MINUTES

BOARD OF REGENTS’ COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS MEETING

AUGUST 7, 2014

I. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Chuck Gee called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 7, 2014, at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Information Technology Building, 1st Floor Conference Room 105A, 2520 Correa Road, Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96822.

Committee members in attendance: Committee Chair Chuck Gee; Committee Vice Chair, Regents Lee Putnam, and Michelle Tagorda.

Others in attendance: Regents Chair Randy Moore (ex officio committee member); Interim Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Joanne K. Itano; Vice President for Community Colleges John Morton; Executive Administrator and Secretary to the Board Cynthia Quinn; and others as noted.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 30, 2014 MEETING

Regent Tagorda moved and Regent Putnam seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the April 30, 2014 meeting, which was unanimously approved.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Secretary Quinn announced that the committee received written testimony from Bret Polopolus-Meredith, a UH Mānoa graduate student and member of the UH Mānoa GSO, in support of Chancellor Apple and crediting him with improving graduation rates and the STAR system; and other comments, letters, and a resolution regarding Chancellor Apple which were received via email and previously distributed to the regents.

Secretary Quinn announced that two people signed up to provide oral testimony:

1. Bret Polopolus-Meredith, a UH Mānoa graduate student and member of the UH Mānoa GSO, testified on the process surrounding the termination of Chancellor Apple and concern about the lack of engagement or dialog with students.

2. Michelle Tichelaar, a UH Mānoa graduate student and President of the GSO, testified in support of Chancellor Apple and about her feeling that there was no student input regarding his termination.

IV. AGENDA ITEMS

Committee Chair Gee explained that the process is if the committee approves the request for a new program or for permanent status of a program the presenters do not need to go before the full board, it would simply be approved by the full board through the committee. He noted there were five things they look for to carry out their fiduciary
responsibility: (1) that the program is cost-effective and enrollment revenue will cover most of the costs; (2) that the program is not unnecessarily being replicated or duplicated; (3) that the program will not jeopardize accreditation; (4) the program fit with the strategic mission of the campus itself or within the system; and (5) the value of the program to students as graduates.

He indicated that the committee may recommend approval outright or may request the system or campus office provide additional information or an interim report if they are uncertain as to whether or not the program should receive final approval. The committee may also reject a request, in which case it would go before the full board.

1. **UH Mānoa: Request Approval of a New Provisional Degree, Bachelor of Arts in Astronomy and Bachelor of Science in Astrophysics, College of Natural Sciences and Institute for Astronomy.**

Reed Dassenbrock, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, reported that the program is needed to meet the system STEM goal, and they had been working on this proposal for several years. There have been extensive conversations with UH Hilo and both Chancellor Straney and Vice Chancellor Platz support the program. There are new articulated pathways at most of the community colleges that should allow students to transfer into the program fairly expeditiously. The program will require some reallocation of resources from within the College of Natural Sciences at UH Mānoa, but will not need new external resources.

The program will provide undergraduates with hands-on experience that helps with marketability, and has a strong workforce link for internships and also a strong support for research funds. The program also combines the ORUs with the academic programs. The BA degree provides a well rounded education in the STEM field, and allows students to pursue a graduate degree in a variety of fields other than science. The BS degree is extremely focused on getting into graduate school, and there is a huge demand in this field across the world.

The committee supported the idea, and recognized the collaborative effort, and the benefit of bringing research and academic closer together. The committee wanted to ensure the program was effective immediately so current students could declare the major immediately. The committee wanted to ensure there was no duplication and ease of transfer. The committee noted affordability is a priority and was concerned about the high fees, even though they were waived in the first two years. The committee was also concerned about flexibility and access for students because of the additional course requirements, which is an ongoing challenge across the board for STEM degrees. Lastly, the committee was concerned about the impact of the new program on the budget, strategically, because it will not break even until the third year. The administration confirmed that it will reallocate and capitalize on investment in current faculty and resources.

Committee Vice Chair Putnam moved to adopt the proposal. Regent Tagorda seconded the motion, and the recommendation that the Board of Regents’ approve a New Provisional Degree, Bachelor of Arts in Astronomy and Bachelor of Science in
Astrophysics, College of Natural Sciences and Institute for Astronomy, was unanimously approved.

2. UH Mānoa: Request Approval to Change from Provisional to Established Status, Bachelor of Business Administration in Entrepreneurship, Shidler College of Business.

VC Dassenbrock explained that the program is a successful degree program in a key area for the state and is an essential building block for the Hawai‘i Innovation Initiative that ties in with other areas. He also noted that this was the last appearance for John Butler, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, who had agreed to stay several years beyond his original retirement date to serve the college. Committee Chair Gee thanked AD Butler for his years of service.

The committee indicated that the request answered every question and noted the success of the program and how it fulfills the strategic area of business to get more students into entrepreneurial activities.

Regent Tagorda moved to adopt the proposal. Committee Vice Chair Regent Putnam seconded the motion, and the recommendation that the Board of Regents’ approve Change from Provisional to Established Status, Bachelor of Business Administration in Entrepreneurship, Shidler College of Business, was unanimously approved.

3. UH Hilo: Request to Approve Provisional Masters in Heritage Management to be Offered through the Department of Anthropology.

Donald Straney, Chancellor at University at Hawai‘i at Hilo, reported that the new degree program prepares archaeologists to serve as principal investigators to conduct cultural impacts assessments focused almost exclusively on Hawai‘i and the Pacific Islands. The program has strong community support and is highly valued and needed. Kamehameha Schools has indicated a willingness to help support the program and the Department of Transportation has indicated a high need for these types of trained professionals. UH Hilo will invest the two faculty positions necessary to support this program.

