

**Contact: Diana Gonzalez**

**MINUTES OF APRIL 24, 2014 COMMITTEE MEETING**

**BOARD OF REGENTS, STATE OF IOWA  
EDUCATION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**LIED MULTIPURPOSE CENTER, GYMNASIUM  
IOWA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF  
COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Chair Regent Katie Mulholland  
Regent Ruth Harkin (Absent)  
Board of Regents Chief Academic Officer Diana Gonzalez  
University of Iowa Provost Barry Butler  
University of Northern Iowa Provost Gloria Gibson  
Iowa State University Provost Jonathan Wickert

Chair Mulholland called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

**REQUEST TO APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 26, 2014 EDUCATION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING**

- MOVED by BUTLER, SECONDED by WICKERT, to recommend approval of the minutes as presented. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

**REQUEST TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MARCH 12, 2014 EDUCATION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING**

- MOVED GIBSON, SECONDED by BUTLER, to recommend approval of the minutes as presented. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

**PRESENTATION AT IOWA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF: "SIGN LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY POLICY AND PROCEDURES"**

ISD Principal Rebecca Gaw described the Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI) as a valid assessment designed to evaluate sign language competence. It was adapted from the Language/Oral Proficiency interview and it involves a one-to-one conversation in sign language between an interviewer and a candidate. This sign language communication evaluation model is designed to be incorporated with sign language instruction to improve manual communication skills. ISD adopted the SLPI in 1998 to ensure effective sign language communication. Principal Gaw described the sign language proficiency for each employee position at ISD. Individuals who do not meet the required level of proficiency must do so within a specified period of time. ISD is currently providing online sign language instruction to parents and family members.

- The Committee recommended receiving the report.

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL BY IOWA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF REGARDING THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE SIGN LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

Regent Chair Mulholland complemented ISD for the well-written Sign Language Proficiency Policy and Procedures.

- The Committee recommended approval to the Board of the request by Iowa School for the Deaf for the proposed changes to the Sign Language Proficiency Policy and Procedures.

**ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REPORT ON FACULTY TENURE**

The number of tenured and tenure-track faculty decreased, while the number of non-tenure-track faculty increased from the prior year. Each of the universities has adopted policies and procedures regarding evaluation of instructional performance as well as post-tenure review of faculty.

- The Committee recommended receiving the report.

**REQUEST TO APPROVE THE TENURE AND PROMOTION RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2014-2015 ACADEMIC YEAR**

- The Committee recommended approval to the Board of the 207 universities' tenure and promotion recommendations for the 2014-2015 academic year.

**REQUEST FOR A NEW PROGRAM AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY: MASTER OF ENGINEERING PROGRAM IN ENERGY SYSTEMS ENGINEERING**

The academic objective of the proposed program is to prepare students to design, evaluate, build, and manage complex energy systems. The proposed program is designed as an interdepartmental online program to address the challenge of providing sustainable energy for a growing world population. The proposed program does not exist elsewhere in the state. Enrollment is projected to be 10 students in Year One, increasing to 50 students by Year Seven. The University projects that the cost of the proposed program will be \$50,000 per year which will be provided by reallocations from the Department of Mechanical Engineering and the College of Engineering.

- The Committee recommended approval to the Board of the request by Iowa State University for a new program: Master of Engineering in Energy Systems Engineering.

**REQUEST TO TERMINATE MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**

The request to terminate the program resulted from reduced funding and ISU's inability to hire the appropriate number of faculty to maintain accreditation. The Department of Political Science is in the process of developing a track in public policy in the Master of Arts Program in Political Science. Currently enrolled students will have the option to complete their program or transition into the new track. While suspension of admissions to the program will be effective immediately, the program termination will not occur until currently enrolled students complete the program.

- The Committee recommended approval to the Board of the request by Iowa State University to terminate the Master of Public Administration Program.

### **PROPOSED CURRICULUM CHANGES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA**

The curriculum changes reflect new knowledge, new demands in various professions and settings, workforce development needs, program reorganizations, student interests, and faculty expertise. The proposed changes include an addition of 103 new courses and elimination of 55 courses, resulting in a net increase of 48 courses. The new courses are centered primarily in the Colleges of Education and Humanities, Arts, and Sciences.

- The Committee recommended approval to the Board of the request by the University of Northern Iowa for the proposed curriculum changes.

### **ANNUAL STUDENT FINANCIAL AID REPORT**

In 2012-2013, the total amount of financial aid awarded to Regent university students was \$998,258,155 which represents an increase of \$5.1 million from the prior year. The primary type of funds is in the form of loans (48.2%), followed by grants/scholarships (31.9%). Employment is a distant third at 19.9%. Nationally 43% of graduating seniors from public four-year institutions graduated without debt. At Iowa's public universities, the range of students graduating without debt was 23.7% to 39.0%.

- The Committee recommended receiving the Annual Student Financial Aid Report.

### **ANNUAL REGENT STUDENT FINANCIAL AID STUDY**

Regent Chair Mulholland requested that this report be deferred to the next Education and Student Affairs Committee meeting due to lack of time.

- The report was deferred to the June 2014 Education and Student Affairs Committee meeting.

### **2014 EDUCATION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE WORK PLAN**

- Chair Mulholland asked the members to submit suggested items to Diana Gonzalez for inclusion on the work plan.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Chair Mulholland adjourned the meeting at 10:35 AM.

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The corresponding docket memorandum for each agenda item, an integral component of the minutes, is available on the Board of Regents website at <http://www.regents.iowa.gov>. Copies of these memoranda can also be obtained from the Board Office by calling 515-281-3934.