MINUTES

BOARD OF REGENTS COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND INNOVATION MEETING

FEBRUARY 7, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Eugene Bal, called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m. on Wednesday, February 7, 2018, at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Information Technology Building, 1st Floor Conference Room 105A/B, 2520 Correa Road, Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96822.

Committee members in attendance: Committee Chair Eugene Bal; Committee Vice Chair Stanford Yuen; Regent Brandon Marc Higa; Regent Lee Putnam; Regent Douglas Shinsato; Regent Michelle Tagorda

Committee members excused: Regent Ernest Wilson Jr.

Others in attendance: Board Chair Jan Sullivan; Board Vice Chair Randy Moore, Regent Simeon Acoba, Regent Norma Doctor Sparks; Regent Wayne Higaki; Regent Michael McEnerney (ex officio committee members); President/Interim UH-Mānoa (UHM) Chancellor David Lassner; Vice President for Administration Jan Gouveia; Vice President for Community Colleges John Morton; Vice President for Legal Affairs/University General Counsel Carrie Okinaga; Interim Vice President for Academic Planning & Policy Donald Straney; Vice President for Research & Innovation Vassilis Syrmos; Vice President for Information Technology/Chief Information Officer Garret Yoshimi; Vice President for Budget & Finance/Chief Financial Officer Kalbert Young; Interim UH-Hilo (UHH) Chancellor Marcia Sakai; UH-West O‘ahu (UHWO) Chancellor Maenette Benham; UHM Vice Chancellor for Research/Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Michael Bruno; Executive Administrator and Secretary to the Board of Regents Kendra Oishi; and others as noted.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 1, 2017 MEETING

Regent Tagorda moved to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2017 meeting, seconded by Regent Shinsato, and the motion carried unanimously.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Executive Administrator and Secretary to the Board of Regents Kendra Oishi announced that the Board Office received no written testimony, and no individuals had signed up to give oral testimony.

IV. AGENDA ITEMS

A. For Information & Discussion

1. FY18 Q2 Extramural Awards Report
Vice President for Research & Innovation Syrmos presented the FY18 Q2 Research & Innovation Metrics Summary; the FY18 Monthly Report of Extramural Awards as of December 31, 2017; and the FY18 Extramural Awards Analysis Report. FY18 Q2 total is $62 million, which is 4.3% more than FY17 Q2. Overall the total Q2 amounts increased by 4.3%, but results for FY18 Q2 were $11.9 million (16.1%) short of the forecast and 27.7% short of the target, with only UH West O’ahu and the UH Community Colleges surpassing expectations.

Questions were raised on issues regarding the small number of extramural awards at Shidler College of Business; whether Kaua‘i Community College was actively pursuing grants and what type of assistance were they receiving in these efforts; the need for programs that add value to the university and how to determine value; the importance of looking at what other universities have done to grow their research portfolios; and how positions are handled when faculty retires. Concerns were expressed over whether the significant decline in revenues from research at the UH Cancer Center was due to timing issues; and the trends of underperforming on targets given the important role research plays at UH, what is being done to reverse the trend, or whether it was time to reevaluate UH’s strategy for research.

Administration noted that the numbers fluctuate by quarter, but the numbers continuing to decline over a one to two year period is cause for concern.

2. **Update on Act 38 & Act 39 Session Laws of Hawai‘i 2017**

Vice President for Research & Innovation Syrmos gave a presentation that provided an update on Act 38 & Act 39, Session Laws of Hawai‘i 2017. The presentation included an overview and history of the Acts; repeal dates and reporting requirements; notable powers under Act 39; examples of using Act 39 and its benefits; the incorporation of UH Ventures, LLC in September 2017 to manage conflicts of interests, protect the university from risks and exposures, and avoid comingling of private and state funds; and organizational charts for UH Ventures, LLC and the Office of the VP for R&I.

It was noted that Act 39 gives UH the ability to act as a private institution to directly or indirectly finance concepts or proposals like any other private entity, which is unique among public higher education institutions. It was further noted that transparency is very important, and administration would like for UH Ventures, LLC to have a managing or advisory board with members from among UHM deans & directors, the business community, and one or two regents. The board will be the vetting mechanism to ensure the organization and projects are managed properly. The next Director of the Office of Innovation & Commercialization will help with the structure of the board and operating procedures, and once set this will give UH the ability to run its own technology accelerators and invest directly in its own start-ups.

3. **Applied Research at the University of Hawai‘i**

Due to time constraints, this item was deferred to the next committee meeting. There were no objections.
4. Update on Research & Innovation Long Range Plan Progress – UH West O‘ahu Presentation

UHWO Chancellor Maenette Benham gave a presentation on UHWO’s value proposition (Pūpūkahi I Holomua) & guiding principles (Pahuhopu); growth of extramural funding at UHWO during 2012-2018; Office of Research Services Awards Summary for FY 2017 including award amount, award count, and percentage of grand total for all campuses; UHWO’s Comprehensive Institutional Strategic Action Plan, 2018-2028; background information on the Institute for Engaged Scholarship (IES) and current organizational structure; examples of funded engaged scholarship; highlights of research engaged scholarship; student examples of engaged scholarship; information on a research grant collaboration with Kamehameha Schools; goals for 2017-2019; current strategic actions; funded projects in-process; and aspirations.

Regent Acoba arrived at 12:04 p.m.

5. Strategic Research & Innovation/Hawai‘i Innovation Initiative Metrics

Due to time constraints, this item was deferred to the next committee meeting. There were no objections.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Regent Higa moved to adjourn, and Committee Vice Chair Yuen seconded, and with unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/S/

Kendra Oishi
Executive Administrator and Secretary
to the Board of Regents