

*BOARD OF REGENTS
EDUCATION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE*

September 14, 2004

Persons in attendance (not all-inclusive):

Committee members: Mary Ellen Becker (Chair), Amir Arbisser, David Neil, Sue Nieland, Jenny Rokes.

Others: Robert Downer, Owen Newlin, Greg Nichols, Robert Barak, Gary Steinke, Carol Bradley, Pam Elliott, Tom Evans, Tony Girardi, Diana Gonzalez, Barb Boose, Barb Briggie, David Skorton, Michael Hogan, Doug True, Lola Lopes, Bob Bowlsby, Fred Mims, Steve Parrott, Chet Rzonca, Gregory Geoffroy, Warren Madden, Mark Chidister, David Holger, Robert Koob, Aaron Podolefsky, Tom Schellhardt, Renee Romano, Susan Koch, Stacy Van Gorp, Jim Bodensteiner, Dennis Thurman (excused at 9:55 a.m.)

Regent Becker called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Regent Becker asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the June 15, 2004, Education and Student Affairs Committee meeting.

Regent Nieland asked, as she had for the Human Resources Committee meeting, that the minutes be distributed to the Regents before the next Committee meeting, which is usually two months subsequent

Executive Director Nichols suggested, as an effort to minimize the paper flow, that draft minutes be provided as an email attachment.

MOTION: Regent Nieland moved to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2004, Education and Student Affairs Committee meeting, as written. Regent Rokes seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Iowa Learns Council Report

Assistant Director Girardi provided a brief overview of the Iowa Learns Council report which included a statement of a case for change as well as recommendations. He reminded Committee members that the Council consisted of three teams focusing on different aspects of the educational sequence. The Council's report highlights and combines recommendations from the respective teams. Themes of the

recommendations included partnerships, expectations, professional development, and leadership. An important recommendation in the theme of “partnerships” is to establish a new Iowa Partnership for Education and the Economy with members from business, labor, education, and Iowa communities. The recommendation calls for an ongoing conversation among these constituencies. The theme of "expectations" particularly reflects the Governor's emphasis on early learning opportunities for Iowa's young children.

Regent Becker asked about implications of the Iowa Learns Council report for the Regent institutions and whether a schedule for Regent follow up should be developed. Assistant Director Girardi responded that the recommendations call for higher expectations for students coming out of high school, which was a key element for the Regent institutions. Ongoing dialogue with educators, business and the public was another key element for the Regents. He said other areas might be flushed out in time. He noted that the Governor suggested the report would help inform the budget policy process in the future.

Regent Becker asked if it would be possible for Board staff and officials of the five institutions to review the report in light of the Regents strategic plan to determine what the connections might be, by the December meeting of this Committee.

Executive Director Nichols pointed out that seven members of the Iowa Learns Council work within the Regent enterprise. Therefore, there was a body of knowledge within the institutions about the motivation behind some of the Council's recommendations. He said there would be a better sense of what the Governor feels are the most important initiatives when the Governor addresses the Board of Regents on the following day.

Regent Downer stated that the work of Team 3 was also an area in which the Board's Economic Development Committee has been working and which present significant opportunities. He said the Economic Development Committee would be pleased to join with the Education and Student Affairs Committee on that particular phase of the Iowa Learns Council report.

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

Work Plan for IBSSS Study

Director Barak first presented the work plan time schedule for the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School study Task Force. The last meeting of the Task Force is scheduled to occur in February 2005, with a final report to the Board in March 2005.

Regent Becker expressed appreciation for the sequence of the work plan, which begins with an understanding of the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School as it has been historically and moves into current and future needs of the students.

Committee members discussed whether or not to request a status report prior to the final report of the Task Force, and determined it would be best to wait to receive the final report.

Executive Director Nichols stated there is not a pre-determined outcome of the study. The goal is to determine the best recommendations to serve students.

Regent Downer noted that the timeline was ambitious.

