



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE**

APRIL 20, 2023

KEENE STATE COLLEGE
KEENE, NH

MEETING MINUTES
Approved June 22, 2023

Attendance

Committee members present: M. Jacqueline Eastwood, Chair; Cathy Green, Vice Chair; Jose Calvo; Eric Carter; Zachary Christie; Emily Coutermarsh; Shawn Jasper; Dominic Lynch; Christian Merheb; Mackenzie Murphy; David Westover

Other trustees present: Cassandra Ardinger; Donald Birx; James Dean, Jr.; James Gray, NH Senate (remote); Patrick Griffin; George Hansel; Deanna Jurius, Governor Sununu's designee; Kevin Knarr; Rick Ladd, NH House of Representatives; Joel Nkounkou (remote); Peter Paul; Michael Pilot; J. Morgan Rutman; Christiana Thornton; Melinda Treadwell; Alexander Walker, Jr.

Other participants: Joshua Bailey; James Beeby; Nathaniel Bowditch; Mina Hinkle; Wayne Jones; James Poolman

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

NH Top Jobs

Committee Chair Eastwood called attention to the NH occupational projections included in the meeting materials and noted that nursing continues to be among the jobs with high demand.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Vice Chair Green, duly seconded, and approved.

VOTED, that the Educational Excellence Committee approve the minutes of the January 19, 2023, meeting.

Information

Academic Program Changes, including the following degree program additions and deletions:

KSC Addition: BS Cybersecurity
BA Social Media

KSC Deletion: BA Math Education for Elementary Teachers

UNH Deletion: BS Equine Studies (converted to option within Animal Sciences degree)
MS Analytics
MS Public Policy/Analytics (dual degree)
Education Specialist program (converted to Education Doctorate)

University System Student Board (USSB)

USSB Co-chair Dominic Lynch identified the USSB's commitment to maintaining focus on student mental health issues. He presented information about the demand nationally for mental health care services on college campuses and about common stressors affecting students. USSB Co-chair Emily Coutermarsh presented information about the PSU Student Government's effort to foster a supportive atmosphere for students through The Root Project, an initiative to cultivate socio-emotional competencies. Subsequent discussion centered on recent investments in campus health and wellness, ongoing needs, and the formation of a systemwide behavioral health board.

Fall 2022 Applicant Enrollment Decisions

The provosts reviewed a summary of the enrollment destinations of admitted USNH applicants based on National Student Clearinghouse data. Discussion centered on internal and external competition, mission differentiation, and marketing strategies.

Spring Census/R30 Enrollment

The provosts provided an overview of spring undergraduate and graduate enrollment trends. Discussion included international enrollment at UNH, which was rebounding post-COVID, and strategies for GSC online enrollment.

Fall 2023 First-Year Admissions

The provosts provided an update on the status of fall first-year student admissions activity. It was suggested that the campuses add a financial component, such as net revenue projection, that translates the admissions status in budgetary terms.

High Impact Practices

The provosts presented information about high impact practices (HIPs) that increase student engagement and promote active learning, support student persistence and success, and develop communication, problem-solving, and critical-thinking skills that are essential in the workplace. They reviewed results of the National Survey of Student Engagement that measures engagement in service learning, learning community, research with faculty, internship/field experience, study abroad, and capstone projects. Provosts Bowditch and Jones described examples of HIPs at PSU and UNH, and Provost Beeby invited KSC students, James Poolman, Mina Hinkle, and Joshua Bailey, to talk about their HIP experiences in architectural design, Holocaust memorial art, and construction safety.

Competitive Implications for Public Higher Ed

Provost Jones provided context for a recent article, "Flagships Prosper, While Regionals Suffer," that was published in the Chronicle of Higher Education's *2023 Trends Report* and had recently circulated among trustees. The article related an analysis that found enrollment trends improved at flagships and declined at regional institutions over the past 10 years. Context included that the flagship and regional schools established for the analysis reflected a broader population of public four-year institutions and that there was less concentrated advantage in enrollment by institution type in more recent years. Subsequent discussion touched on interstate competition for students, especially among R1 universities, and state funding expressly for nonresident enrollment.

Other Business/Discussion

Board Chair Walker welcomed the new gubernatorially appointed trustee, Patrick Griffin.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.