persons in the athletics programs.

President Skorton stated that, in response to his request, the University of Iowa's athletic director and compliance officers have provided him with a proposed athletics recruitment policy. He will review the draft policy, and then provide the document to Board members and to his colleagues at the other two Regent universities.

Regent Nieland asked if the Committee would address all of the universities' proposed policies at its September meeting. Regent Becker pointed out that the University of Iowa already had its review process in place, and questioned whether the September meeting might be too soon for the other two universities.

President Geoffroy said Iowa State University has a well-developed policy. The Big 12 Conference has also done a very good job of collecting institutional policies and establishing best practices from a review of those policies. He noted that the NCAA is in the process of establishing recruitment policies.

Regent Becker asked that each institution share its policy with the Committee in September. Upon receipt of the NCAA's new recruitment policy, there might be some further modifications.

Regent Nieland asked if President Skorton would tweak the draft policy that was provided to him. President Skorton stated that he gave the campus group a three-fold charge: (1) review the overarching policies; (2) review the policies at every sport level; and, (3) develop a plan for communication and monitoring of adherence to the policy. He then said he may or may not change the draft policy.

President Koob stated that he could share with the Committee the University of Northern Iowa's athletic recruitment policy.

Regent Becker stated that at its September meeting, the Committee members will review each university's athletic recruitment policy and the NCAA's draft recruitment policy.

MOTION: Regent Nieland moved to add to the work plan for the September meeting a review of each university's athletic recruitment policy and the NCAA's draft recruitment policy. Regent Neil seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Interactions with Other Educational Sectors

Assistant Director Girardi reported on the Iowa Learns Council, which was charged by the Governor to review and make recommendations concerning the state's education system. The Council's time line calls for public input on initial draft recommendations and for follow-up work in the summer and fall of 2004. He stated that a steering committee of the Iowa Learns Council met with the Governor about a month ago. The Governor was very clear in what he asked the Council to bring forward. The Governor encouraged the Council to think "outside the box".

Executive Director Nichols said he expected that, by the end of the summer, the Council's draft recommendations would be ready for review.

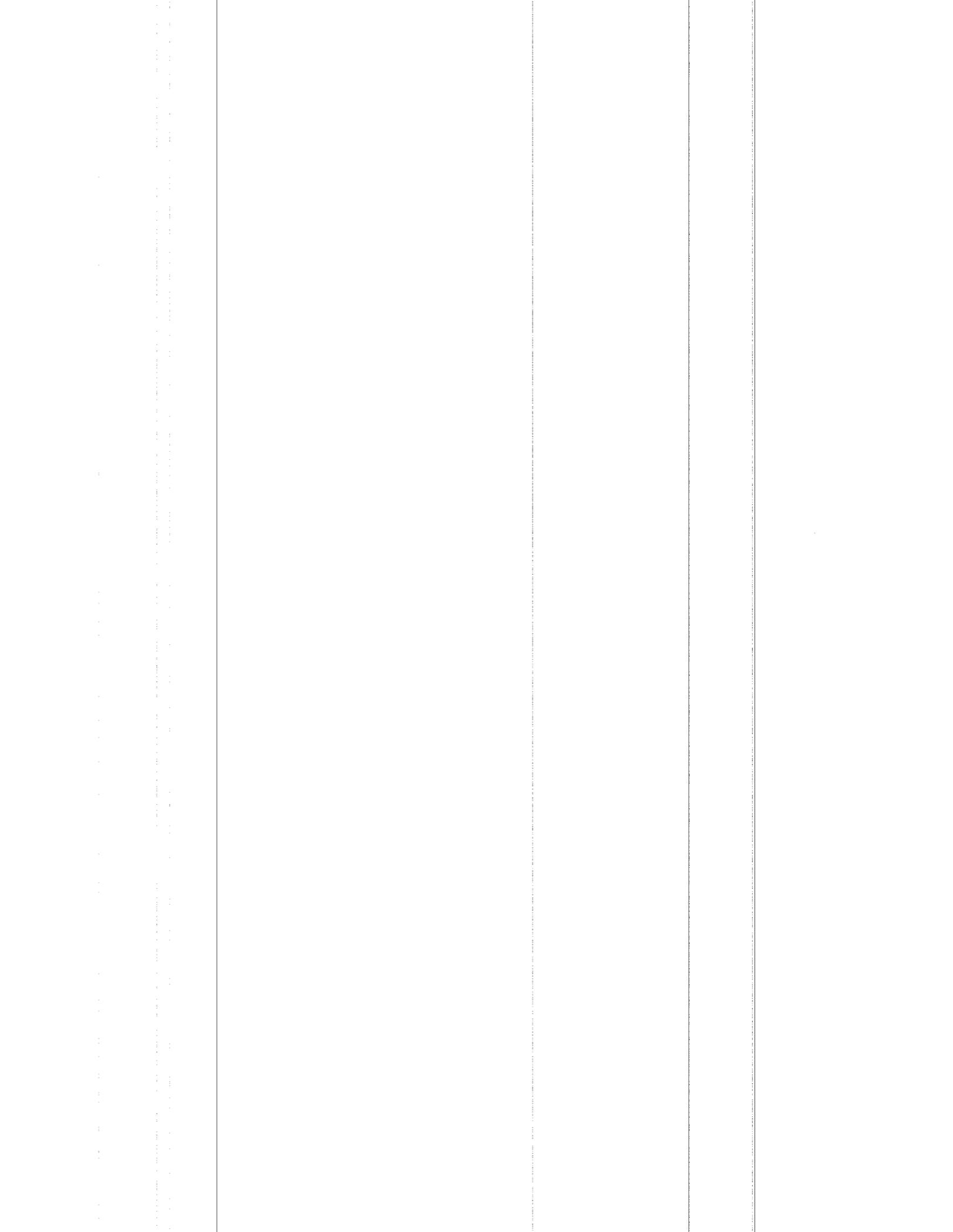
ACTION: Regent Becker stated the Committee received the report on the Iowa Learns Council, by general consent.