Superintendent Thurman stated that a newspaper headline that morning indicated that the “Iowa School for the Blind” could close its doors. Since recommending this Task Force, Superintendent Thurman has emphasized to the School community – teachers, students and families – that the Board’s purpose is not to merge or close the School. However, parents have read the headline and telephoned him. Some people believe the School is about to close. He said it would be valuable if there were a Board resolution indicating the purpose of the study was not to merge or to close the School.

Regent Becker stated that the purpose of the study is to provide direction for the future of Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School; to improve services for children and to seek efficiencies.

Director Barak presented the list of Task Force members, which is to be chaired by former Regent Bev Smith.

The Committee members expressed pleasure with the range of individuals serving on the Task Force.

Regent Neil pointed out that the Task Force has to take into account the federal law which provides guidance to educational systems for students with disabilities. Also, two years ago, he met with members of the Legislative Education Committee and heard the members’ outrage at the cost to educate blind students and deaf students. Therefore, he said the Regents are meeting their fiduciary responsibility by addressing the issue of cost, which legislators believe is exorbitant.

Director Barak noted that, due to the public interest in the Task Force, a mailing list of individuals who have a special interest in the Task Force is being maintained in the Board Office.

Regent Becker said she assumed the Task Force’s meetings would be open for public attendance. Executive Director Nichols responded affirmatively. He stated that, in order for the outcome to be accepted, the deliberations have to be transparent. Information about the meetings will be made available to all interested persons.

Regent Becker expressed appreciation for the work of the Board Office staff and Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School staff. She was pleased to see that the study was grounded in students' needs.

MOTION: Regent Nieland moved to approve (1) the proposed work plan and (2) the proposed membership of the Task Force studying the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School. Regent Neil seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Distance Education Work Plan

Assistant Director Girardi stated that, per the Board's request in August, the provosts had developed a work plan for a distance education strategic plan for consideration by the Education and Student Affairs Committee. Activities identified in the work plan include collection and review of relevant information; two planning group meetings; two progress reports to the provosts and an opportunity for preliminary discussion with the provosts; and, submission of a plan to the Education and Student Affairs Committee in March 2005.

Regent Nieland noted there were references to "Jude West" in the work plan, and asked for an explanation. President Skorton responded that Jude West is a distinguished senior faculty member of the Tippie College of Business. Professor West was recruited by Professor Willard "Sandy" Boyd to work in the non-profit area.

Dean Rzonca presented a summary of the work plan for a distance education strategic plan.

Regent Nieland noted the quick turnaround presented in the work plan, and commended institutional officials for their efforts.

Regent Becker asked what was anticipated with regard to implementation of any suggested recommendations. Dean Rzonca responded that the expectation was that some of the recommendations would be acted on immediately and some would take place over multiple years.

MOTION: Regent Neil moved to receive and approve the Regent universities' work plan for a distance education strategic planning process. Regent Arbisser seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Course Changes, University of Iowa.

Associate Provost Holger presented, on behalf of the ICEC, the University of Iowa's proposed course changes. The proposed course changes represent the continuing response of the University to the changing educational needs of students, changing disciplinary emphases, and the academic vitality of faculty.

Regent Arbisser asked for the average number of courses that are offered in any one semester. Provost Hogan said he could find out an exact number but that he was confident the number was 1,000 courses or more.

MOTION: Regent Arbisser moved to approve the University of Iowa's proposed course changes. Regent Rokes seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Proposed Master's Degree Program, UNI.

Associate Provost Holger presented, on behalf of the ICEC, the University of Northern Iowa's proposed M.A. program in Philanthropy and Nonprofit Development.

Regent Nieland stated that University officials had presented an exciting offering. She asked if there are similar Master's degree programs offered in any of the surrounding states.

Director Van Gorp said there are 10 non-profit Master's degrees offered across the country but only a few focus specifically on philanthropy. The University of Indiana also has a doctorate program which focuses on philanthropy.

