



**EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE**

**JANUARY 17, 2019**

KEENE STATE COLLEGE  
KEENE, NH

MEETING MINUTES  
*Draft for Approval*

Committee members present: 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

Nonmember participants: Donald Birx; James Dean; James Burnett; Robin Dorff; M. Jacqueline Eastwood; Nancy Fey-Yensan; Rhonda Hensley; Wayne Jones; Mark Rubinstein; John Small; Representative Marjorie Smith; Scott Stanley; Melinda Treadwell

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**Call to Order**

Committee Vice Chair Baines 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 October 25, 2018, Educational Excellence Committee meeting be approved as presented in the meeting materials.*

**Discussion**

***Alternative Credentials:*** As a follow-up to the October presentation on national trends in postsecondary credentialing, the provosts described alternative credentials currently offered at USNH institutions, namely in the form of professional certificates, and a phased approach to explore and expand alternative credentials systemwide. The approach would unbundle four-year and graduate degree components into stackable microcredentials in a sustainable manner that would utilize existing resources and expertise to respond to market changes. Discussion touched on the potential for a P-20 microcredential framework to advance postsecondary aspirations and the challenge to respond quickly to market opportunities without compromising academic quality or institutional mission.

***Academic Collaboration:*** The provosts described collaborative efforts underway and plans in development to leverage institutional strengths in areas of academic programs, research, and shared services. Examples include development of course-sharing of low-enrolled programs, interinstitutional pathways to advanced degrees, shared administrative support for academic research and global education, and a systemwide approach to market demand analysis. Trustees commended their collaborative effort to minimize duplication and maximize efficiency and effectiveness.

## **Information**

*Chancellor's Update:* Chancellor Leach reviewed the academic performance indicators and noted that the Granite Guarantee tuition waiver for eligible in-state students was intended to mitigate the decline in market share of NH high school graduates. He presented SAT score submission data indicating programmatic and institutional preferences of students.

*University System Student Board (USSB):* Student trustees and representatives described campus climate and activities around Title IX issues, counseling needs, and residential life requirements. A common theme was the inclusion of student input in campus decision- and policy-making processes.

*Academic Program Additions/Deletions:* Vice Chair Baines 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:* Chancellor Leach commented on the sustained level of PSU and KSC nursing licensure rates. President Birx provided an update on PSU educator preparation program accreditation underway with two national accrediting bodies.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.