



EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE

JANUARY 21, 2021

MEETING BY VIDEO CONFERENCE

MEETING MINUTES

Draft

Participants

Committee members: M. Jacqueline Eastwood, chair; Cathy Green, vice chair; Amy Begg; Jose Calvo; Frank Edelblut; Michael Fazi; Shawn Jasper; Aaron Keaton; Tyler Minnich; David Westover

Other trustees: Kassandra Spanos Ardinger; Donald Birx; James Burnett, III; James Dean, Jr.; George Hansel; Representative Rick Ladd (Speaker of the House designee); Joseph Morone; Michael Pilot; Christopher Pope; Mark Rubinstein; J. Morgan Rutman; Melinda Treadwell

Other nonmembers: Jacob Bennett; Ken Cody; Marlin Collingwood; Robin DeRosa; Joseph Dwyer; Heidi Hedegard; Ockle Johnson; Wayne Jones; Ann McClellan; Tia Miller; Cathy Provencher; Ron Rodgers; Lisa Shawney; Scott Stanley; Lisa Thorne

Call to Order

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

Consent Agenda

Moved by Chair Eastwood, duly seconded, and approved.

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

Consent Items:

- Minutes October 22, 2020
- UNH Appointment with Tenure
Motion, on recommendation of President Dean, that the Educational Excellence Committee recommend for approval by the Board of Trustees the appointment of one professor with tenure at the University of New Hampshire, as presented in the supporting material.
- Information: Academic Degree Program Additions
GSC: BS Fire Service Administration
MS Nursing Health Care Education
UNH: MS National Security Intelligence Analysis (UNHM)
MS Global Conflict and Human Security (UNHM)

University System Student Board (USSB)

USSB Chair Michael Fazi announced two Student Board resignations: Michael Shannon, PSU student trustee, and Helen Werner, KSC student representative. He called attention to the USSB report included in the meeting packet and commented on two key USSB initiatives: a Spring Leadership Conference to convene student government leaders from across the system and a student-led, systemwide Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion climate survey. Upon invitation, the student reps in attendance provided campus-specific updates. Trustee Ardinger, chair of the Governance Committee, welcomed suggestions from the USSB to aid the committee's work around diversity in Board membership.

Fall 2020 Applicant Overlap and Enrollment Decisions

The provosts presented information on resident and nonresident applications to more than one USNH residential campus. Discussion focused mainly on the higher extent of overlap among resident applicants and the challenges limiting identification of the factors that contribute to applicant enrollment decisions, such as financial aid offers, athletic opportunities, and program offerings, particularly for the portion enrolling outside of the system. It was noted that the growth in resident overlap over the past two years did not reflect growth in the overall system share of the NH market.

Chair Eastwood expressed interest in a closer look at the results of non-enrolling student surveys. She also affirmed trustee interest in receiving information about the NY Excelsior Scholarship which offers NY families earning up to \$125,000 tuition-free enrollment at CUNY and SUNY colleges and to discussing the potential implications of a nationwide program on USNH enrollment. It was noted that President Rubinstein will be presenting market pricing information at a future Board meeting.

Student COVID-19 Survey Results

The provosts reviewed a summary of students' distance learning perceptions from surveys administered at the end of spring term 2020, following the emergency transition to remote learning, compared to the end of fall term 2020, which involved the planned delivery of remote learning. The comparative results identified improved levels of student satisfaction and engagement nearly across the board, with some dissatisfaction resulting from technical problems at PSU in fall. The overall improved distance learning experience was attributed to faculty professional development over the summer, preparation with intentionality, and fostering appropriate student expectations.

Online Strategies / Shared Courses Initiative / Online Programs

The provosts described efforts to develop the organizational capacity to support course sharing, including the transition to a common learning management system (LMS), alignment of academic calendars, and collaborative planning at the provost and dean level. President Rubinstein, who has been leading the work to develop logistical capacity, cited the cooperation of campus Financial Aid and Registrar's Offices in establishing requisite administrative mechanics, noting that, in the short-term, a concise set of courses may be constrained by a largely manual process until technology-facilitated processes can be created. Identification of initial courses for sharing is currently underway.

The provosts additionally provided an overview of the current state of online programming and discussed next steps to involve the consolidation of back-end support services, identification of target programs for growth and shared services for coordination, and exploration of a portal for marketing and program access. Provost Jones outlined UNH plans for growth in online graduate programming and provided an overview of the iLaw partnership that supports the successful delivery of online and hybrid law programs. Discussion focused on strategies to minimize duplication in programming and to maximize offerings that reflect areas of institutional strength.

Adjournment

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