

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

MINUTES OF MAY 16, 2016 COMMITTEE MEETING

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

**ROD LIBRARY SCHOLARSPACE, ROOM 223
UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA
CEDAR FALLS, IOWA**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair Regent Katie Mulholland
Vice Chair Regent Sherry Bates
Regent Rachael Johnson
Board of Regents Chief Academic Officer Diana Gonzalez
University of Iowa Provost Barry Butler
Iowa State University Provost Jonathan Wickert

Chair Mulholland called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE PROGRAM IN GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE REPORT

The Geographic Information Science Program, created in 2010, is designed to give students in-depth knowledge and advanced training in applied skills for the geospatial technology industry. Enrollments have increased since the start of the program to an average in the low 20s; the enrollment has been lower than the projected enrollment. The department has developed promotional materials for high school students. There were 28 graduates between Fall 2011 and Fall 2015; all the graduates have found employment in the GIS field. During the 2015 external program review, the program was complimented for staying on the cutting edge of the discipline with the addition of new courses in web mapping, GIS programming, and unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) applications. The primary change anticipated during the next 2-3 years is the inclusion of a track in UAS applications. This is the only geographic information systems program in the state; it fills an underserved role in workforce development for Iowa.

➤ The Committee recommended receiving the report.

BACHELOR OF ARTS PROGRAM IN GLOBAL STUDIES REPORT

The Global Studies Program, created in 2010, is an interdisciplinary program that educates students about societies and cultures around the world, and the economic, political, and technological forces of globalization transforming the world today. A significant challenge for the program is providing appropriate foreign language options for students. The department is currently researching on-line options for foreign language study. Projected annual enrollment in the program proposal was 20 students after Year 1. The program reached a high of 26 students in 2014. There have been 21 graduates since Fall 2011. Approximately 75% were employed in a related field in 2014. An objective is to increase awareness and interest in the program; there is ongoing work, including community college visits, website development, and curriculum improvement.

➤ The Committee recommended receiving the report.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM. Chair Mulholland reconvened the meeting at 1:00 PM.

PRESENTATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA: “TEACHER EDUCATION STRATEGIC INITIATIVES”

In 2015, the Board of Regents directed UNI to prepare a “bold and distinctive” plan to elevate and strengthen its Teacher Education to increase national prominence. Under the direction of Ms. Cindy Diehl Yang, Director of the Center for Educational Transformation, and Dr. Nick Pace, Professor and Head of the UNI Department of Educational Leadership and Postsecondary Education, a task force of 50 faculty and staff was convened to develop Teacher Education Strategic Initiatives (TESI) that will be implemented to address the Regents’ charge. Provost Wohlpart announced that a staff member will be given oversight responsibility to ensure that the TESI recommendations are implemented.

- The Committee recommended receiving the report.

ANNUAL REPORT ON STUDENT RETENTION AND GRADUATION RATES

Dr. Diana Gonzalez discussed the state’s initiative for 70% of Iowans between 25 and 65 to achieve some type of credential that leads to a good paying job and that can be used for further education; the target date to achieve this objective is 2025. A credential can include a certificate, associate degree, apprenticeship, bachelor’s degree, or graduate/professional degree.

- The Committee recommended receiving the annual governance report on student retention and graduation rates.

REQUEST FOR A NEW PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA: BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCES PROGRAM IN TACTICAL EMERGENCY SERVICES WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Provost Jim Wohlpart explained that the proposed program is designed to meet the needs of working professionals who completed an associate of applied science degree and who wish to complete a bachelor’s degree for career advancement. It is designed for practitioners of tactical emergency services who are interested in a specialization in diverse and vulnerable populations in their technical fields. While the University of Iowa, Buena Vista University, and Waldorf College offer a similar program, there are unique features in the proposed program. The target audience will be graduates of the associate of applied science programs offered by Iowa’s 15 community colleges; therefore, articulation agreements will be pursued with all 15 community colleges. The proposed program will be offered primarily through online instruction by UNI faculty members. The total cost for the program is expected to be \$130,000 during year one, increasing to \$155,000 during year seven.

- The Committee recommended approval to the Board of the request by the University of Northern Iowa for a new Bachelor of Applied Sciences Program in Tactical Emergency Services with Vulnerable Populations.

**REQUEST FOR A NEW PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA:
BACHELOR OF ARTS PROGRAM IN SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT**

Provost Wohlpert explained that the request is to transition the supply chain and operations management emphasis in the Management Program to a standalone program. The proposed program will merge traditional and management science perspectives to offer a program that recognizes the importance of analytics and quantitative analysis with a traditional supply chain management foundation with global linkages. Currently, there are 83 students who have declared the supply chain and operations management emphasis; these students are likely to transition to the standalone program. An articulation program will be pursued with Hawkeye Community College. The projected cost will likely be \$10,000 per year.

- The Committee recommended approval to the Board of the request by the University of Northern Iowa for a new Bachelor of Arts Program in Supply Chain Management.

**REQUEST FOR A PROGRAM CHANGE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA:
MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAM**

Provost Wohlpert explained that an external review of the program recommended that the program hours be shortened, comprehensive exams be eliminated, and two new courses be substituted in the revised curriculum. These suggestions have been incorporated in the revised curriculum package. The department has also created a graduate certificate in Public Administration that students can complete with and without the Master of Public Policy Program. The number of credit hours required will be 34 rather than the previous 41-45 credit hours. Students with extensive public policy work experience may have the internship requirement waived. The program will be available entirely using distance delivery methods. There will be no increased costs to the Department of Political Science. Current faculty will teach the two new courses.

