

Contact: Rachel Boon

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2019 COMMITTEE MEETING

**LIED MULTI-PURPOSE CENTER
IOWA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA**

Committee Members

Nancy Boettger (Chair)

Jim Lindenmayer (Vice Chair)

Rachel Boon, Board staff

Monteserrat Fuentes, University of Iowa

Jon Wickert, Iowa State University

Jim Wohlpart, University of Northern Iowa

Others

Regent Bates, Regent Liest, Regent Barker

Chair Boettger called the meeting to order at 11am

Introduction of new University of Iowa Provost Montse Fuentes.

Approval of minutes from June meeting.

Amendments: None offered

Approved as presented.

ISU New Program Requests: Bachelor of Science in Business Analytics and Master of Athletic Training

Provost Wickert asked Associate Provost VanDerZanden and noted that she recently received a Fulbright award for digitization in education that she will pursue this winter.

Associate Provost VanDerZanden shared information about the proposed Bachelor of Science in Business Analytics in the Ivy College of Business. Wish to implement the program in January 2020, expecting that there could be many students enrolling as a second major. The University of Iowa does have a similar program, but the University of Northern Iowa does not at this time. Provost Wohlpart noted his support for this program at ISU.

Associate Provost VanDerZanden also shared information about the proposed Master of Athletic Training. This builds on the Bachelor in Athletic Training that ISU has had for many years. This change to a master's level is due to requirements by the accrediting agency. Implementation is expected in May 2020. SUI and UNI already have this program as well.

No objections. Regent Boettger noted that the committee will recommend approval.

SUI New Program Requests: Bachelor of Arts in Screenwriting Arts and Master of Public Affairs

Provost Fuentes asked Associate Provost Uden-Holman to present the new program Bachelor of Arts in Screenwriting Arts in the College of Arts and Sciences. Very few programs like this exist

nationally, and none in Iowa. Existing faculty in the English department are likely to teach most classes. Regent Lindenmayer asked about the impetus for the program. Associate Provost Uden-Holman noted that it was a combination of faculty, student and alumni interest. She described the approval process within the department, the College of Arts and Sciences, and then the Council of Provosts.

Associate Provost Keller shared information about the proposed Master of Public Affairs degree in the School of Urban and Regional Planning. This program is largely face-to-face on the Iowa City campus. Some courses will be online. This program intends to pursue accreditation right away. This is a largely interdisciplinary program. UNI does have a similar program, and ISU closed its program several years ago. Both have provided letters of support for this new program. There will be modest start-up costs, but the university expects that the tuition from students will cover the cost of the program.

Regent Boettger noted that the committee will recommend approval for these new programs.

SUI Center Name Change Request: Center for Computer-Aided Design

Provost Fuentes described the request to change the Center for Computer-Aided Design to the University of Iowa Technology Institute. This is an attempt to modernize and stay in line with the state of the industry.

Regent Boettger noted that the committee will recommend approval of this name change.

SUI Program Termination Request: Master of Arts in Leisure Studies

Associate Provost Keller described the request to terminate the Master of Arts in Leisure Studies. There have been no applicants in several years as students generally go into either the master in sports and recreation management or therapeutic recreation instead. There are no current students in the program.

Regent Boettger noted that the committee will recommend approval of this program termination.

Annual Accreditation Report

Chief Academic Officer Boon shared a summary of the programmatic accreditations that the institutions received in the past year. In all cases, the programs under review received either preliminary or continued accreditation for the maximum time allowed by the respective accreditor. There were a few instances where interim reports were required, but all programs received positive outcomes for quality of program offerings.

SUI HLC Accreditation Update

Provost Fuentes asked Associate Provost Uden-Holman to discuss the recent reaffirmation of the University of Iowa accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission. She expressed gratitude for all of the Regents who participated in that process.