The committee noted that the request was well written. There was a concern about the low graduate rate for the MA in Anthropology program at Mānoa, but clarification was given that the Mānoa program is different in scope and focus from the one being proposed. Ross Sutherland, Interim Associate Dean of the College of Social Sciences at UH Mānoa, said the Manoa program is more of a track under the MA program that is specialized on a few individuals as opposed to a separate degree program, but indicated they are supportive of the effort at UH Hilo.

It was clarified that the narrow focus of Heritage Management was chosen instead of choosing something broader like Culture and Heritage like many of the peer programs referenced in the write-up. Chancellor Straney explained that Mānoa, Hilo and the community colleges have programs that focus on Hawaiian culture and include culture in
their names, and even though the terms, concepts and works overlap considerably, this specific title was chosen to prevent any confusion.

The committee referenced the letter of reference from Kamehameha Schools which mentioned a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and asked if the MOA was in place. Chancellor Straney responded that the MOA should be in effect once the provisional degree is approved by the board. The committee also recognized the occupational demand for the program and noted that the State Legislature mandated that such a program be started somewhere at the University of Hawai‘i.

Committee Vice Chair Putnam moved to adopt the proposal. Regent Tagorda seconded the motion, and the recommendation that the Board of Regents' approve Provisional Masters in Heritage Management to be Offered through the Department of Anthropology, was unanimously approved.

4. UH Hilo: Request to Approve the Change of Status from “Provisional” to “Established” for the PharmD Degree offered at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy.

Carolyn Ma, Co-Chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, reported that this program was the only college of pharmacy within the Pacific Rim. It was established in 2007, and has about 340 graduates, 95% of whom have passed the national boards for licensing, and 97% of those graduates are gainfully employed. The college has been fully accredited since 2010 and has contributed over $30M in many of their studies to the statewide economy and provided healthcare and pharmacy services for the state. She indicated there remains a shortfall of pharmacists that is projected to continue for the next 20 years.

The committee fully supported the request and recognized the success of the program. The committee inquired on the status of the building. President Lassner responded that the building was funded by the Legislature with a mix of general obligation bonds and revenue bonds last year. Chancellor Straney indicated the building was being scaled back, the specifications were being finalized to go out to bid; a grading permit is being prepared for County approval, and he hoped to do a blessing something in October.

The committee also asked about the status of the dean search. Chancellor Straney responded that they are looking at using a search firm because of the small pool of qualified applicants. They are optimistic they can have someone in place by the end of this coming school year and will be appointing an interim until a permanent replacement is found.

The committee was concerned about the local market and whether students would need to relocate to find jobs. Ms. Ma said classes were comprised of 50% local residents and they have been able to place all of their residents. She indicated that some employers have asked students to relocate to the mainland for a few years as part of their training. She added that based on the workforce report, there is a shortfall in pharmacists with Hawai‘i and the western region having the largest shortfall.
Committee Vice Chair Putnam moved to adopt the proposal. Regent Tagorda seconded the motion, and the recommendation that the Board of Regents' approve the Change of Status from "Provisional" to "Established" for the PharmD Degree offered at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, was unanimously approved.

5. Windward CC: Request Approval to Change from Provisional to Established Status, Certificate of Achievement in Agripharmatch.

Ardis Eschenberg, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, gave a short PowerPoint presentation on the program and its objectives and noted that this certificate supports the system's strategic outcomes of increasing the educational capital of the State and preparing students for a globally competitive workforce. An overview of the degree specializations of Plant Biotechnology and Ethnopharmacognosy was provided, and VC Eschenberg noted that 92% of students in this program pursue a BA, 46% are employed and the enrollment trend is increasing, there is a strong advisory board and partners, the estimated revenues exceed costs, and this also exceeds student learning objectives.

The committee asked for clarification if the degree was required by professional organizations. Administration explained that while a degree is not required, it provides evidence of a higher level of professional development for students who are more prepared and marketable. Courses are also not only limited to certificate students, as there is capacity to allow other degree-seeking students.

Regent Tagorda moved to adopt the proposal. Committee Vice Chair Putnam seconded the motion, and the recommendation that the Board of Regents' approve Change from Provisional to Established Status, Certificate of Achievement in Agripharmatch, was unanimously approved.

7. For Discussion: Complete College America conference.

IEVPAA Itano provided a presentation on the outcome of the Complete College America Conference.

At 10:28 a.m., the Board went into recess and reconvened at 10:28 a.m.

6. For Discussion: UH Star System update regarding on-time degree completion.

Gary Rodwell, IT Specialist in the Office of Undergraduate Education at UH Mānoa, provided a presentation on the UH Star System.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion by Committee Vice Chair Putnam and second by Regent Tagorda, the Committee unanimously approved convening in executive session, pursuant to HRS §92-5(a)(2). The Committee convened in executive session at 11:07 a.m. Following a motion to come out of executive session by Committee Vice Chair Putnam and second by
Regent Tagorda, which was unanimously approved, executive session was adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

Chair Gee said that the Committee discussed in Executive Session the following personnel matters, pursuant to HRS §92-5(a)(2):

a. Emeriti Requests

b. Honorary Degree Proposal

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on the motion of Committee Vice Chair Putnam and second by Regent Tagorda and with unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Quinn
Executive Administrator and
Secretary of the Board of Regents