

MINUTES

BOARD OF REGENTS COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS MEETING

MARCH 14, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Michelle Tagorda called the meeting to order at 9:57 a.m. on Thursday, March 14, 2019, 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 Michelle Tagorda; Committee Vice Chair Kelli Acopan; Regent Eugene Bal; Regent Ben Kudo; Regent Alapaki Nahale-a; Regent Jan Sullivan; Regent Robert Westerman.

Others in attendance: Board Chair Lee Putnam; Board Vice Chair Wayne Higaki; Regent Simeon Acoba; Regent Michael McEnerney; Regent Ernest Wilson, Jr.; Regent Stanford Yuen (ex officio committee members); President/UH-Mānoa (UHM) Chancellor David Lassner; Vice President for Community Colleges John Morton; Vice President for Legal Affairs/University General Counsel Carrie Okinaga; Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy Donald Straney; Vice President for Research and Innovation Vassilis Syrmos; Vice President for Information Technology/Chief Information Officer Garret Yoshimi; Interim UH-Hilo 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. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Board Secretary Oishi announced that the Board Office received no written testimony and no individuals had signed up to provide oral testimony.

Regent Sullivan arrived at 9:58 a.m.

III. AGENDA ITEMS

A. University of Hawai'i Student Caucus Presentation

University of Hawai'i Student Caucus (UHSC) leaders Christielove Espinosa of UHWO, Caucus Chair; Andrew Kalani Simeona of UHM, Caucus Secretary; and Bernadette Rose Garrett of Windward Community College (WinCC) provided an overview and composition of the UHSC and a fall 2019 update, including UHSC's 2018-2019 objectives, progress made by its standing committees, UHSC highlights, and expectations of its relationship with the board.

Progress was noted on open educational resources (OER) toward the goal of 30% OER by 2020, including the receipt of additional funding from administration with the hope of encouraging faculty and student involvement. The UHSC Transportation Committee

has been working on a survey and express hopes to continue the U-Pass initiative. The UHSC leaders expressed concerns regarding affordability such as food security and emergency funds. Mental health issues were also raised, including connections to affordability, issues relating to the volcanic activity on Hawai'i Island, students working multiple jobs to make ends meet, and concerns relating to the counselor-to-student ratio at campuses.

The UHSC leaders expressed appreciation to Regent Acopan and former Regent Higa for their efforts in advocating on behalf of students and expressed a desire to strengthen communication and the relationship with the board.

Regent Kudo expressed his thought that students do not realize their importance and power with the public and the legislature. He suggested the UHSC consider adding two committees: one on learning environment and another on sustainability, to address issues such as buildings, facilities, and dorms, and how campuses can be made more sustainable.

Regent Nahale-a commended the UHSC leaders for their service and asked how they are selected. Ms. Espinosa explained that campus-level elections occur first, which includes a campaign, nomination, and election process. The student governments decide who attends the UHSC, and are typically the president and vice president, although some campuses have designated positions where duties include attending UHSC meetings. Within the student caucus, there is an internal election for officers.

Board Vice Chair Higaki echoed Regent Kudo's sentiments regarding legislative advocacy. The UHSC leaders suggested that it would help if the board could respond to UHSC resolutions to be aware if positions are aligned.

Regent Acopan commended the UHSC leaders for their service and for balancing their personal, professional, and academic areas of their lives. She noted that caucus membership can be challenging because there are constant changes because the role is voluntary. Continuity is a challenge and it would be helpful for new student leaders to be briefed on procedure.

Regent Wilson commented that mental health and homelessness are serious issues. He asked whether they are involved in homeless issues relating to students. The UHSC leaders responded that they haven't touched upon the homeless issue, but will consider how they can put more effort into that area. Regent Acopan added that homelessness was one of the driving factors behind the creation of food pantries.

Regent Acoba observed that continuity is a concern and asked whether there is staff or an advisor to maintain the impetus on any particular project. He also inquired how we compare to peer institutions on mental health, whether every campus has access to mental health services, and whether the possibility of a requesting assistance from the medical school has been considered. Hae Okimoto, Associate Vice President (AVP) of Student Affairs, serves as the advisor and works closely with the advisors for each campus. The UHSC leaders do not know how UH compares to peers. Every campus has a mental health counselor, but not enough to fill the need. They have not engaged in discussions with the medical school. They have considered assistance from graduate students, but there are qualifications that need to be met. AVP Okimoto added that part

of the issue is that there are stringent guidelines about supervision and a licensed practitioner is needed, otherwise there is no client-patient confidentiality agreement.

Regent Yuen inquired about issues beyond the university system and who advises them. He suggested they consider having community organizations conduct educational presentations to support their efforts, such as with sustainability, and to also review national data.

