

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
BOARD OF REGENTS
Educational Planning & Policy Committee
February 10, 2005

A meeting of the Educational Planning and Policy Committee of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, February 10, 2005, at 2:45 p.m. in the East Committee Room, 600 McNamara Alumni Center.

Regents present: Maureen Reed, presiding, Anthony Baraga, William Hogan, Richard McNamara, and Patricia Simmons.

Staff present: Senior Vice President & Provost Thomas Sullivan; Vice Presidents Carol Carrier, R. Timothy Mulcahy, and Linda Thrane; Provost David Carl; and Associate Vice Presidents Gail Klatt and Alfred Sullivan.

Student Representatives present: Bobak Ha'Eri and Tom Zearley.

**UNIVERSITY PLAN, PERFORMANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY
REPORT: ACADEMIC ISSUES**

Senior Vice President and Provost Sullivan led the discussion of the *University Plan, Performance & Accountability Report (Accountability Report)*. He explained that academic issues in the *Accountability Report* would be discussed for the Twin Cities campus and each of the coordinate campuses in terms of the following three policy questions:

- On which academic performance indicators is the University performing satisfactorily?
- On which academic performance indicators is improvement needed?
- What steps are being taken to maintain satisfactory performance and strengthen areas of underperformance?

For the Twin Cities campus, Sullivan identified the following as favorable indicators: research expenditures, technology commercialization, post-doctoral appointees, retention and graduation rates, citizen satisfaction, and impact on Minnesota. With respect to research expenditures, he assured the committee that implementation of the strategic plan will put in place the mechanisms necessary to allow the University to compete effectively for shrinking pools of research dollars increasingly targeted to institutions that emphasize multi- and cross-disciplinary research. The committee urged the University to take a more proactive approach in this area and to provide the Board with more frequent updates on research issues.

Regarding technology commercialization, Sullivan reported that growth in the University's licensing income from 1999-2003 (562.2%) far exceeded the average growth rate for the Top 10 public institutions (16.3%) and for the Top 10 public and private institutions (2.5%). Similarly, the University has outperformed the Top 10 public universities and Top 10 public and private in the area of post-doctoral appointees (materials in the docket and on file in the Board Office).

In response to a question from the committee, Sullivan commented that the University is expecting the newly established Office of Business Development and University Enterprise Laboratories, in conjunction with the presidential initiatives, to develop innovative approaches in areas of comparative advantage that will distinguish the University from its competitors. He acknowledged that success in this area will largely be determined by costly but necessary investments in facilities and technology.

On the basis of comments from the committee, Chair Reed proposed the following as appropriate topics for future discussions of technology commercialization:

- What environmental influences should the University consider?
- What are the University's strategies/goals?
- Are trend lines moving in the right direction?
- What have been the outcomes/successes/challenges of the University's cross-disciplinary efforts?

In the area of citizen satisfaction and impact on the state, Sullivan indicated that an ongoing goal will be to improve communications with all constituencies to be sure the University's role as Minnesota's economic engine is understood and to maintain connections that keep the University apprised of public expectations. He stated that the administration is still considering the possibility of a commissioned external study on the University's economic impact.

Areas of concern include the number of doctorates awarded, faculty awards and membership, and University Libraries. Sullivan stressed that a combination of factors, including increased international competition for foreign students and fewer resources for graduate student financial aid, have contributed to the decline in the number of doctoral degrees awarded by the University, but that this decline has been higher than that for either the Top 10 public or the Top 10 public/private universities. He advised that increasing financial aid for graduate students will be a top priority, but stressed that graduate student quality, not quantity, would be of utmost importance.

A second area of concern is faculty awards and memberships, which, over the past five years, have declined by 50% in the arts, humanities, sciences, engineering, and health. To more assertively promote outstanding faculty, a University-wide task force and task forces within each college will be working to identify and support outstanding faculty.

The third area of concern is the status of University Libraries. The University currently ranks 61 out of 64 in library expenditures by leading public institutions, a ranking most directly linked to rising costs of library acquisitions and recent declines in state funding. The committee expressed (1) concern about library funding declines that will affect the University's rankings in other areas and (2) the need to replace the current metrics (dollars expended) with outcomes measures, even if they are developed internally.

Reed invited Vincent Magnuson, vice chancellor, University of Minnesota Duluth; John Schwaller, vice chancellor for academic affairs and dean, University of Minnesota Morris; Richard Nelson, Associate Vice Chancellor, Crookston; and Provost Carl, University of Minnesota Rochester, to join the discussion of *Accountability Report* findings for their respective campuses. Trend analysis for the coordinate campuses revealed a number of favorable indicators and areas of concern as detailed in the docket materials and associated handouts.