Regent Nieland asked if there are opportunities to expand the University of Northern Iowa's program offering beyond the boundaries of the Iowa Communications Network. Interim Dean Bodensteiner responded that, approximately 1-1/2 years ago, 60 respondents expressed an interest in the program in Iowa. Once the program is approved and the curriculum established, those 60 individuals will be contacted to determine their current interest. The program will be offered on the Iowa Communications Network because most of those interested in the program are working adults. If a determination is made to continue to offer the program through distance education, University officials would consider offering the program beyond the state of Iowa. Doing so would require utilizing some other technology, such as Polycom internet, because the Iowa Communications Network basically stops at the state's borders.

Regent Downer commended University of Northern Iowa officials for the program proposal. He said it was an example of a Regent institution being attentive and responding to the needs of the state.

MOTION: Regent Arbisser moved to approve the University of Northern Iowa's request to establish an M.A. program in Philanthropy and Nonprofit Development. Regent Nieland seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Proposed B.S. and M.S. Degrees, ISU.

Associate Provost Holger presented Iowa State University's proposal to establish a new Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degree program in Diet and Exercise for referral to the Board Office and the Interinstitutional Committee on Educational Coordination (ICEC) for review and recommendation.

Regent Nieland said the proposal was a great example of the synergy in merging colleges.

ACTION: Regent Becker stated the Committee, by general consent, referred Iowa State University's proposal to establish a new bachelor of science and master of science program in Diet and Exercise to the Board Office and the Interinstitutional Committee on Educational Coordination for review and recommendation.

M.S. Degree Program, ISU.

Associate Provost Holger presented Iowa State University's proposal to establish a master of science degree in Enterprise Computing for referral to the Board Office and the Interinstitutional Committee on Educational Coordination (ICEC) for review and recommendation.

ACTION: Regent Becker stated the Committee, by general consent, referred the proposal to establish a Master of Science degree in Enterprise Computing to the Board Office and the Interinstitutional Committee on Educational Coordination for review and recommendation.

Athletic Recruitment Policies

Assistant Director Girardi reminded the Committee members that, at the last meeting, the institutions were asked to provide copies of their athletic recruitment policies and the NCAA Division I's new legislation related to athletic recruitment.

Regent Becker asked for comment from the presidents.

President Geoffroy stated that university officials will make sure that institutional policies on recruiting are in full alignment with the new rules of the NCAA, which are being significantly tightened.

Director Bowsby stated that the University of Iowa was in the process of reviewing its athletic recruiting guidelines when the allegations by Nick Patton arose. The Iowa Attorney General's Office exonerated the University from any culpability in that regard. He said the matter put the University of Iowa in a leadership position relative to the development of recruiting guidelines. There have been some clarifications and amendments to the University's guidelines. Collaboration has occurred with the University of Northern Iowa and Iowa State University, as well as with other institutions. The University has participated in the NCAA's development of its new recruiting guidelines. He said he believes the new NCAA bylaws will bring a measure of moderation into the recruiting environment.

There was discussion about the development of a comprehensive recruiting policy for all three universities.

President Skorton suggested the athletic directors could develop overarching principles for the Regent enterprise to include recruiting guidelines and common features.

Regent Becker stated that such a statement of principles would be added to the work plan for the Committee's December meeting.

President Koob stated that university officials will make sure that institutional policies on recruiting are in full alignment with the new rules of the NCAA, as was indicated by President Geoffroy. He noted that the University of Northern Iowa underwent a broad-based NCAA certification process over the last year.

ACTION: Regent Becker stated the Committee received the information submitted by the universities, by general consent.

Academic Program Review Recommendations

Director Barak addressed the Board's processes for quality assurance in academic programs. He stated that last Spring the Board agreed it would evaluate the Regent university academic program review and student outcomes assessment procedures based on best practices. Director Barak discussed the activities that have taken place to date and the Board Office's final conclusions and recommendations. He stated that the best program reviews are done at the institutional level and lead to program improvement. The audit undertaken by the Board Office was to make sure those institutional processes are credible.

