MINUTES OF THE REGENTS’ COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Date: Thursday, March 18, 2004

Place & Time: Campus Center Conference, Room 220
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
10:41 a.m.

Committee Members Present: Regents
Nunokawa (presiding)
Bender
Haynes
Kakuda
Tatibouet
Lee (ex-officio)

Other Regents Present: Regents
Hong
Kawakami
Lagareta
Tanaka
Yamasato

Others Present: Evan S. Dobelle, President, University of Hawai‘i
Walter S. Kirimitsu, Vice President and University General Counsel
David McClain, Vice President for Academic Affairs
Karl E. Kim, Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
David Iha, Executive Administrator and Secretary of the Board
Carl H. Makino, Executive Assistant to the Board

Approval of Committee Meeting Minutes

Regent Kakuda moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Regents’ Committee on Academic Affairs held on January 15, 2004 as circulated. The motion was seconded by Regent Haynes and unanimously carried.

Establishment of a Graduate Certificate Program in Museum Studies, Department of American Studies, College of Arts and Humanities, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

Interim Vice Chancellor Kim requested that the Committee approve the establishment of a Graduate Certificate Program in Museum Studies to be offered by the Department of American Studies of the College of Arts and Humanities, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa effective Fall 2004.
The goal of the proposed certificate program is to provide graduate training in museum studies for students enrolled in graduate degree programs such as art, American studies, history, and botany, individuals interested in taking the certificate as a stand-alone program, and professionals already working in the field. There is currently no museum training program in Hawai'i.

The proposed Graduate Certificate Program in Museum Studies is an interdisciplinary program that organizes existing courses into a coherent program of study. It is an 18-credit graduate program that consists of three required courses, two elective courses, and an internship/practicum. Core courses within the program address issues pertinent to Hawai'i and the Native Hawaiian community including concerns of Native Hawaiians regarding the representation of their culture, their active participation in museums in Hawai'i and cultural tourism and the concerns of some Native Hawaiians over the tourist industry's misappropriation and exploitation of Hawaiian cultural resources and people. While the program will be led by the Department of American Studies, cooperating faculty for the program are drawn from numerous fields such as art, anthropology, library and information sciences, and education.

The proposed program will be the only program in museum studies in Hawai'i. In 1993, there were approximately 76 museums in the state. Today, there are 97 museums and cultural centers that are registered as members of the Hawai'i Museum Association. There is a critical need for well-trained museum staff, docents, and board of directors or trustees. It is anticipated that the certificate program will enroll approximately 15 students per year. Over the period of a few years, the program seeks to raise the level of professionalism in the State’s museums, increase general interest in museum activity, assist board of directors in their governance of the museums, and expand opportunities for younger students to stay in Hawai'i for training and subsequent work in the museum field.

The program is supported by the Hawai'i Museum Association and has been positively reviewed by the Graduate Council and the Mānoa Faculty Senate. The proposed program supports the objectives of the UH-Mānoa strategic plan which encourages interdisciplinary areas of inquiry that respond to societal needs and honoring indigenous people and promoting social justice for Native Hawaiians.

Board of Regents' Policy 5-1 (a) provides that all new academic programs, once approved, shall have provisional status until a review is conducted. Reviews are initiated once a full cycle of graduates has been completed. As a graduate certificate program, the required review will be conducted during the 2006-2007 academic year. As the proposed certificate program is not part of a Board-authorized academic program, approval of the Board is required.

The proposed program will not require any additional resources or funding from the University. The American Studies department has hired a tenure-track faculty to provide leadership for the proposed certificate program. This faculty member will also be seeking extramural funds to support the program and its outreach activities. Clerical assistance will be provided by the department secretary.
Tom Klobe, Malia Baron, Karen K. Kosasa and Ka‘iulani Akamine presented testimonies in support of the proposed program.

Regent Kakuda moved to approve the establishment of a Graduate Certificate Program in Museum Studies in the Department of American Studies of the College of Arts and Humanities, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa effective Fall 2004, subject to the Regents’ policy on provisional academic programs. The motion was seconded by Regent Haynes and unanimously carried.

Regent Tatibouet asked if there were plans for a curriculum in Museum administration. Karen Kosasa responded that the curriculum will contain administration in general; however, more specific training in administration would be provided through workshops.

Regent Nunokawa reminded that campuses must address the issue of sustainability. The University cannot keep adding courses and programs without taking a look at how all of the programs even those that are obsolete and with low enrollment can be sustained while continuing to add new programs. Regent Tatibouet asked to look into providing classes in the evenings for professionals.

Upon call the motion was carried unanimously. There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Iha, Secretary

Dated: April 12, 2004

c: Chairperson Patricia Y. Lee
Members, Committee on Academic Affairs
President Evan S. Dobelle
Vice President David McClain