



**EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE**

**OCTOBER 25, 2018**

PLYMOUTH STATE UNIVERSITY  
PLYMOUTH, NH

**MEETING MINUTES**

*Approved January 17, 2019*

Committee members present: Frederick Dey, chair; Robert Baines, vice chair; Jacob Bennett; Frank Edelblut; Cathy Green; Nadia Hasan; Timothy Herbert; Shawn Jasper; Aaron Keaton; Todd Leach; Scott Mason; Christian Merheb; Mackenzie Murphy; Joseph Scala; Melissa Silvey; Wallace Stevens

Nonmember participants: Donald Birx; James Burnett; Robin Dorff; M. Jacqueline Eastwood; Nancy Fey-Yensan; Sean Gallagher; Senator James Gray; Wayne Jones; Representative Rick Ladd; Scott Stanley; Melinda Treadwell

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**Call to Order**

Committee Chair Dey called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M.

**Approval of Minutes**

The following motion was made by Trustee Eastwood, duly seconded, and approved by committee vote.

*VOTED, that the minutes of the June 21, 2018, Educational Excellence Committee meeting be approved as presented in the meeting materials.*

**Discussion**

*Trends in Postsecondary Credentials:* Sean Gallagher, executive director of the Center for the Future of Higher Education and Talent Strategy at Northeastern University, presented information about the evolving demand for alternative credentials to meet specific workplace needs across industries. He described a largely postbaccalaureate market, with the traditional master's degree replaced by shorter, targeted, and lower cost credentials that more nimbly respond to changing workforce needs. Alternative credentials may be stackable credit-bearing "unbundled" degree modules or industry-developed micro-credentials that do not carry academic credit. The evolving landscape of credential offerings coincides with the growing legitimacy of online education and competency-based learning, all of which present opportunities for postsecondary institutions to strategically partner with business and industry to shape the future of life-long education.

**Information**

*Chancellor's Update:* Chancellor Leach presented information about recent trends in higher education, including a slowing of international enrollment after years of steady growth. He reviewed draft academic performance indicators developed in response to the board's call for systemwide key performance indicators. System-level metric selection and refinement will continue while the institutions concurrently develop mission-specific indicators.

***University System Student Board (USSB):*** Student trustees and representatives described student body and student government activities in areas that included diversity, access and affordability, campus affinity initiatives, and retention.

***Academic Program Additions/Deletions:*** Chair Dey called attention to the information provided in the advance meeting materials. No new degree program additions or deletions were presented in the information.

***Academic Program Quality Assurance:*** No new information was presented.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 A.M.