Board Chair Putnam asked about the emergency fund mentioned in the presentation and the source(s) of funding. The UHSC leaders replied that other universities receive a grant or use student fees and that it is a one-time payment and not a loan, and most universities employ it as a last resort. Hawai'i Community College (HawCC) received a donation from Central Pacific Bank to assist students impacted by the volcanic activity, and guidelines were developed. The difficulty is obtaining the funds.

B. Options for Program Approvals and Delegations

VP Straney provided an overview of four categories of program proposals: resource intensive, reallocation of existing resources, modification of existing programs, and programs requiring rapid planning and implementation to meet workforce needs. Currently, the board reviews and approves all program proposals. VP Straney offered suggestions on the types of approvals that could be delegated to the president and asked regents to submit their feedback to the board secretary.

C. Review and Recommend Board Approval to Change from Provisional to Established Status: Associate of Science in Business, Kaua'i Community College

VP Morton provided an overview of the request for approval to change from provisional to established status the associate in science in business at Kaua'i Community College (KauCC). He noted that this program consolidated several programs and created a structure that allows flexibility to address demands. He added that there is strong interest from the students and community and that the program allows for transfer to UHWO for a bachelor's degree.

Regent Sullivan commended KauCC's work and the incorporation of an advisory board. She suggested incorporating internships. Dirk Soma, business instructor at KauCC, noted that there is a capstone course that includes an internship requirement.

Regent McEnerney commended the program and asked how many students are Kaua'i residents, where other students come from, and whether KauCC tracks graduates. Mr. Soma said that about 90% of students in the program are Kaua'i residents and that the entrepreneurship pathway attracts some out-of-state students, and that 100% of students are working in their field, with some having started their own business and some transferring to a 4-year program.

Regent Westerman expressed his support for the program. He asked for clarification on what a "cycle" is in the context of a program changing from provisional to established status. VP Morton explained that under current policy, a program is in provisional status

for 50% of time beyond the type of degree, for example, 3 years in provisional status for a 2-year program.

Regent Westerman moved to recommend board approval to change the associate of science in business at KauCC from provisional to established status, Regent Sullivan seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

VP Morton added that the decline in traditional community college programs is occurring across campuses and that specialized niches will be redirected into broader programs.

D. Review and Recommend Board Approval to Change from Provisional to Established Status: Associate of Science in Natural Science at the following campuses:

- 1. Hawai'i Community College**
- 2. Honolulu Community College**
- 3. Kaua'i Community College**
- 4. University of Hawai'i Maui College**
- 5. Windward Community College**

VP Morton provided an overview of the request for approval to change from provisional to established status for the associate of science in natural science at five campuses as noted. He noted that this is not a career and technical education program and it is intended to allow for transfer into bachelor degree programs.

VP Morton elaborated that historically, there has only been an associate in arts degree, and students who had an interest in science and engineering were taking courses not in that path. Associate in science degrees were started several years ago at KapCC and were very popular, growing to 900 majors. There is a dramatic increase in student interest and productivity and it is recommended that the other five campuses also participate in these efforts.

Regent Westerman asked where this item would be placed if the board were using the approval processed proposed by VP Straney in agenda item III.B. VP Morton replied that it would likely be considered in the top category, "resource intensive."

Regent Nahale-a moved to recommend board approval to change the associate of science in natural science at HawCC, HonCC, KauCC, UHMC, and WinCC from provisional to established status, Regent Sullivan seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

E. Review and Recommend Board Approval for the Establishment of a Provisional Bachelor of Science in Construction Engineering, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Vice Chancellor (VC) Bruno provided a brief overview of the request for approval to establish a provisional bachelor of science in construction engineering at UHM. He explained that a large share of graduates enter the construction industry. He added that there are plans to add courses in construction law and construction safety.

Regent Westerman asked whether the university has worked with the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to ensure this is an acceptable degree that meets their

standards. VC Bruno responded that the program is Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc. (ABET)-accredited, which is the standard, and there is no concern over meeting requirements.

Regent Acoba inquired as to whether this is an effort to increase the offering of masters degrees and if so, if it is intended to meet a particular need or deficiency. VC Bruno explained that all of the programs proposed on this agenda are intended to address a need and were strategic decisions.

Regent Yuen asked how construction engineering differs from civil engineering. Dr. Panos Prevedouros, Chair of Civil and Environmental Engineering, explained the details of ABET accreditation and that there are separate and unique criteria for construction. The number of credits is the same and they are parallel degree paths. There is a focus on construction courses during a student's senior year.

Regent Yuen asked whether there is a Professional Engineer (PE) license specific to construction engineering. Dr. Prevedouros responded that there is only one general PE license and that this program is one pathway.

Regent Tagorda inquired about the point at which students receive support on making a decision on the most suitable engineering pathway. H. Ronald Riggs, Interim Dean of the UHM College of Engineering, explained that students are required to meet with a faculty advisor at least once a semester.