They were acknowledged for the sound structures in place for transparency, quality and institutional governance. Reviewers also highlighted the substantial support for student success across the

university. They also affirmed campus efforts to gain understanding in campus climate for diversity and inclusion.

Areas in need of improvement included the need to give improved oversight in some graduate degrees that are not independently accredited. The university is already proceeding to improve in this area. The other area for improvement was support for Distance and Online students and ensuring assessment of student learning was consistent.

Request to Eliminate the Iowa Public University Application Portal

Regent Boettger asked Provost Wohlpart to speak on behalf of this request. Provost Wohlpart shared that this was initiated based on the TIER initiative of the Board in 2014. The objective then was to give students an efficient way to apply to all three institutions. He described the outreach to the high schools and counselors regarding this option for applying. Largely because of the transparency of the Regents Admission Index, most students only apply to the one institution they wish to attend. In total, less than 1% of UNI's applications come through this system. Instead, most students are using the national Common Application system that all three institutions are using, as well as most private institutions in Iowa.

All students currently in the Iowa Public University Application Portal system will be carefully reviewed and not lost in the process.

Regent Barker asked about cost to maintain the system. Provost Wohlpart said there are gains in simplicity for operations and students. Regent Wickert noted the cost to maintain is not zero, but it is limited until we need to do a full upgrade in the future which would be more costly. This is certainly a way to streamline operations.

Regent Boettger asked how long the national common application has existed. Provost Wohlpart shared it pre-dated the Iowa portal.

Regent Boettger noted that the committee will recommend approval of this request to terminate the Iowa Public University Application Portal.

Presentation to the board from the Iowa School for the Deaf on Interpreter Support

Superintendent Gettel introduced Dr. Deb Cates, Sign Language Program Coordinator at ISD. She coordinates the Deaf Resource Center at ISD that includes parent, staff and interpreter training for school districts across Iowa. She does research in language development and provides workshops around the region.

Dr. Cates said Iowa has about 115-120 interpreters in school districts across the state. Unfortunately, there is a shortage, and interpreters can work for up to 4 years on a temporary license. Many unqualified people, are thus working in schools across the state. This creates a learning barrier and lag for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. Continuing education is required to maintain state licensure, so ISD now partners with Iowa Department of Education using federal funds to provide this training. Interpreting in education is considered a specialist field.

The program offers ongoing training, workshops, an intensive at ISU each summer, the annual Deaf Cultural Celebration and research. The research has shown that a licensure score of 4 is the level at which the interpreter is truly helpful. Current licensure standards in Iowa is set at 3.5. Iowa is

below the national average in terms of interpreters receiving a passing score on the licensure exam. There is great variance across states in terms of licensure and continuing education. The national recommendation is that interpreters have a bachelor's degree in the field.

Dr. Cates recommended developing a bachelor's degree in the state of Iowa, such as the one under consideration at the University of Iowa.

Regent Lindenmayer asked about barriers on passing the test. Dr. Cates talked about a gap in learning American Sign Language in more than just words, but also syntax and norms.

Regent Bates asked about the level of interest in doing interpretation. Dr. Cates described her online training class which currently has 14 students, and that Scott Community College has an associate degree.

Regent Boettger described her interactions with advocates and the passion for developing improved interpreter base in Iowa. She asked Superintendent Gettel how many students in Iowa are deaf or hard of hearing. He said over 3000 students have hearing loss of some sort. Half of those are on an individual education plan (IEP) at their school. Currently, just 125 are receiving interpreter services, but likely many more need it. Regent Boettger asked about steps in raising the testing requirements. Dr. Cates has recommended to the Department of Public Health that they at least do retests every 5 years. Regent Boettger also noted interest in getting a bachelor's degree program.

Provost Fuentes noted there is a white paper under development at the University of Iowa about developing an interpreter degree. It will be reviewed with UNI and ISU as well to ensure the right collaborations and the right home for a potential program.

Other business

None.

Meeting adjourned at 11:55am.