

Contact: Rachel Boon

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2022 COMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING

Academic Affairs Committee

Nancy Boettger (Chair)

Sherry Bates (Vice Chair)

Rachel Boon, Board staff

Kevin Kregel, University of Iowa

Jonathan Wickert, Iowa State University

Jose Herrera, University of Northern Iowa

Guests: John Cool, Mary Skopec, Jace Bell, Nancy Dunkel, Jim Lindenmayer, Greta Rouse, Abby Crow, David Barker, JC Risewick, Jesus Lizzarraga Estrada, Sarah Merrill, Tina Arthur

Chair Boettger called the meeting to order at 1:09 PM

Approval of Academic Affairs Committee minutes from July meeting

Approved by general consent.

Iowa Lakeside Laboratory Annual Report and Budget Request

Chair Boettger recognizes Iowa Lakeside Laboratory Director Mary Skopec to present an overview of its programs. Programs at Iowa Lakeside lab include research projects, community engagement, and coursework. Iowa Lakeside Laboratory presenter recognizes Jace Bell, a junior at UNI, who was an intern and has completed previous coursework at the lab. Student-driven research is a large and important part of the Laboratory. IT and ADA Compliance will be a large part of the budget approval.

The committee recommends approval of the FY23 budget for Iowa Lakeside Laboratory.

Annual Accreditation Report

Chair Boettger recognized Board Staff Rachel Boon to present an overview of the annual accreditation report. No major updates on the accreditation report. The report is accepted.

Iowa School for the Deaf Online Academy Contract

Chair Boettger recognizes John Cool, the special school's superintendent. Superintendent Cool describes the need for science teachers at the Iowa School for the Deaf. Vice Chair Bates asks if in-person teachers will accompany students during online classes. Superintendent Cool shares that a teacher or paraeducator will accompany them. Regent Risewick asks if this is a long-term solution or short-term. Superintendent Cool states that this is meant to be a short-term solution.

The committee recommends approval of the contract for services with the American School for the Deaf Online Academy.

University Presentation: Orientation Programs

Sarah Merrill, Director of New Student Programs at Iowa State University, provides an overview of orientation programs at Iowa State University. Most students attend in-person orientation, but there is still a need for online orientation as an option.

Tina Arthur, Director of Orientation Services at the University of Iowa, provides an overview of orientation programs at the University of Iowa. Orientation is divided into three parts, summer programs, success at Iowa online course, and On Iowa! Welcome week.

Jesus Lizarraga Estrada, Director of Student Success & Retention at the University of Northern Iowa, provides an overview of orientation programs at the University of Northern Iowa. Orientation was in-person, but there was an optional online orientation for transfer students.

Regent universities noticed shifts in student expectations and behavior regarding orientation (flexibility, communication, later action steps). There were more student concerns regarding finances, academic readiness, and feeling overwhelmed. There were also staffing challenges among student orientation leaders. Orientation programs at regent universities have seen continued growth in participation since 2020.

Regent Crow asks about how free speech training was incorporated into orientation. Regent universities all mentioned information about free speech training was sent via email.

Regent Barker asks about how the online orientation course at Iowa is shaped and what ISU and UNI offer that is similar. Tina Arthur states the course is delivered in 5 stages that students can start two weeks before. This is a required course and given an "S" grade. Sarah Merrill says that ISU does not require any online courses, but there are two expected online modules. Jesus Lizarraga Estrada from UNI mentions that before orientation, there are pre-tasks and post-tasks for students to complete orientation.

Chair Boeteger asks about outreach after orientation. Tina Arthur from Iowa and Jesus Lizarraga Estrada from UNI mention that surveys are sent out after orientation to identify if students are transitioning well. Chair Boettger follows up on participation in these surveys. UNI noted that they are changing the way they outreach and send these surveys to help participation. At SUI the course is required, and follow-up surveys are a part of this course.

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 PM