Discussion of Reporting by Sub-Groups

There were no items for discussion.

Discussion of New Courses and Programs

MOTION: Regent Neil moved to recommend that the Board refer the University of Iowa's proposed course changes to the Board Office and the



Interinstitutional Committee on Educational
Coordination for review and recommendation.
Regent Rokes seconded the motion. MOTION
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Regent Becker addressed the University of Northern Iowa's proposed new major in bioinformatics. She asked for clarification regarding the indication in the meeting materials regarding whether there should be any conditions on similar future programs at the other two institutions.

President Geoffroy said he questioned whether such a point needed to be included in the Board's approval of the program. It was important to note that bioinformatics is a major institutional focus at Iowa State University. Iowa State University has one of the strongest overall graduate programs in bioinformatics in the nation. The University does not currently offer undergraduate programs but University officials would not want to be closed out of the opportunity to bring forward in the future an undergraduate program. He said he hoped that the Board's approval of the program at the University of Northern Iowa would not impact the other two universities' future abilities to offer such a program.

President Skorton expressed agreement with President Geoffroy. He also pointed out that bioinformatics is a very broad term. For example, the University of Iowa has for years had a program in health informatics. Some aspects of library information science, computer science, and electrical engineering could be considered bioinformatics. He stated that bioinformatics is an area in which the Regent enterprise needs to put more emphasis both in academics and economic development.

Regent Becker asked for a description and examples of bioinformatics. Bart Bergquist, Acting Head of the University of Northern Iowa's Department of Computer Science, stated that University officials looked at areas where there are needs in the state, particularly now that Governor Vilsack has encouraged development in such areas. The University of Northern Iowa has expertise in analyzing databases that are being developed for genetic code and protein sequences. He said the University's focus will largely be on the medical biological aspects of protein sequences and DNA sequences.

Regent Becker asked if the program related to software development or included a hardware component. Dr. Bergquist responded that the program would involve heavy usage of servers because of the magnitude of the databases and the application of computer software. He stated that much of the information currently available from national resources has already been downloaded.

President Skorton expressed support for the University of Northern Iowa's proposed program.

Regent Nieland asked if it was likely that each institution might offer an undergraduate major in bioinformatics because it is a key new area. President Geoffroy responded that it was possible that each university might eventually offer an undergraduate major

in bioinformatics. President Skorton stated that bioinformatics is a very good example of an interdisciplinary field.

MOTION: Regent Neil moved to recommend that the Board approve the University of Northern Iowa's proposal to establish a new Bachelor of Science degree in Bioinformatics. Regent Rokes seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MOTION: Regent Nieland moved to recommend that the Board approve the University of Northern Iowa's proposal to establish a new Bachelor of Science degree in Networking and System Administration. Regent Neil seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

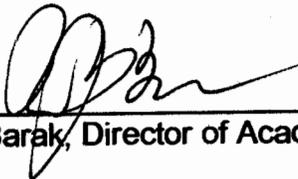
Status Report on Lakeside Laboratory

Director Barak introduced Lakeside Laboratory Interim Director Corinne Peterson. He then stated that a contract has been negotiated between Iowa State University Extension Service and the Board's appointed committee to carry out a number of functions including selection of an interim director and studies designed to improve operations and academic program content of Lakeside Laboratory. He said meetings have taken place with participating faculty. Efforts are being made to establish regular communications with the faculty. One issue identified by Friends of Lakeside Laboratory is water testing. One study will look at the maintenance needs of the Laboratory.

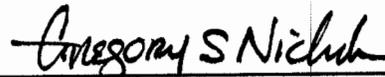
President Forsyth asked, if appropriate, that the studies be presented to this Committee upon completion. Director Barak responded that the studies would be presented to this Committee upon completion. He noted that the studies are anticipated to be completed in time for presentation to the Committee at its December meeting.

ACTION: Regent Becker stated the Committee received the report, by general consent.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.



Robert J. Barak, Director of Academic Affairs



Gregory S. Nichols, Executive Director