

MINUTES

BOARD OF REGENTS COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL SUCCESS MEETING

AUGUST 3, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gabriel Lee called the meeting to order at 11:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 3, 2023, 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: Chair Gabriel Lee; Vice-Chair Lauren Akitake; Regent Neil Abercrombie; Regent Wayne Higaki; and Regent Diane Paloma.

Others in attendance: Board Chair Alapaki Nahale-a; Regent William Haning; Regent Laurel Loo; Regent Laurie Tochiki; Regent Ernest Wilson (ex officio committee members); President David Lassner; Vice President (VP) for Academic Strategy Debora Halbert; VP for Legal Affairs/University General Counsel Carrie Okinaga; VP for Research and Innovation Vassilis Syrmos; VP for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer Kalbert Young; Interim VP for Community Colleges Della Teraoka; UH-Mānoa (UHM) Provost Michael Bruno; UH-Hilo Chancellor Bonnie Irwin; UH-West O'ahu Chancellor Maenette Benham; Executive Administrator and Secretary of the Board of Regents (Board Secretary) Yvonne Lau; and others as noted.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Lee inquired if there were any corrections to the June 1, 2023, meeting minutes for the committees formerly known as the Committees on Budget and Finance, Planning and Facilities, and Research and Innovation which had been distributed.

Regent Haning requested that the minutes for the Committee on Budget and Finance be amended to clarify a statement he made relating to the classification of medical residents as students of the university and verbalized the proposed change.

Chair Lee asked if there were any objections to Regent Haning's request. Hearing none and with no other comments about the minutes being received, the minutes for all three meetings were approved.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Board Secretary Lau announced that the Board Office did not receive any written testimony, and no individuals signed up to provide oral testimony.

IV. AGENDA ITEMS

A. Discussion of New Committee Structure, Duties, and Functions

1. Annual Review of Table of Duties for the 2023-2024 Academic Year (Annual Review Table)

Chair Lee referenced the Annual Review Table which was contained within the materials packet noting that it lists the committee's duties and functions as stated in the recently amended Bylaws of the Board of Regents (Bylaws) and would be used as a tool to guide the committee's work during the coming academic year. He asked committee members if they had any questions or comments about the new committee structure, duties, or functions, or the Annual Review Table.

Robust discussions ensued on whether issues related to intercollegiate athletics fell under the jurisdiction of this committee or the Committee on Student Success, particularly in light of recent events involving the hazing and mental well-being of student athletes, as well as ongoing issues that could have a significant impact on the finances of the university such as athletic conference realignments and delays in building a new Aloha Stadium. Deliberations on the specific effects conference realignment could have on UHM athletics and the Mountain West Conference, of which UHM is a football only member, also occurred. While committee members remarked that the complexity and multi-layered nature of matters related to intercollegiate athletics spanned the scope and duties of several board committees, the majority were of the opinion that the Committee on Institutional Success should address fiscal and facility matters related to intercollegiate athletics while the Committee on Student Success was better suited to address items involving student-athletes, such as mental health and well-being. Committee members also spoke about ensuring that all issues of importance to university athletics are covered by a board committee regardless of which committee that is.

Other regents shared their thoughts on this issue stating that, among other things, the Annual Review Table was a dynamic document subject to change; committee work plans could be adjusted as the academic year progressed; referrals of subject matter areas where committee oversight responsibility is questionable would best be addressed on a case-by-case basis; and joint committee meetings are an option when dealing with topics falling under the scope of duties of multiple committees. Regents also expressed their desire for the board's committees, and the board as a whole, to place greater emphasis on oversight of the university in relation to its strategic plan and less on affairs concerning day-to-day operations that are managed by the administration.

Stating that one of the responsibilities of this committee is to exercise oversight over personnel policies and practices, Chair Lee proposed adding the receipt of updates on the SCR 201 initiative, which deals with tenure and other personnel matters, to the committee's work for the year. Committee members agreed with this recommendation.

Regent Paloma requested that the notes indicating the previous committee from which the goals and objectives of the newly structured committees were derived be retained on the Annual Review Table.

In light of these conversations, Board Chair Nahale-a suggested that it might be helpful if regents were provided with an amended Annual Review Table at the next

committee meeting that takes into consideration the sentiments articulated by committee members and other regents. Chair Lee noted Board Chair Nahale-a's suggestion.

B. Discussion and Potential Action on Possible Revisions of Bylaws for New Committee Structure

Chair Lee asked if committee members had any suggested changes to the Bylaws relative to the Committee on Institutional Success. None were raised but in light of ongoing discussions about all committee responsibilities, no action was taken.

Vice-Chair Akitake mentioned that, although she believed no changes were needed today, future amendments to the Bylaws may become necessary if a decision is made to adjust committee responsibilities with respect to intercollegiate athletics.

C. Discussion of Committee Goals for the 2023-2024 Academic Year

Chair Lee noted that earlier deliberations regarding the Annual Review Table touched upon a number of goals for the committee and asked if committee members felt a need to include any additional objectives for the committee to achieve over the coming year. None were raised.

Regent Abercrombie requested clarification as to whether a review of the SCR 201 initiative was included in the committee's work plan. Chair Lee replied in the affirmative stating that proposed policy changes related to the SCR 201 initiative would be reviewed by the committee prior to being brought before the board for final approval.

Board Chair Nahale-a praised the administration for the progress it has made in creating templates and presentations that clearly illustrate the financial, facility, and risk management matters being attended to by the university. He submitted that a goal of the committee could be to encourage the administration to continue this practice and expand it to other subject areas.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Lee adjourned that meeting at 12:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/S/

Yvonne Lau
Executive Administrator and Secretary
of the Board of Regents