

MINUTES

BOARD OF REGENTS' COMMITTEE ON STUDENT AFFAIRS MEETING

May 6, 2015

I. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair, Michelle Tagorda, called the meeting to order at 10:53 a.m. on Wednesday, May 6, 2015, at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Information Technology Building, 1st Floor Conference Room 105A, 2420 Correa Road, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822.

Committee members in attendance: Committee Chair Michelle Tagorda; Committee Vice Chair Eugene Bal; Regent Chuck Gee.

Excused: Regent Dileep G. Bal.

Others in attendance: Regents' Chair Randy Moore; Regent Lee Putnam, Regent Helen Nielsen (ex officio committee members); Vice President for Academic Affairs Risa Dickson; Vice President for Administration Jan Gouveia; Vice President for Community Colleges John Morton; UH Hilo (UHH) Chancellor, Don Straney; Executive Assistant to Board of Regents Melissa Matsuura; and others as noted.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 7, 2015 MEETING

Regent Gee moved and Chair Moore seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2015 meeting, which was unanimously approved.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Executive Assistant to Board Melissa Matsuura announced that no written testimony was received and no one signed up to present oral testimony.

IV. AGENDA ITEMS

A. For Information and Discussion:

1. Update on Title IX Training and Programs for Student, Faculty & Staff

VP Gouveia provided an update on what the university has done to support Title IX and the Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) initiatives and the progress made on creating a centralized office for training and technical expertise to support individual campus efforts, which allows more resources for campuses to focus on providing concierge type direct services for students and employees.

She referred to the Organizational Structure handout (Attachment 1) that was provided to the regents, which showed the new centralized paradigm model and the responsibilities for the system and campuses. A more systemwide training program is being developed

and a soft launch of an online training program for students was done in January 2015, which is being evaluated to ensure that it addresses the core needs of training. President Lassner signed a new executive policy (EP 1.204) on Title IX/VAWA/Sexual Harassment/Sexual Violent matters in February 2015, which was a comprehensive change and shift to the 2005 executive policy. As a result, the training content and materials need comprehensive updating, and envisioned to be a more robust Title IX/VAWA program by fall semester. The system received an appropriation of \$1.1 million in general funds and 10 positions to support these efforts. The plan is to provide one training coordinator at UH Mānoa (UHM), UHH, and community colleges. The University of Hawai'i-West O'ahu (UHWO) already has a coordinator. Five system positions will be comprised of a director who will report to the VP of Academic Affairs, plus two senior investigators and two junior investigators that will be responsible for investigations, training, become subject matter experts, and serve as a hotline for campuses. With the infusion of resources, she is confident they will be able to unveil a very comprehensive program that addresses both the spirit and intent of Title IX/VAWA.

The committee had questions and concerns on: whether this was a new or existing organizational structure; technical expertise is about compliance and incorporating communications and awareness programs; the importance of campus climate in reducing unfavorable incidences and possibly making sexual violence training mandatory; the need for timely processing and responsiveness of complaints, proactive safety measures, and avoiding overlap of roles and duties between the system and campuses; and if workplace violence would be included in the training.

VP Gouveia said this is intended to be a replacement structure and it is a work in progress. There is definitely room for improvement and with new dedicated Title IX coordinator support they should be able to address complains in a timely and more responsive manner. There will be some overlap in responsibilities, and that interaction is necessary to be successful. However, the system and campuses will also have independent and distinct responsibilities. There is equal interest in mutual success. She agreed that training influences culture and there is a focused effort into an awareness campaign and communication campaign. She added that workplace harassment and violence is an employer/employee issue and has a separate executive policy, so training will remain with the Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action and Human Resources offices. Over time consideration will be given to a more comprehensive program and policy that combines everything under one system.

VP Morton said the community colleges are concerned about the increase of incidences affecting faculty, staff and students at Honolulu Community College (HonCC), which is part of the current conversation being taken up this week at the city council regarding the sit-lie ordinance. Community colleges have taken over security at all campuses and will continue to upgrade security efforts. Students, faculty, and staff deserve a safe environment in which to attend school and conduct their work. The university will work in cooperation with the City & County and others to get this accomplished.

2. Update on New Executive Policy on Student Fee Structure

VP Dickson provided an update on progress to amend executive policy to clarify the classification of student fees, what students pay what fees, the delineation between student organization fees and other fees, mandatory versus discretionary fees, the right to appeal fees and policy, and campus authority to waive fees.

Committee Chair Tagorda asked what the timeline for finalizing the policy is. VP Dickson responded that this policy is in response to the Student Caucus, who has been asking for the policy for a quite some time. It is almost done and will be submitted to the president.

B. For Action:

1. Recommendation for Approval Amendment to Board Policy Regarding Non-Resident Tuition Differential for Veterans to Comply with New Federal Law

VP Dickson provided an update on the proposed amendment to Chapter 6, Section 6.208 of board policy, which are required to comply with federal law or the university jeopardizes the forfeiture of federal funding for scholarships. Amendments include adding veterans eligible under other federal bills; extending benefits to certain individuals including spouses and children of veterans; and adding certain recipients of the John D. Fry Scholarship.

The committee recognized the importance of the policy but was concerned over the increased costs of the proposed amendments and the estimated cost to the university in foregone revenues.

Russell Chan, Student Affairs Policy & Program Specialist, explained that the costs increased because the university implemented its policy prior to the federal law, which goes into effect July 1, 2015. Federal law requires benefits be extended to the three categories and that has increased the cost. He said to get the estimated cost of foregone revenues they need to look at where eligible individuals were attending and the level of enrollment, and promised to gather the data and get back to the committee with the exact dollar amount.

Regent Gee moved that the committee recommend the board approve the amendment to board policy regarding non-resident tuition differential for veterans to comply with new federal law, Regent Matayoshi seconded the motion and the motion carried upon unanimous approval.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on the motion of Regent Gee and second by Regent Matayoshi and with unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/S/

Cynthia Quinn
Executive Administrator and
Secretary of the Board of Regents