Regent Sullivan moved to recommend board approval of a provisional bachelor of science in construction engineering in the Department of Civil Engineering at UHM, Regent Kudo seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

F. Review and Recommend Board Approval for the Establishment of a Provisional Master of Asian International Affairs, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

VC Bruno provided an overview of the request for approval to establish a provisional master of Asian international affairs at UHM, indicating a strong need for this type of program which has potential to expand into certificate programs.

Regent Acoba asked about the scheduling of faculty and how it reconciles with course offerings in the evenings, on weekends, and online. He also asked whether the East-West Center offers anything similar. Dr. Cathryn Clayton, Chair of the UHM Asian Studies Program, explained that the program is designed around accommodating students who will most likely have full-time careers. This will be a full-fledged masters' program and is different from East-West Center offerings. It was also clarified that this will be provided through the School of Pacific and Asian Studies and not through the outreach college. Regent Acoba expressed that the program appears to have potential and hopes it can be distinguished from programs at other schools.

Comments were made that there is potential for participation by military personnel worldwide and non-traditional students, and a suggestion that a cultural aspect be included to elevate Hawaiian culture as a significant world view. Several regents expressed that this program has great potential, is much-needed, and overdue. There

was discussion on the potential to partner with other schools such as the Shidler College of Business to allow students to benefit from other faculty and to break down siloes.

Regent Acopan moved to recommend board approval, seconded by Regent Westerman, and the motion carried unanimously.

G. Review and Recommend Board Approval for the Establishment of the Following Provisional Programs:

- 1. Master of Science in Information Systems, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa**
- 2. Master of Science in Marketing Management, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa**
- 3. Master of Science in Finance, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa**

VC Bruno provided an overview of the establishment of three master of science programs in information systems (MSIS), marketing management (MSMM), and finance (MSF), within the Shidler College of Business. Dean Vance Roley explained that there are two existing specialized programs, accounting and human resources.

Regent Sullivan expressed concerns about the lack of practical application in the UHM information and computer science (ICS) program that makes it hard for graduates to compete in the workforce, the need to properly allocate resources to the ICS program, and the future of the ICS department and program. She requested administration focus on building the much-needed and in-demand ICS undergraduate program. VC Bruno explained that the hiring of new faculty has been aligned with the direction administration wants to take the department.

Regent Sullivan expressed concern about building separate silos and asked if there was a way for the ICS undergraduates to benefit from the faculty at Shidler. VC Bruno responded that the aim is to break down silos and faculty at the new Hawai'i Data Science Institute (HI-DSI) have been engaged with faculty across the university. Dean Roley explained that Shidler works with other units and gave the example of the interdisciplinary Communication and Information Sciences PhD program at Shidler that integrates communication, computer science, library studies, and management information systems.

Board Chair Putnam asked why the start date is 2020 instead of 2019. Dean Roley explained that marketing needs to occur to reach the desired class size, but that students could start taking some courses earlier and the formal launch would be in 2020.

Regent Acopan departed at 11:54 a.m. Quorum was not affected.

Regent Kudo asked whether the MBA program could have been designed to include specialization or an emphasis in a particular area. Dean Roley noted that some larger MBA programs include specialization and that UHM could consider requiring certain core courses and adding a specialization. He added that this was a good idea that hadn't previously been considered, and that employers are indicating that specialty courses aren't enough, so specialized degrees are gaining popularity.

Regent Wilson asked whether artificial intelligence is addressed in the program and curriculum. Dr. Tung Bui, Chair of UHM Information Technology Management (ITM) department, explained that business core curriculum was modified a few years ago to

include a component on data analytics, and there are elective courses on data analytics and business intelligence available at the undergrad and graduate level. The chairs for the three MBA programs are working on integrating a combined course.

Regent McEnerney asked how the UHM MSIS degree compares with the MSIS degree at Hawai'i Pacific University. Dr. Bui explained that a competitive analysis was performed and UHM is accredited by AACSB International, the curriculum is based on the top 10 programs in the country, and the faculty line-up is superior. He does not think there is any competition, and noted that the local demand outweighs the market.

Regent McEnerney asked whether the MSF degree was being designed to help students get through the chartered financial analyst (CFA) and certified financial planner examinations. Dr. Victor Huang, Chair of the UHM Department of Financial Economics and Institutions, explained that coursework is being designed to help students take the examinations. Regent McEnerney suggested that the final examination could be the capstone requirement for the degree. Dr. Huang indicated they could consider using passage of the CFA level 1 exam as a substitute for taking the capstone course.

Regent Kudo moved to recommend board approval, seconded by Regent Nahale-a, and the motion carried unanimously, with the exception of Regent Acopan who was excused.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Regent Nahale-a moved to adjourn, Regent Sullivan seconded, and with unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/S/

Kendra Oishi
Executive Administrator and Secretary
of the Board of Regents