MINUTES
BOARD OF REGENTS’ COMMITTEE ON STUDENT AFFAIRS MEETING

January 20, 2012

I. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair, Michael Dahilig, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, January 20, 2012, at Kaua‘i Community College, Student Activities Center, 3-1901 Kaumuali‘i Highway, Lihue, Hawai‘i 96766.

Committee members in attendance: Chair Michael Dahilig; Matthew Williams; Chuck Gee; and John Holzman.

Others in attendance: Vice President for Student Affairs and University and Community Relations, Rockne Freitas, Ed.D.; Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, Lui Hokoana, Ed.D.; UH-Mānoa Vice Chancellor for Students, Francisco Hernandez, Ph.D.; UH-Hilo Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Luoluo Hong, Ph.D.; and Executive Administrator and Secretary of the Board of Regents, Keith Amemiya, Esq., and others as noted.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 19, 2011 MEETING

Regent Gee moved and Regent Williams seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2011 meeting, which was unanimously approved.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Executive Administrator and Secretary of the Board of Regents, Keith Amemiya, reported that no testimony was submitted.

IV. AGENDA ITEMS

Briefing on Diversity Efforts from the Student Equity Excellence and Diversity Office

The Director of Student Equity, Excellence and Diversity (SEED), Amefil Agbayani, provided a briefing on the ethnic diversity at the UH System. Some of the statistics, from the Ethnic Diversity of UH Students, December 2011, SEED, include:

- In the State of Hawai‘i, 24% identify with more than one race, compared to 3% in the nation
- The four major ethnic groups in the state are 1) Caucasian; 2) Filipino; 3) Japanese; and 4) Native Hawaiian
- Nearly half of all Department of Education (DOE) students are Native Hawaiian (28%) and Filipino (21%), while only 14% are Caucasian and 13 % are other Asian.
• Caucasian students are the largest among UH Mānoa undergraduate and graduate students, along with UH Hilo graduate students. Native Hawaiian students are the largest in all of the community colleges, as well as UH West O'ahu.

• Relative to their proportion in the DOE, African American, Hispanic, and Samoan students are underrepresented at each of the 10 UH campuses.

• Chinese, Filipino, and Japanese full-time freshmen groups exceed the first year retention rate at UH Mānoa and UH Hilo. Native Hawaiians slightly trail the average, and Caucasians fall considerably below the rate at UH Mānoa and UH Hilo.

• At UH Mānoa, Chinese and Japanese students exceed the six-year graduation rate, Native Hawaiian and Filipinos fall slightly behind the average, and Caucasians and Pacific Islanders lag significantly behind.

• At UH Hilo, Caucasians, Filipinos and Japanese students exceed the six-year graduation rate, while Chinese, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders lag slightly behind.

• Filipino and Japanese students at the UH Community Colleges achieve higher continuation and graduation rates compared to the UH Community College average.

• Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students have lower continuation and graduation rates at the UH Community Colleges.

• Caucasian students slightly exceed the graduation rate but lag significantly behind the continuation rate at the UH Community Colleges.

• Caucasians account for the largest proportion of faculty at UH Mānoa and the UH Community Colleges. The second largest ethnic group for both campuses is Japanese. There are few Filipino and Native Hawaiian faculty.

• The largest disparity is in the Executive/Managers category. Japanese and Caucasians comprise 82% at both UH Mānoa and the UH Community Colleges. Filipinos and Native Hawaiians each comprise less than 4% at UH Mānoa and less than 8% at the UH Community Colleges.

Four of the more than 20 programs that SEED is involved with include:

• Place-based Learning and Community Engagement in School (PLACES)
• GEAR UP Waipahu
• College Opportunities Program
• The McNair Student Achievement Program

SEED also works with UH Systemwide Initiatives such as Na Pua Noe‘au and the Annual Conference for Filipinos.

The Pamantasan Club’s Kaua‘i CC President, Jonathan Ibanez, spoke about the club and the activities it holds on campus. Club members promote Filipino culture, heritage, and history. The club is about education, scholarships, and community service, fundraising, and fun activities.
The Regents and Agbayani held a discussion on financial aid and access for underserved ethnicities. The discussion included aggressive outreach, student services support, and curriculum tailored to ethnic minorities, and what UH is doing to support other underserved populations.