General comments were provided by Director Barak about all of the institutions' processes. There is a tendency to substitute administrative and department review for

program reviews. He said the focus seems to be on administration and not on the programs. With regard to approaches to student outcomes assessment, he stated that consideration should be given to utilizing the information for decision making. There are some instances where the student outcomes assessments are used very well and those might be used as examples for other departments. Another issue identified by Dr. Barak was the question of whether accreditation reviews may substitute for program reviews. He said the program reviews should go beyond a review of minimum standards and look for program improvement.

Director Barak stated that some self studies tend to be descriptive and not evaluative. He said the institutions need to go beyond the continuation of some programs, to possibly look at down sizing, merging or dropping programs. He pointed out that on Iowa State University's website there was a proposal to add some of these activities to the University's academic program review process.

Director Barak said the Board Office's intent was to encourage the universities to consider the items identified for possible improvements. One of the recommendations was that a report be prepared next year to assist the Committee in addressing whatever follow up has been taken.

Regent Becker commended Director Barak, Assistant Director Gonzalez and Assistant Director Girardi for the report on a topic that was at the heart of teaching and learning at the universities. She said the institutions were being asked to make sure there is a continuous improvement process. She asked that the provosts take on the recommendations and follow up in a year on what has been accomplished.

Provost Hogan, on behalf of his colleagues, expressed appreciation for the attention the Board Office had given this matter. He said the provosts would be wrestling with the issues and would return to the Committee in September 2005 with a follow up for each institution.

Provost Podolefsky noted that during the University of Northern Iowa's strategic planning cycle of the past five years, ten major academic programs and twenty minor academic programs had been closed. He stressed the importance of faculty being allowed to do an honest self-study. If faculty perceive that one of the purposes of a program review is potential program closure, the process could change from a serious self evaluation into a political process.

Regent Becker stated the Committee was asking for a spirit of continuous improvement.

Regent Newlin pointed out that the report had five to seven recommendations for each university. He suggested the Committee could ask the universities to follow through on each of the recommendations.

Regent Becker asked that the universities address both the general recommendations for all of the institutions and the individual institutional recommendations at the September 2005 Committee meeting.

MOTION: Regent Nieland moved to (1) receive the audit report on academic program review and student outcomes assessment of existing programs; (2) approve the recommendations for institutional process improvements noted at the end of the findings for each university; (3) request a follow-up report next year with a focus on the changes that occurred as a result of this audit; and (4) update the Board of Regents' policy (§6.05B) to clarify the desired focus and emphasis on academic program reviews and student outcomes assessment. Regent Neil seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Regent Becker asked that staff draft an appropriate policy for consideration at the December 2004 Committee meeting.

Faculty Activity Reporting

Director Barak stated this item was a follow-up to the Board's request for an evaluation of the faculty activity report. The working group that is reviewing the faculty activity report questions whether the report is still desired by the Board. If so, what is the purpose of the report?

Regent Downer stated this subject was discussed by the Board's Public Policy Task Force, where the consensus was that this type of report is needed. Issues of concern include accountability, outreach, being responsive to the needs of lowans, and informing citizens of what is going on at the campuses. The reports, which are an important way for the Board and institutions to communicate with the public, are publicized by the news media. He said some people think the only time faculty members are working is when they are teaching in the classroom. There are people who do not understand the research and service elements of faculty's responsibilities.

Regent Neil encouraged the institutions to go forward with the report, including incorporating improvements that may be deemed appropriate.

Regent Becker stated that, at a minimum, the Committee would want to have a good, solid report that continues the effort that is reflected in Board policy. Other approaches that may be suggested would be entertained by the Committee.

Director Barak stated the current faculty activity report is confusing and is unclear in terms of all of faculty's activities. He recommended that the working group's review of

the report should start from scratch. In December, the Committee will be provided with a suggested format for review and approval. Regent Becker expressed support for Director Barak's suggestion.

