EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE
JUNE 25, 2020
VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
Draft for Approval

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 Hededgard; 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
Holly R. Cashman
James J. Connell
Andrew S. Grandy
Eleanor J. Harrison-Buck
Andrew J. Houtenville
Marc R. Lessard
Gonghu Li
Yan Lu
Mary Fran T. Malone
John P. McHugh
Gregory McMahon
Sean D. Moore
Jason C. Sokol
Jeannie L. Sowers
Barbara P. White
**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  
Katharine Harrington  
Nicholas Sevigney  
Clarissa Uttley  
Kerry Yurewicz

*Associate Professor with Tenure (8)*  
Christopher Benedetti  
Michael Davidson  
Laura Dykstra  
Kathryn Elvey  
Thomas Guarino  
Brandon Haas  
Hyun Joong Kim  
Mary Elizabeth Ray

*Award of Tenure (1)*  
Jean Coffey

**Keene State College**

*Professor (7)*  
Brian Anderson  
Armagan Gezici  
Jonathan Gitelson  
Margaret Henning  
Darrell Hucks  
Wei Lu  
Jason Pellettieri

*Associate Professor (5)*  
David Beaudry  
Jeannie-Marie Brown  
Harlan Fichtenholtz  
Emily McGill  
Kirstin Riegler

*Award of Tenure (5)*  
Amber Davison  
William McColloch  
Irene McCarrity  
Sarah McGregor  
Thomas Webler

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
- BS Math: Secondary Teacher Cert 7-12
- MEd Online Instructional Design
- MS Biology
- 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

**KSC Additions:**
- BS & BA Neuroscience
- BA & BS Physics
- MS Public Health Nutrition
- BA Legal Studies
- BS STEM

**KSC Deletion:**
- BS Math-Physics

**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.