Committee Chair Dahilig pointed out that there needs to be a pipeline between undergraduates to doctorate programs, in regard to low numbers of non-Caucasian faculty members. The Board passed a policy regarding the percentage of required admitees that must be in-state residents to graduate programs. He asked if the policy needed to be adjusted to require the University to target graduate and doctoral level educators, and if that would have a trickle-down effect to find a pool of tenurable faculty who are born and raised in Hawai‘i. Agbayani said that could be true, and added that UH’s practice of not hiring its own graduates to work within the department of degree attainment could be another reason for the low numbers of Native Hawaiian or Filipino professors. Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, Lui Hokoana, added that there is Native Hawaiian faculty in Arts and Sciences, but they are underrepresented in science and math.

**Status Update on UH-Mānoa Student Athletic Fee**

UH-Mānoa Vice Chancellor for Students, Francisco Hernandez, reported that as of January 19, 2012, the final revisions to the student benefits package were completed. They were recommended by the student athletic fee committee and signed off by the Chancellor. The remaining issues were who was permitted to vote on the Student Athletic Fee. The committee decided that it wanted to reconstitute itself to include students from the Residence Halls Association and also increase the number of graduate students who are allowed to participate.

The Committee has been meeting regularly. The ASUH have been recipients of and have spent some of the funds from the athletic fee. The ASUH funded food for homecoming, purchased parking spaces for students at Aloha Stadium, and assisted buying music sheets and equipment for the UH Marching band.

In a review of attendance before and after the adoption of the student fee, women’s volleyball attendance has doubled, and baseball has seen a significant increase. Students started attending football games in 2011 early in the season, but attendance was low in the latter part of the season. Vice Chancellor Hernandez recommended that the Regents direct the new UH football coaching staff to interact with the students to encourage attendance.

A discussion of the sense of community between the students and athletic programs, and attendance at sporting events and its relation to the teams’ success, ensued. The Regents also discussed the progress of the review of the location of student seating. Vice Chancellor Hernandez said that students did not come close to filling their seats at football games, some of which were located in the premium seating area.
Committee Chair Dahilig noted that per the July 2010 Board of Regents meeting, a requirement was included for a structure of how to spend fees. The commitment from the Chancellor was that there would be an annual report submitted to the Board within 30 days of the athletic audit. Committee Chair Dahilig said that although this year such a report would likely not be presented due to time constraints, let his reminder serve as notice to the Chancellor’s office that it would be expected in 2013, within 30 days of the Athletic Department audit.

**Presentation on UH Mānoa Student Housing Rates**

Vice Chancellor Hernandez said that Student Housing Services has a current capacity of 3,719 students, with 11 Residence Hall Buildings, two apartment complexes with nine buildings total, and a rental income of $19.34 million in 2010-2011. Renewal applications for Student Housing have increased by 19.76% from 2009 to 2011.

Student Housing is evaluating a proposal to increase rates by no more than 5% per year for five years, beginning Fall 2012. The proposed increase will allow Student Housing Services to maintain the current level of services and cover all cost increases, maintain repair and renovation funding, and focus on the remaining 40% of student housing that has not been replaced or recently renovated.

Vice Chancellor Hernandez went over Student Housing Services Revenues and Expenditures with the 5% Annual Rate increase, FY 2013 through FY 2017, and pointed out total operating expenditures, debt service reserve-mandatory, and FY voluntary repair and renovation expenditures.

Vice Chancellor Hernandez also covered the FY Budget Allocation (34% debt service, 18% utilities, 14% full-time wages, 13% repair, 10% outside services (extermination, trash services, elevators, and housekeeping), 6% student wages, 4% materials/supplies, and 1% other expenses), on-campus versus off-campus rates, and competitor and peer institution comparisons.

Regent Holzman requested that when UH Mānoa presents its proposal to the full Board, it shows the student housing fee increase in combination with the recent tuition increases.

Discussions on peer comparisons, safety and security, and housing needs for graduate students and married students, ensued.

Upon inquiry from Regent Gee, Vice Chancellor Hernandez explained that the fee increase would be reviewed annually, and that UH Mānoa needs the ability and authority to plan. Regent Gee said that he is concerned about the overall cost, especially in years 4 and 5 because there are significant jumps in tuition, which could become cost prohibitive for students. He reiterated Regent Holzman’s request to include the increases to both student housing and tuition in UH Mānoa’s presentation to the full Board. Vice Chancellor agreed, and then added that UH Mānoa is planning on increasing financial aid and student hiring.
After a discussion on financial aid, Regent Holzman asked if there are studies within UH on where graduates stand in terms of debt, and how students pay for education (grants, loans, etc.). Vice Chancellor Hernandez replied that in comparison to peers, over the past 10 years, the loan and indebtedness level at UH Mānoa is low. That was mainly due to state support as well as low tuition. Regent Holzman requested a report that would address the issue of a comprehensive look at the financial status of students after they exit UH. AVP Hokoana said that as part of the Complete College Initiative, UH is collecting that data. UH is looking at that in response to the tuition increase. UH wants to make sure that it leverages financial aid to assist students to be successful.

