

MINUTES

BOARD OF REGENTS' COMMITTEE ON STUDENT AFFAIRS MEETING

January 7, 2015

I. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Michelle Tagorda called the meeting to order at 11:46 a.m. on Wednesday, January 7, 2015, 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 Michelle Tagorda; Committee Vice Chair Eugene Bal; Regent Dileep G. Bal.

Committee members excused: Regent Chuck Gee.

Others in attendance: Board Chair Randy Moore, Regent Lee Putnam, Regent Stanford Yuen, and Regent Helen Nielsen (ex-officio committee members); President David Lassner; Interim Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Joanne Itano; Vice President for Legal Affairs and University General Counsel, Darolyn H. Lendio; Interim University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Chancellor Robert Bley-Vroman; UH Hilo Chancellor, Don Straney; Executive Assistant of the Board Melissa Matsuura; and others as noted.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 1, 2014 MEETING

Chair Moore moved to approve the October 1, 2014 meeting minutes, Committee Vice Chair Bal seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Executive Assistant Melissa Matsuura announced that the Board Office received no written testimony, and no individuals had signed up to give oral testimony.

IV. AGENDA ITEMS

Discussion and recommendation for approval proposed amendments to Regents Policies 7.207 (Clinical & Mental Health Services; & Insurance)

Interim Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Jan Javinar explained that the proposed amendments include additional language to provide programmatic justification for campuses to provide clinical and mental health services and delegates to the president or president's designee the responsibility for determining the level of those services and assuring the system-wide availability of a student health insurance plan. He noted that the committee had raised this matter about a year ago, and administration is ready for board action on this matter.

The committee raised concerns about different levels of care across the system, parity for level of care, variable categories of affordability, levels of fees for those who have access to third party coverage and services, and proactive health promotion, prevention and wellness programs, including anti-smoking policies.

Administration responded that the assessment and levels of care vary among campuses, the fees are flat rates related to covering and deferring the cost of operating health services on campus, as well as subsidize underinsured or uninsured students. The cost of services depends on the individual insurance coverage, and a request for proposal is in progress from 12 different mainland and local vendors to provide a systemwide health plan, and will conclude in February, then reviewed by the State Insurance Commissioner.

Utilization for health care services is between 17,000 to 20,000 patients per year, 85% are students and the remainder are faculty and staff, with roughly 7,075 unique patients each year. Two-thirds have billable insurance. For mental health services, the waitlist for one of the three part time psychiatrists is one month, and the 7 psychologists on staff have a waitlist of over two months. They do refer patients to private practice, but it is limited and cost may be prohibitive. There is an increase in intense psychiatric disorders, and waitlists have grown.

Proactive health promotion, prevention and wellness include working with the mental health services team, providing a full time substance abuse counselor, smoking cessation programs, peer education, and outreach in the classroom and for faculty and graduate students who are employed. A nutritionist sees patients to fight obesity systemwide. UHM assists other campuses with mental health emergencies that exceed the campus level, and visits other campuses to help with outreach activities such as welcoming new students and building mental health awareness. An infrastructure grant through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) was completed for all ten campuses to do programming, outreach, and training on suicide prevention. A stress management fair was held at UHM, and campuses conducted depression screening days and participated in informational fairs. There is a Counselor-In-Residence (CIR) program at the residence halls at UHM, where five women counselors affiliated with the counseling center cover residence halls on nights and weekends. Dr. Tanouye, Center Director and Interim Coordinator of Training, added that she also lives in a residence hall, and the CIR programs operate under her license.

Other ideas discussed by the committee included continually engaging the student caucuses in student life areas such as recreational and intramural sports and noon hour fitness activities, changing the environment with bike lanes and other health and wellness initiatives, and seeking funding may be available through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and other nonprofit organizations.

President Lassner commented that changes to the smoking policies have just completed with three different unions and campuses now have the option of adopting one of 2 policies—being completely smoke free or designating smoking places on campus, as long as they adhere to statute. There was a prohibitive practice action filed

against the university for attempting to designate a campus smoke free without consulting the unions first because it changed the workplace conditions. The policy provides that a campus can be tobacco or tobacco-product free, and neither tobacco nor tobacco products are for sale on campus.

Regent Dileep G. Bal moved and Committee Vice Chair Bal seconded the motion to recommend the Board approve the proposed amendments to Regents Policies 7.207 (Clinical & Mental Health Services; & Insurance). The motion carried upon unanimous vote.

Discussion on engagement with student governance organizations

Committee Chair Tagorda reported that she met with the student caucus group last month and was able to meet student leaders from all the campuses. They expressed gratitude for President Lassner's memo on regular meetings with governance groups and were thankful for the opportunity to increase student voice in conversations with their campus chancellors. To this end, she wanted to discuss allowing recognized, governance organizations opportunities to provide 10 to 15 minute presentations during the president's report at the general board meetings.

The committee supported the intent of the proposal, and lengthy discussion ensued as to the appropriate manner and venue to achieve the intent that is also in compliance with the sunshine law. The committee noted that many times testifiers are frustrated because unless the topic is on the agenda, the Board can only listen. If deemed appropriate for discussion then it can be put on the agenda for the following meeting. The committee considered suggestions such as allowing properly recognized systemwide governance groups to periodically report at regular board meetings on a rotating basis, receiving written reports at any time, forming a subcommittees as an alternate venue, and expanding informal talks as currently ongoing. The committee discussed the format that would add value to the meeting, such as a report on updates and areas of concerns for the various groups, and include Administrative, Professional and Technical (APT) staff and civil service staff. President Lassner and Chair Moore agreed to work with Committee Chair Tagorda on a proposal to submit to the board for approval.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, upon motion by Chair Moore and second by Committee Vice Chair Bal, and with no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/S/

Cynthia Quinn
Executive Administrator and
Secretary of the Board of Regents