Sullivan listed the following action steps to be implemented by the administration to maintain or improve favorable trends and to reverse unfavorable trends:

- incorporate findings into strategic positioning efforts;
- ensure adequate financial support through compact agreements and presidential initiatives;
- advocate biennial budget request aligned with strategic plan; and
- continue to monitor performance annually so that progress can be mapped, measured, benchmarked, and reported.

ENROLLMENT & GRADUATION REPORT

Senior Vice President and Provost Sullivan introduced Peter Zetterberg, Director, Institutional Research and Reporting, who led the discussion. Zetterberg reviewed the *2004-05 Enrollment and Graduation Report* (on file in the Board Office), which includes for each campus Fall 2004 enrollment for undergraduate, graduate, first professional, and non-degree students; degrees granted during the 2003-04 academic year; and 4-, 5-, and 6-year graduation rates.

Zetterberg reported that total enrollment increased 2.3% over Fall 2003, while the number of degrees granted increased 7.4% for 2003-04. The University accounted for 30% of all higher education degrees awarded in Minnesota, with especially high shares of the state's total in pharmacy, dentistry, veterinary medicine, engineering, medicine, and doctoral degrees.

In response to questions from Reed, Zetterberg indicated that the Twin Cities campus has made measurable progress toward current 4-, 5-, and 6-year graduation rate goals, but that results on the coordinate campuses are less clear. Vice Chancellor Magnuson stated that improvement in University of Minnesota Duluth graduation rates will depend on changing student attitudes about the value of timely graduation and providing incentives for them to do so. Vice Chancellor Schwaller advised that graduation rates at University of Minnesota Morris (UMM) are greatly affected by its small total enrollment and by its ability to recruit and retain the best students. He expects that UMM will achieve its established retention goals.

CONSENT REPORT

A motion was made and seconded, and the committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the Consent Report, as detailed in the docket materials:

New Academic Programs:

- Graduate School — New Free-Standing Minor in Family Policy

Academic Program Changes:

- Graduate School — Master of Arts (M.A.) Degree (Plan B only) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree in Educational Psychology, New Track in Quantitative Methods in Education
- School of Public Health — Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) Degree, New Concentration in Complementary and Alternative Medicine

Program Name Changes:

- College of Education and Human Development — Master of Education (M.Ed.) Degree, Change Name from M.Ed. in Instructional Systems and Technology to M.Ed. in Learning Technologies
- Graduate School — Master of Arts (M.A.) Degree and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree in Education, Curriculum, and Instruction – Change Track Name from Instructional Systems and Technology to Learning Technologies

- Graduate School — Master of Science (M.S.) Degree and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree – Change Names from M.S. and Ph.D. in Molecular Veterinary Biosciences to M.S. and Ph.D. in Comparative and Molecular Biosciences
- Graduate School — Master of Arts (M.A.) Degree – Change Name from M.A. in Communication Disorders to M.A. in Speech-Language Pathology
- Graduate School — Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree – Change Name from Ph.D. in Communication Disorders to Ph.D. in Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences

Academic Program Discontinuations:

- University of Minnesota, Duluth, Graduate School — Master of Arts (M.A.) Degree in Counseling Psychology
- Graduate School — Master of Arts (M.A.) Degree and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree in Japanese
- Graduate School — Master of Arts (M.A.) Degree in Russian Area Studies
- Graduate School — Master of Arts (M.A.) Degree and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree in Chinese
- Graduate School — Master of Arts (M.A.) Degree and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree in South Asian Languages
- University of Minnesota, Duluth, School of Fine Arts — Bachelor of Music (B.M.) Degree – Major in Piano Pedagogy

Student Representative Ha'Eri commented that students have expressed to him their concerns about the lack of transparency when programs are discontinued. Reed proposed the discontinuation process as an appropriate topic for discussion when the committee receives the *Annual Report of Program Additions and Continuations*, scheduled annually in September.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Senior Vice President and Provost Sullivan referred committee members to the docket materials, which include summaries of the *Final Report on 1998 Academic Interdisciplinary Initiatives* and the *Post-Secondary Joint Summary Report*. He highlighted comments by the external teams reviewing the five interdisciplinary initiatives and stated that post-secondary planning has limited overlapping/duplicative programming between the University and institutions of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

ANN D. CIESLAK
Executive Director and
Corporate Secretary