Upon inquiry by Regent Williams, Vice Chancellor Hernandez said that he does plan on holding meetings with student organizations, and will set up an electronic system of receiving comments, regarding the housing increase. Additionally, there is a Chancellor’s Student Fee Advisory Committee, which includes the ASUH and GSO as members. That committee would advise the Chancellor annually on Student Housing Fees.

Committee Chair Dahilig recommended to the UH Mānoa administration to make another attempt to solicit student feedback before the proposal comes before the full Board.

Regent Gee moved to recommend to the full Board to approve the UH Mānoa Administration’s request for an up to 5% annual increase, subject to a year-to-year review and in consultation with students. Regent Holzman amended the motion to include that UH Mānoa provide an annual report to the Bcard regarding the amount of the increase and the rationale behind the increase. Regent Gee accepted the friendly amendment. Regent Holzman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Note: After the UH Hilo Student Housing Rate presentation, Regent Williams said that he had reservations about the motion to recommend to the full Board. He would be interested in hearing from ASUH and GSO about their thoughts on any increases.

**Presentation on UH Hilo Student Housing Rates**

UH-Hilo Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Luolu Hong, provided background on UH Hilo Student Housing, which provides 622 beds to students. UH Hilo is requesting a 5% increase for up to five years, with the option to return to the Board of Regents for further review and approval to make adjustments, either up or down, after three years. UH Hilo has four facilities: two are traditional student housing buildings, one is a suite-style building, and the fourth is an apartment-style complex.

UH Hilo’s goal is to open 300-350 additional beds by Fall 2013. There are four main reasons for the housing increase request: 1) enable UH Hilo to continue efforts to improve the residential experience for students; 2) increase student access to campus residential living; 3) increases to usual and customary costs of operating a quality student residential community; and 4) repairs/renovations/modernization/maintenance of current facilities.
UH Hilo consulted with the students, beginning in Fall 2011. More than 70% responded that they were satisfied or very satisfied. However, they heard concerns for improvements to wi-fi, and freedom and flexibility in their dining options. They also heard about an improved sense of community and enforcement of housing rules.

Vice Chancellor Hong spoke about the optimal price point of student housing, as well as Projected Semester Rates per bed space, 2012-2017, pointing out the rates of the University Village, which will open in Fall 2013.

Committee Chair Dahilig advised that, per Board policy and for clarification, the proposal to the full Board should explicitly state that UH Hilo is requesting the establishment of a new rate for the University Village in 2013, along with the proposal of the 5% increase for the existing student housing rates.

Vice Chancellor Hong said that in regard to peer comparisons, UH Hilo is in the bottom third of rankings, and would continue to remain in that area.

Regent Gee said that he is concerned about delaying contributions to repair and renovation (R&R) funding, which UH Hilo is proposing to do early in the rate cycle to keep rates lower in the front end. Vice Chancellor Hong said that UH Hilo will continue to perform R&R projects that are already in the pipeline, but they are coming out of existing funds. The amount of R&R contributions in the next two years would be abated, and then made up for in the following three. She clarified that the R&R work wouldn’t stop.

Vice Chancellor Hong also clarified that UH Hilo is requesting:

1) A 5% increase in fees for up to five years with the option to come back to the full Board in year 3, to make adjustments up or down.
2) Establish the rates for the University Village Housing (in Fall 2013), as per Attachment C in the action memo.

A discussion on university centers and meal services/plans, as well as student organization involvement and discussion of concerns including financial aid, ensued.

The Committee members suggested that UH Hilo submit the floor plans of the University Village suites as part of the recommendation to the full Board, and explain how the rooms are assigned to the students.

Regent Holzman moved to recommend to the Board of Regents approval of an increase in student housing rates by up to 5% each year, for up to five years, with the option to return to the Board of Regents for approval to make adjustments after three years as warranted, subject to a year-to-year review and in consultation with students, and provided that UH Hilo give an annual report to the Board regarding the amount of the increase and the rationale behind the increase. Regent Gee seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, with reservations by Regent Williams.
Regent Gee moved to recommend to the Board of Regents approval of the establishment of rates for the University Village Housing (in Fall 2013), as per Attachment C in the action memo. Regent Williams seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**UH Mānoa's Student Veteran's Organization**

Sam Kim, President of the UH Mānoa Student Veteran's Organization and graduate student, presented the improved efforts of the UH Mānoa Administration, and various veteran's activities:

- First Veteran's Workshop, including resume writing
- New Student Orientation
- Warrior Week participation
- Establishment of website for veterans
- Establishment of fellowship for veterans
- Implemented mentorship program, called "Vets to Vets"
- Vet Week, including rededication of Johnson Hall
- Yellow Ribbon Program

His concerns include:

- No centralized delivery system for information to veterans
- Mentorship program underutilized
- No veterans database or tracking system

Kim requested adding a voluntary self-reporting box on UH applications to better track veterans, as well as transparency in usage of the filing fee ($12.50) provided by the U.S. Dept. of Veteran's Affairs. He also requested a Veteran's Resource center.

Committee Chair Dahilig said that the UH Administration would be given a chance to respond to the items in writing. He requested that the Administration address the concerns that were raised in a written report to the Committee for dissemination.

**Update on Campuses**

- **UH Hilo (Represented by Michael Sado, Kuulei Bezilla, and Lyssa Warren-Dale)**
  - Concerns/Issues: Cutbacks in campus offerings, which they believe should be the last area to suffer; need funding for the College of Pharmacy building; limited library hours; and bureaucracy, although streamlined, is still an issue.
- **Hawai'i Community College (Brenda Burch, David Canning, and Allen Pearsley)**
  - Concerns/Issues: Sustainability; new facilities and updated technologies; 53% of classes are located on UH Hilo campus, leaving students segregated from the campus; lack of facilities, instructors, classroom space, and updated equipment; and old campus structures are in need of renovation.
• Moloka‘i Education Center (Kelley Dudoit and Deldraine “Kaui” Manera)
  o Concerns/Issues: No student government or student activities committees; high cost and low availability of books/no bookstore; and no financial aid officer on campus. Committee Chair Dahilig requested that the Administration follow up on the disbursements of financial aid resulting in receiving books late, and asked AVP Hokoana to send request to the Vice Chancellor at UH-Maui College regarding a survey of the interest of the Moloka‘i student body to charter a student organization.

• Kapi‘olani Community College (Jessica Lum and Mathew Davis)
  o Concerns/Issues: Standardizing the curriculum throughout the UH System; smoother articulation between campuses; and trying to implement a smoking ban on campus.

• Windward Community College (Asa Yamashita and Hoaka Thomas)
  o Concerns/Issues: Student participation; implementation of a bus pass student service fee; and offering upper-level courses such as calculus. The Regents suggested communicating with other campuses about efforts to launch a bus pass program.

• Honolulu Community College (Ryan Adverderada)
  o Concerns/Issues: Retention and low student participation due to apathy and time constraints.

• UH Maui College (Travis Motooka)
  o Concerns/Issues: Wellness Center funding (low membership fees, student government funds it with no help from the campus); request a gym/auditorium on campus.

• Kaua‘i Community College (Nahoku Rabut and Taylor Stanton)
  o Concerns/Issues: Lack of physical activity facilities and options, as well as lack of finances prohibiting growth and quality, educators and class offerings.

• Leeward Community College (Tracey Imper and Steph Carranza)
  o Concerns/Issues: Improved designated smoking areas (AVP Hokoana said that he would research enforcement); and difficulty increasing student fees.

• UH-West O‘ahu (Andrew Aki and Lisa Robleto)
  o Concerns/Issues: Affordable access to education (educating more in-state students and international students); competitive degree programs; and study environments.

• UH Mānoa
  o ASUH (Anna Koethe, Sianha Gualano)
    ▪ Concerns/Issues: Chancellor Search (making sure that students are involved in the process); renewal of U-PASS program (increase from $20 to $30 – seeking Board approval at upcoming meeting).
  o William S. Richardson School of Law (Sommerset Wong)
    ▪ Concerns/Issues: Financial Aid (increased focus on financial aid package); Student work opportunities on campus for law students; and availability of scholarships.
  o Graduate Student Organization (Tom Robinson and Adrienne Copeland)
    ▪ Concerns/Issues: Graduate Student Employment and compensation (low pay and few raises; no guidelines for raise
protocol; and no increase in base steps); and involving students in policy making. Regent Williams mentioned that he asked the Administration to look into the issue of Graduate Assistantships at the January 19, 2012 Board of Regents meeting. Committee Chair Dahilig said that he would speak to Regents’ Chair Martinson about convening another Committee meeting to hear a presentation from the graduate division about the matter.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, upon motion by Regent Gee and second by Regent Williams, and with no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith Y. Amemiya, Esq.
Executive Administrator and Secretary of the Board of Regents