



EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE

MARCH 3, 2022

KEENE STATE COLLEGE
KEENE, NH

MEETING MINUTES
Approved June 23, 2022

Attendance

Committee members present: M. Jacqueline Eastwood, chair; George Hansel, vice chair; Amy Begg (remote); José Calvo; Zachary Christie (remote); Frank Edelblut; Cathy Green; Shawn Jasper; Alana Lehouillier; Mackenzie Murphy; David Westover; Reshma Giji (remote); Ty Gioacchini (remote); Sarah Jefferson (remote); Christian Merheb (remote)

Other trustees present: Cassandra Spanos Ardinger; Donald Birx; Todd Black; James Burnett, III; James Dean, Jr.; James Gray, NH Senate; Rick Ladd, NH House of Representatives; Jonathan Melanson, Governor Sununu's designee; Joseph Morone; Michael Pilot; J. Morgan Rutman (remote); Gregg Tewksbury; Melinda Treadwell; Alex Walker

Other participants: Kara Bean; James Beeby; Karen Benincasa; Marlin Collingwood (remote); Mike Decelle (remote); Robin DeRosa (remote); Tiffany Doherty (remote); Heidi Hedegard (remote); Wayne Jones; Ken La Valley (remote); MB Lufkin; Ann McClellan; Leatrice Oram; Stephen Pimpare; Andrew Seal; Scott Stanley (remote); Lisa Thorne (remote); Kate Ziemer (remote)

Call to Order

Committee Chair Eastwood called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Chair Eastwood, duly seconded, and approved.

VOTED, that the Educational Excellence Committee approve the minutes of the October 22, 2021, meeting.

UNH Faculty Appointment with Tenure Recommendation

Moved by Chair Eastwood, duly seconded, and approved.

VOTED, on recommendation of President Dean, that the Educational Excellence Committee recommend for approval by the Board of Trustees the appointment of one individual with the rank professor with tenure at the University of New Hampshire, as presented in the supporting material.

The name of the individual is considered confidential pending final approval by the full Board.

NH Top Jobs

Information item: This standing item presents NH occupational demand projections to reinforce the importance of NH workforce development and education needs as they relate to committee discussions.

Academic Program Changes

Information item: Addition of a new degree program, Dual Major in World Languages, at UNH.

Enterprise Risk Management

Information item: The risk management plans for the risk areas of Academic Programs and Enrollment are submitted by the Administrative Board to the Educational Excellence Committee pursuant to Board policy. The plans present institutional monitoring, management, and mitigation strategies at an aggregate system level.

University System Student Board (USSB)

Student representatives and trustees shared information about a breadth of campus activities, including COVID precautions, diversity initiatives, commencement planning, and the UNH GSC merger. José Calvo, USSB chair, led a discussion about USSB efforts to gather data and raise awareness of issues around student mental health and wellness. For a future committee discussion, the Academic and Student Affairs Executive Councils and the USSB will work together to present data and information about the condition of student mental health at the campuses.

UNH-GSC Merger

Mike Decelle, dean of UNH Manchester, and Scott Stanley, dean of e-UNH Online Learning, presented an update of the planning and work underway to integrate UNH and GSC operations and to develop the online strategy and support structure that will serve UNH and the system broadly. It was noted that legislative partnerships were instrumental in expediting the legislation to support the merger. Enrollment of students at a fully merged GSC school within UNH is slated for fall 2023.

Enrollment Update

Applicant Overlap and Enrollment Decisions

The provosts presented information about resident and nonresident applicants applying to more than one USNH residential campus. Discussion focused mainly on the magnitude of overlap among resident applicants and the limited data availability to ascertain the motivations for applicant enrollment decisions, particularly for the larger overlap portion enrolling outside of the system. There was discussion about a shared services approach to enrollment management to maximize institutional aid. For a better understanding of enrollment management as a function of institutional identity, information about admissions analytics will be presented at the April committee meeting.

Spring Census and Fall Admissions Update

The provosts reviewed the spring 2022 admissions activity and enrollment, which was described as flat overall compared to the prior spring term. The provosts reviewed fall 2022 applications to date noting that it was early yet to form enrollment predictions based on deposits.

USNH CCSNH Synergies

Fall Enrollment and Retention

Ken La Valley, UNH vice provost for outreach and engagement, presented information about a joint venture with CCSNH to create a certified NH Skilled Learner Employment Record Repository to store digital credentials (micro-credentials and badges) that attest to nondegree knowledge and skill acquisition. Employers would be able to connect to the repository to identify potential employees based on the individual's digital asset portfolio, with assurance that the assets are legitimate reflections of the individual's skills. Future phases include expansion across the system and potentially to the health care industry, K-12, and the State of NH.

Shared Courses Initiative Update

Provost McClellan provided an update on efforts to support course sharing across the system. Exploration of course sharing administration platforms is underway to resolve issues related to disparate catalogs, registration systems, and business processes. Platform utilization could potentially extend to CCSNH.

Student-Centered Transfer Pathways

Kate Ziemer, UNH senior vice provost for academic affairs, presented information about efforts to scale NH degree pathways by leveraging the hundreds of college-to-college program-specific articulation agreements to develop universal agreements predicated satisfaction of general education requirements. This work coincides with efforts by the New England Board of Higher Education to facilitate in-state transfer and with proposed NH legislation to support public two- to four-year postsecondary transfer. She noted that ERP (enterprise resource planning software) implementation would be key to achieving seamless transfer at scale.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.