President Koob stated that documentation of faculty time, whether it is done individually or departmentally, is a micro-level activity at the University of Northern Iowa. Faculty, as professionals, self-manage much of their time. Nonetheless, every department chair is concerned about how faculty spend their time and how faculty time is parceled among teaching, research and service activities.

Regent Becker asked if Director Barak had received sufficient input with which to move forward. Director Barak responded affirmatively.

ACTION: Regent Becker stated the Committee, by general consent, discussed alternatives for collecting information on Faculty Activities and provided the Board Office and institutions with directions for future faculty activity reporting.

University of Iowa Accreditation Reports

Provost Hogan presented the University of Iowa's accreditation reports for the Graduate Programs in Speech Pathology and Audiology and the Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology.

Regent Downer referred to a concern identified by the accreditation team that additional space, including laboratory space, was needed for the Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology. He asked if it was possible to accommodate additional space within the existing structure. Provost Hogan responded that Seashore Hall renovation is on the University's capital list. The School of Journalism is moving out of that building which would free up some space.

Regent Becker offered the Committee's congratulations to those who worked on both of the programs' accreditations, stating that both programs had received the maximum accreditation.

ACTION: Regent Becker stated the Committee, by general consent, received the following accreditation reports from the University of Iowa: (a) Graduate Programs in Speech Pathology and Audiology and (b) Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology.

University of Iowa Post-Audit Reports

Provost Hogan stated that University officials would provide the Board with answers to questions posed by the Board Office at later date.

Regent Becker said she was surprised at the lack of information for the Master of Computer Science program. Provost Hogan responded that a migration of students from the Master of Science program to the Master of Computer Science program posed a tracking problem for the department.

ACTION: Regent Becker stated the Committee, by general consent, (1) received the following post-audit reports from the University of Iowa: (a) Ph.D. in Second Language Acquisition, (b) Master of Computer Science and (c) Graduate Program in Translational Biomedicine; and (2) referred the post-audit reports to the Interinstitutional Committee on Educational Coordination and the Board Office for review.

Study of Student Financial Aid

Director Barak stated this item was about collecting student financial aid data to provide the Board with an understanding of the unmet financial needs of students. He said conversations have taken place with institutional officials regarding gathering some quick data from the last couple of years as a short-term gap filler. The data would not be comparable with other institutions but would give a sense of the issue at the Regent institutions. Iowa's Regent institutions will be a part of the next round of the national study. Those involved in the study have indicated they will provide training to Assistant Director Gonzalez to investigate the current national study data to provide comparable information for Iowa. He asked that the Committee members choose one or two of the tables from which to develop comparable data on Iowa.

Regent Arbisser asked about obtaining information on the level of financial support that students receive from work outside of the universities. Director Barak responded that a number of years ago the student financial aid officers would provide estimated hours that students were working but those were not accurate.

Regent Neil asked if consideration had been given to asking the student governments to assist in collecting the data. Assistant Director Gonzalez responded that the University of Northern Iowa has been trying to gather some of that information but collectively consideration has not been given to such a strategy.

Regent Neil suggested that consideration be given to developing such a partnership with the student governments and university administrations.

Regent Becker said she was pleased with the suggestion to provide data in the short-term that is not too resource intensive.

Regent Nieland asked Director Barak on which of the tables should comparable information be requested. Director Barak suggested tables 4.2 and 4.4B.

MOTION: Regent Neil moved to approve both approaches to data collection – a short-term and a long-term approach. Regent Nieland seconded the motion.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Academic Program Review Including Student Outcomes Assessment Report

Assistant Director Gonzalez presented a summary of the report. She said the report represented a major quality assurance effort of Regent university academic programs. There were 24 program reviews conducted during FY 2003.

