EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE
JUNE 25, 2020
VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
Approved October 22, 2020

Participants
Committee members: M. Jacqueline Eastwood, chair; Cathy Green, vice chair; Amy Begg; Jacob Bennett; Frank Edelblut; Cailee Griffin; Aura Huot; Shawn Jasper; Aaron Keaton; Todd Leach; Joseph Scala; Wallace Stevens; David Westover
Nonmember trustees: Kassandra Spanos Ardinger; Todd Black; Donald Bix; James Burnett, III; James Dean, Jr.; George Hansel; Scott Mason; Joseph Morone; Michael Pilot; Christopher Pope; Mark Rubinstein; Morgan Rutman; Representative Marjorie Smith; Melinda Treadwell
Other participants: Angela Adams; Karen Benincasa; Rosemarie Came; Marlin Collingwood; Robin DeRosa; Joseph Dwyer; Michael Fazi; Tom Guarino; Heidi Hedegard; Ockle Johnson; Wayne Jones; Susan LaPanne; M.B. Lufkin; Tia Miller; Ann McClellan; Catherine Provencher; Ron Rodgers; Lisa Thorne; Michael Shannon; Scott Stanley

Call to Order
Committee Chair Eastwood called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. and called attention to information about the state's employment needs.

Consent Agenda
Moved by Committee Vice Chair Green, duly seconded, and approved.

VOTED, that the Educational Excellence Committee approve the consent agenda.

Consent Items:
A. Minutes April 23, 2020
B. UNH Appointment with Tenure Recommendations
   Motion, on recommendation of President Dean, that the Educational Excellence Committee recommend for approval by the Board of Trustees the appointment of two professors with tenure at the University of New Hampshire, as presented in the supporting material.
C. UNH, PSU, and KSC Promotion and Tenure Awards Appointment with Tenure
   Motion, on recommendation of the respective presidents, that the Educational Excellence Committee approve the promotion and tenure recommendations for the University of New Hampshire, Plymouth State University, and Keene State College, as presented in the supporting material.

The individuals approved for the award of tenure and/or promotion in rank are listed below.

University of New Hampshire
Professor (16)
Sajay Arthanat          Marc R. Lessard          Sean D. Moore
Holly R. Cashman       Gonghu Li            Jason C. Sokol
James J. Connell        Yan Lu               Jeannie L. Sowers
Andrew S. Grandy        Mary Fran T. Malone  Barbara P. White
Eleanor J. Harrison-Buck John P. McHugh
Andrew J. Houtenville   Gregory McMahon

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University of New Hampshire, continued

Professor with Tenure (1)  
Alexandra J. Roberts

Award of Tenure (1)  
Sherine F. Elsawa

Associate Professor with Tenure (24)

Sachiko Akiyama  
Harriet H. Fertik  
Christopher D. LeBlanc

Shadi Atallah  
Jeffrey R. Garnas  
David M. Mattingly

Kathrine C. Aydelott  
Casey Golomski  
David Plachetzki

Kabria S. Baumgartner  
Jeffrey M. Halpern  
Subrena E. Smith

Assaf Benchetrit  
Nathan A. Jorgensen  
Vidyalakshmi (Vidya) Sundar

Orly Buchbinder  
Bo Rin Kim  
Theodore S. Tavares

Jianhong Chen  
Soo Hyon Kim  
Se Young (Pablo) Yoon

Nora A. Draper  
Michael R. Kukenberger  
Jiadong Zang

Plymouth State University

Professor (5)  
Scott Coykendall

Associate Professor with Tenure (8)  
Christopher Benedetti  
Jean Coffey

Katharine Harrington  
Michael Davidson

Nicholas Sevigney  
Laura Dykstra

Clarissa Uttley  
Kathryn Elvey

Kerry Yurewicz  
Thomas Guarino  
Brandon Haas

Hyun Joong Kim  
Mary Elizabeth Ray

Keene State College

Professor (7)  
Brian Anderson

Associate Professor (5)  
David Beaudry  
Amber Davison

Armagan Gezici  
Jeannie-Marie Brown  
William McCulloch

Jonathan Gitelson  
Harlan Fichtenholtz  
Irene McCarrity

Margaret Henning  
Emily McGill  
Sarah McGregor

Darrell Hucks  
Kirstin Riegler  
Thomas Webler

Wei Lu

Jason Pellettieri

D. Information: Academic Degree Program Additions and Deletions

PSU Additions:
MS Business Analytics  
MS Climate Studies

PSU Deletions:
BS Early Childhood Education  
BS Math: Middle School Teacher Cert 5-8

MS Online Instructional Design  
MA Historic Preservation  
MEd Heritage Studies

UNH Additions:
BS Engineering Technology  
BS Mechanical Technology

MS & Graduate Certificate Health Data Science  
MS Molecular and Cellular Biotechnology

E. Information: Academic Quality Metrics
University System Student Board (USSB)

Trustee Griffin, on behalf of the USSB, offered guidance to the Board intended to enhance the students' role and efficacy on the Board. She described the value of the student perspective in the Board’s work, advocated for the inclusion of USSB members on additional committees, and encouraged trustees to call on the USSB to participate in discussions in particular related to marketing, admissions, and COVID-19 planning. Jacob Bennett, UNH graduate student representative, and Trustee Wallace, USSB trustee liaison, encouraged the Board to consider including USSB representatives in all Board discussions.

USNH-CCSNH Synergies

President Rubinstein provided an update on discussions by executives of both systems to identify opportunities to jointly optimize resource utilization and enhance service to the state of New Hampshire. He described four immediate priority areas identified by the group: (1) meeting the needs of COVID-19 response and re-opening; (2) achieving robust distance learning capability on a common platform for seamless student learning and progression, to include K-12; (3) developing a common advising infrastructure to support seamless degree pathways; and (4) leveraging shared expertise and combined scale in purchasing and procurement to achieve savings. Upon discussion, it was decided that the Board should pursue the formation a joint task force with CCSNH for the purpose of exploring the optimal structure of public high education delivery in New Hampshire.

The following motion, made by Vice Chair Green and duly seconded, was approved by committee vote.

VOTED, the Education Excellence Committee hereby recommends to the full Board of Trustees the adoption of the following motion:

MOVED, on recommendation of the Education Excellence Committee, the USNH Board of Trustees hereby approves the establishment of a joint task force with the CCSNH governing board for the purpose of exploring the relationship of the two systems and FURTHERMORE, authorizes Board Chair Joe Morone to discuss with the leadership of the CCSNH governing board the establishment of a joint task force and FINALLY, authorizes the USNH Board Officers to appoint the USNH members to the joint task force.

Chancellor’s Update on Enrollments

Chancellor Leach presented information about the fall re-opening plans of New England four-year institutions, noting that the many had not yet announced a decision. It was noted that campus leaders were in contact and sharing strategies with their peers. Chancellor Leach presented information about UNH, PSU, and KSC undergraduate and graduate admissions and registrations activity, Granite Guarantee activity, freshman discount rates, applicant overlap, and findings from a national survey of high school senior college-going decisions.

UNH Manchester and School of Law Update

Provost Jones presented information on UNH Manchester and Franklin Pierce School of Law admissions activity, commenting on the outlook for fall freshmen and transfer enrollment and noting growth in hybrid and online graduate programming.

Discussion: Plans for Fall

Given time constraints, discussion pertaining to re-opening details were deferred to the larger discussion scheduled for the full Board meeting. The committee briefly discussed expectations for fall athletics across the system and the share of faculty planning to teach fully online at KSC and PSU, with UNH slated to provide information on the latter topic at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.