

Contact: Rachel Boon

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 5, 2020 COMMITTEE MEETING

**EXECUTIVE BOARD ROOM
BOARD OF REGENTS OFFICE
URBANDALE, IOWA**

Academic Affairs Committee Members

Nancy Boettger (Chair)	Monteserrat Fuentes, University of Iowa
Jim Lindenmayer (Vice Chair)	Jon Wickert, Iowa State University
Rachel Boon, Board staff	Jim Wohlpart, University of Northern Iowa

Campus and Student Affairs Committee Members

Jim Lindenmayer (Chair)	Martino Harmonn, Iowa State University
Zack Leist (Vice Chair)	Paula Knudsen, University of Northern Iowa
Jason Pontius, Board staff	Laura McLeran, University of Iowa

Others

Regent Bates, Regent Dunkel, Regent Barker, Regent Liest

Chair Boettger called the meeting to order at 9:15am

Approval of Academic Affairs Committee minutes from November meeting

Amendments: None offered

Approved as presented.

Approval of Campus and Student Affairs Committee minutes from November meeting

Amendments: None offered

Approved as presented.

SUI New Program Request: Bachelor of Arts in Education Studies and Human Relations

Provost Fuentes noted that this program will be in the College of Education and will serve students who currently pursue a minor in this area or who pursue careers in various human services areas. Students currently use this minor to help gain training for jobs in the non-profit and educational sectors where they engage in training, program development and other related jobs.

Committee will recommend approval to the full Board of Regents.

SUI Program Requests:

Extend admissions suspension for Biomedical Sciences Legacy Programs

Provost Fuentes described the umbrella degree introduced in 2016 to bring together programs with some similar elements to see if it helped create an improved recruitment environment. It did not have the expected impact for all programs in the umbrella. Several of them would like to continue the admissions suspension for one more year.

Regent Lindenmayer asked about the decision to not pursue separate accreditation for two of the programs. Provosts Fuentes and Wickert noted that many of these PhD programs do not require accreditation.

Re-open admissions in Doctor of Philosophy in Biochemistry

Re-open admissions in Doctor of Philosophy in Immunology

Re-open admissions in Doctor of Philosophy in Microbiology

The committee will recommend approval of each request to re-open admissions, as well as the request to extend the admissions suspension for the remaining five biomedical sciences programs.

Annual Distance Education Report

Board Chief Academic Officer Rachel Boon shared highlights from the Distance Education report. Last year there was continued growth in courses, programs and enrollments through distance education. The Western Iowa Regents Resource Center grew its outreach throughout the 25 counties it serves, as noted by increased distance education enrollments in 20 of the 25 counties. The Regents Alternative Pathway to Iowa Licensure (RAPIL) program recommended 32 individuals for teacher licensure in 2019. Currently there are 48 individuals enrolled in the RAPIL program.

Annual Student Financial Aid Report

Board Associate Chief Academic Officer Jason Pontius introduced the Directors of Financial Aid Roberta Johnson (ISU), Cindy Seyfer (SUI) and Tim Bakula (UNI). The directors presented the Annual Report.

Director Johnson noted that Iowa public universities have heavy reliance on federal programs and institutional aid. Many states have much greater state-funded programs.

Director Seyfer said the vast majority of loans are through federal programs. Parent PLUS loans are no longer packaged for students, though families do still get that information about availability.

Over the past 10 years, the proportion of financial aid coming from the universities has grown, while state and federal sources have decreased proportionally. Most aid from institutions covers financial need, including aid awarded for merit. There is insufficient need-based aid to cover all the need that exists.

Other funds are available from all three universities through emergency aid, and there are food banks and other community resources to help with short-term needs that can negatively impact retention and completion.

Iowa regent universities have lowest net price in the state of Iowa.

Director Bakula pointed out that debt per graduate that borrowed has remained flat at Iowa's public universities, and is among the lowest in the state. All three institutions are below the

national average. UNI has about 69% of grads who borrow. ISU 58%. SUI about 52%. Not all students borrow.

Regent Boettger asked if the children or employees can receive discounted or free tuition. All three responded that it is not discounted for the children of employees or for employees themselves.

Regent Dunkel asked what percent of students are working (either on campus or off campus). It was noted that it is hard to track off campus work, but we know that on campus work can be a high-impact practice when they are well-supported and not working too many hours.

Regent Bates asked how early the financial aid offices start working with students and families. Director Bakula shared that it starts early in high school, and then really ramps up with juniors and seniors.

Regent Boettger asked what impact expanded state work-study could have if it were funded again. Director Johnson noted that state work-study ended around 2003 and would be very beneficial to students to come back, but also to the campus employers. Right now ISU has its own program for central support splitting with department, but it is not at the scale of what a state program could support.

Regent Lindenmayer asked about the drop in aid at the University of Iowa. Seyfer said it was largely due to the elimination of the Summer Hawk Grant which had proved to be less effective than was hoped.

Other business

Annual Human Resources report now has the faculty resignations information previously provided in a separate report.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55am.