Assistant Director Gonzalez stated that the typical steps of an academic program review include a self-study, external peer review, and an implementation plan. She said the student outcomes assessment measures and the links to curricular changes varied extensively. There is a need to more fully describe student outcomes and links to course changes/program improvements resulting from student outcomes assessments. She said some program reviews focused more on facilities, equipment and faculty, and did not focus specifically on students and/or program curriculum. The purposes of academic program review are to enhance program effectiveness and to ensure that student learning occurs. Therefore, where necessary, the external reviews need to focus on program improvements which enhance quality and directly benefit students.

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

College of Public Health Five-Year Progress Report

Dean Merchant provided a PowerPoint presentation which highlighted the first five years of operation of the College of Public Health. He pointed out that the College is already considered a national school of public health. Strategic planning is a dynamic process which includes an annual review of the mission, vision, themes, core values, goals, objectives and measurable indicators. He stated that the College received state funding for the first two years of its existence. The University then reallocated some funds to the College. Despite recurring budget cuts amounting to nearly \$850,000 over the last four fiscal years, the College of Public Health has enjoyed a steady increase in general education funding.

Dean Merchant stated that a number of strides have been made at the College. Faculty offset over one-half of their salaries. The goal is to achieve a faculty contingent of 125-150 when the College is mature. He presented information on the College's students and degree programs. Nearly 700 students are being taught by the faculty of the College of Public Health. Undergraduate enrollment has had to be limited. He next addressed research funding, which he said has nearly doubled. College of Public

Health faculty also collaborate as co-investigators with faculty of other colleges. The University of Iowa's College of Public Health has become a regional College of Public Health. The College's service outreach touches all of Iowa's 99 counties as well as several other Midwestern states – especially Kansas, Nebraska, and South Dakota – where there are no schools of public health.

Dean Merchant stated that the College of Public Health has been involved in the development and evaluation of numerous public health policies, which is facilitated through the College's centers and institutes. He said the challenges faced by the College are several. The College has no classrooms; therefore, it uses whatever classrooms are "left over", which limits the number of students who can be taught. He cautioned that the College cannot wait 6-7 years for a new academic home. There is also a tremendous problem with research space. Currently, research is located in 16 buildings on- and off-campus. He said he hoped the Board would maintain some flexibility regarding the schedule for a building for this new College.

Regent Downer referred to the relationships with Kansas, Nebraska and South Dakota, and asked if any financial support is provided for the College by those states. Dean Merchant responded that the College does not receive financial support from those states. The activities are funded, in large part, by federal center grants.

Regent Newlin congratulated Dean Merchant on all that has been accomplished in five years. He then referred to the College's strategic plan and suggested that consideration be given to inclusion of a culture statement, especially since the culture has been very important to the College's success.

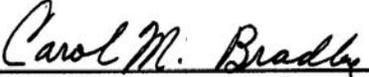
Dean Merchant responded that culture is an important part of the mission of the College. College officials are very concerned about health disparities, for example. He said the College has just recruited Joe Coulter who will provide tremendous strides in addressing health disparities, especially with the Native American community.

Regent Neil commended Dean Merchant for the leadership he has provided to the College. He then asked how many students would be enrolled in the College if the College had received the funding that was envisioned in the beginning. Dean Merchant responded that if the College still had the \$850,000 from the reversions of the last four years, 17 assistant professors could have been recruited. If the College had received the \$5 million that was recommended by the Board, the goal of 125 faculty could have been achieved by 2010. The College would serve many more undergraduates if there was sufficient space. College officials would like to be able to develop an undergraduate major, and facilities are part of what will make that a reality.

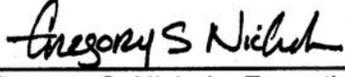
Regent Becker thanked Dean Merchant and his faculty for their great work.

ACTION: Regent Becker stated the Committee received a report on the University of Iowa College of Public Health, by general consent.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.



Carol M. Bradley, Interim Director of
Academic Affairs



Gregory S. Nichols, Executive Director

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