University of Hawai'i Board of Regents Proposed Community College Committee

Issue

The standards established by the Accrediting Association for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), the accrediting agency for Hawai'i's community colleges, require a degree of engagement and familiarity by the BOR with the issues and operations of the community colleges that is not met through the current BOR structure. A community college committee would allow the BOR to address these standards without impacting the other business of the BOR in its governance of the University system and the baccalaureate campuses.

Membership

The community college committee should consist of six members, including each of the four neighbor island BOR members and two members appointed from O'ahu.

Frequency of meetings

The community college committee should have quarterly meetings independent of the regular BOR meetings, although the community college meeting might precede the regular BOR meeting. The meetings should be of sufficient length in a workshop format to allow an in-depth exploration of the issues.

Meeting agenda

Meeting 1, to be held in September or October of each year, would focus on the broad community college mission and the degree to which the community colleges are meeting that mission. The focus would include access, workforce development, baccalaureate transfer, and engagement with the local communities. To the degree that new BOR members are appointed to the community college committee, this first meeting each year would also serve as an orientation for those members.

Meeting 2, to be held in November or December, would focus on the financial health of the community colleges including all sources of funds and financial aid for students.

Meeting 3, to be held in February, would focus on program review and assessment results. Given the large number of programs across the seven campuses, the program review discussion would focus on those programs that were most successful and those programs that were most likely to be stopped out, terminated, or significantly modified.

Meeting 4, to be held in April or May, would focus on planning directions for the upcoming year. The discussion would focus on major initiatives and include budget related proposals.

Meeting Location

The meetings would rotate among the campuses so that in a two-year period, all campuses, including both the East and West Hawai'i sites, would host the meeting. Some time would be devoted to acquainting the committee members with local campus facilities and/or program issues.

Relationship to Regular Monthly Board Meetings

Under this proposal, the community college committee meetings would be to provide in-depth understanding and discussion with BOR members about the issues and directions of the community colleges. The intention is not to create an additional layer of approval authority for transactions. Regular transactional items would not come to the committee but rather would be processed through normal BOR monthly meetings.

The Vice-President for Community Colleges would serve as liaison to the BOR Community College Committee to communicate significant issues that emerge between the regularly scheduled meetings, to inform the BOR of significant accomplishments of community college faculty and/or students, and to respond to any inquiries from the BOR related to community college matters.