- The Committee recommended approval to the Board of the request by the University of Northern Iowa for a program change in the Master of Public Policy Program.

**REQUEST TO TERMINATE THE MASTER OF ARTS PROGRAM IN SPECIAL EDUCATION:
TEACHER OF STUDENTS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS**

Provost Wohlpert explained that the request to terminate the program is due to low enrollment and faculty resignations. Since Fall 2010, only five students have completed the program. The program has been led by one faculty member; after the departure of the faculty member in 2013, no faculty member has been hired. Between 2010 and 2015, there were 29 enrollees. There are no students currently enrolled in the program. There are no other programs in the state for teachers of the visually impaired.

- The Committee recommended approval to the Board of the request by the University of Northern Iowa to terminate the Master of Arts Program in Special Education: Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments.

REQUEST TO TERMINATE A PROGRAM AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY: MASTER OF SCIENCE AND Ph.D. PROGRAMS IN BOTANY

Provost Jonathan Wickert explained that the request to terminate the programs resulted from a suspension of admissions. The undergraduate major in Botany was discontinued in 2004; the graduate major was not discontinued then so that the remaining students could complete their degrees. There have been no students in the programs for almost 10 years. Students eligible for admission to the Botany major have enrolled in different interdepartmental majors, such as Ecology and Evolutionary Biology; Genetics; Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology; and Plant biology. There will be no reductions or other changes in faculty, staff, or facilities because no resources are allocated to this major. Phasing out of the program is not required because there are no students enrolled in the graduate major.

- The Committee recommended approval to the Board of the request by Iowa State University to terminate the Master of Science and Ph.D. Programs in Botany.

REQUEST FOR A NEW PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA: BACHELOR OF ARTS PROGRAM IN ENGLISH AND CREATIVE WRITING

Provost Barry Butler explained that the proposed program will transition from a track in creative writing in the English Program to a standalone program. It will require 42 semester hours of coursework, offering the study and practice of writing and the study and analysis of literature. There have been ongoing requests from undergraduates about a creative writing program at the university; current opportunities are available at the graduate level. Elements of the program are available at a number of other post-secondary institutions in Iowa; however, this program differs from the others because it integrates reading literature with writing as an art form. The initial cost of the program will be \$91,500, which will be covered by internal reallocation of resources by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The enrollment is expected to be 50 students during year one, increasing to 200 by year seven. Current English majors who are pursuing the creative writing track are likely to transfer to the proposed program.

- The Committee recommended approval to the Board of the request by the University of Iowa for a new Bachelor of Arts Program in English and Creative Writing.

REQUEST FOR NEW PROGRAMS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA: BACHELOR OF ARTS AND BACHELOR OF SCIENCE PROGRAMS IN GLOBAL HEALTH STUDIES

Provost Butler explained that the program will respond to student interest in global health; they will emphasize transnational health issues and involve disciplines related to international issues and the humanities, social sciences, business, and law. The university offers a certificate and a minor in global health studies and emphasis areas in the international studies and interdepartmental studies program; these offerings have created student interest in global health and global health courses. There are five educational programs in Iowa related to global health. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has been working closely with UNI to facilitate shared internships, online courses, attendance at conferences and lectures and other academic areas of interest. The project enrollment is 45 students during year one, increasing to 120 students by year seven. The total cost of the program in year one is expected to be \$140,000, increasing to \$180,000 by year seven. Internships will be encouraged; a capstone experience will be required.

- The Committee recommended approval to the Board of the request by the University of Iowa for a new Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science Programs in Global Health Studies.

REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A NEW INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA: IOWA NEUROSCIENCE INSTITUTE

Provost Butler explained that the institute will establish a community of scientists to solve fundamental programs in neuroscience research and to translate discoveries into real-life therapies for neurological and neuropsychiatric diseases. This type of institute does not exist at any other Iowa institution. The proposed institute will be located on floors one and two of the Pappajohn Biomedical Discovery Building; additional space will be allocated as needed. The cost of the proposed institute is expected to be \$4,550,000 during year one. It will be funded by the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics as well as philanthropy.

- The Committee recommended approval to the Board of the request by the University of Iowa to establish the Iowa Neuroscience Institute.

DISCUSSION OF CRITICAL ISSUES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Some of the topics discussed include freedom of speech; student debt versus cost; long/short term vision for higher education; high school to college transition; diversity/equity; college to workforce transition; cost of compliance with state and federal regulations; articulation; time to degree. The first topic included will be freedom of speech. Provost Butler will arrange a speaker for the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting to be held prior to the Board of Regents meeting in September at the University of Iowa. There will be continued discussion of the topics at the June 2016 Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting.

- The Committee recommended receiving the discussion related to the presentation of critical issues in higher education at future Academic and Student Affairs Committee meetings.

2016 EDUCATION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

- Chair Mulholland asked the members to submit suggested items to Diana Gonzalez for inclusion in the 2016 work plan.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Mulholland adjourned the meeting at 2:25 PM.

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.