

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
BOARD OF REGENTS
Educational Planning & Policy Committee
October 6, 2005

A meeting of the Educational Planning and Policy Committee of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, October 6, 2005, at 3:00 p.m. in MacMillan Auditorium A/C of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Chaska, Minnesota.

Regents present: Peter Bell, presiding; Dallas Bohnsack, David Larson, David Metzen, and Lakeesha Ransom.

Staff present: Chancellors Charles Casey and Samuel Schuman; Senior Vice President & Provost Thomas Sullivan; Senior Vice Presidents Frank Cerra and Robert Jones; Vice Presidents R. Timothy Mulcahy, Charles Muscoplat, and Linda Thrane; General Counsel Mark Rotenberg; Executive Director Ann Cieslak; and Provost David Carl.

Student Representatives present: Joshua Colburn and Amy Jo Pierce.

BOARD OF REGENTS POLICY:
RESEARCH SECRECY

Senior Vice President & Provost Sullivan introduced Timothy Mulcahy, Vice President for Research, who led the discussion of Board of Regents Policy: *Research Secrecy*. Mulcahy indicated that proposed amendments include a new name for the policy, *Openness in Research*; affirm the University's commitment to open research and participation; expand coverage to the results of clinical trials; clarify exclusions; eliminate privacy protections now covered by law; remove procedural information to administrative policies and procedures; and incorporate portions of Board of Regents Policy: *Publication of Investigation Results*, which will be superseded.

In response to a question from Bell, Mulcahy stated that the provisions of this policy do not extend to non-University activities, such as faculty involved in activities under the auspices of other organizations, but not as faculty members. Mark Bohnhorst, Associate General Counsel, added that research conducted by faculty excluded by Section II of the proposed policy are governed by Board of Regents Policy: *Outside Consulting, Service Activities, and Other Work*.

In response to a number of questions from the committee, Mulcahy remarked that this policy specifically excludes the University's conduct of classified research. Very few institutions accept classified research and those that do, public or private, have dedicated, off-campus facilities in order to comply with security restrictions. He also acknowledged that provisions carried over from Board of Regents Policy: *Publication of Investigation Results* require research sponsors to obtain the University's consent in order to publish results the University elects not to publish.

Mulcahy explained that exceptions to this policy, though increasing, are rarely requested or granted. He listed examples of compelling reasons, cited in pending administrative policy, for which exceptions might be granted, including benefit to the public good, the intellectual significance of the research, and whether the research provides an otherwise unavailable educational opportunity.

Mulcahy will consider alternative language regarding the policy's application to non- University-related activities; an alternative name to better reflect the policy's content; the addition of examples to indicate what might constitute compelling reasons for restrictions on the dissemination of research results; and alternative language regarding the right of research sponsors to publish.

The policy will return to a future meeting of the committee for action.

MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE UPDATE

Senior Vice President Jones recalled that declining resources over the last few years had precipitated many changes in the Extension Service, but that the outcome was a more contemporary model that better serves Minnesotans. He introduced Beverly Durgan, Dean, University of Minnesota Extension Service (Extension Service), who led the discussion.

Durgan noted that funding reductions in 2003 required the Extension Service to develop new funding and program delivery models. To meet these challenges, Extension has implemented business plans for all program areas, developed a more effective and flexible program delivery system, and increased its use of technology. Eighteen regional centers now coordinate Extension Service programming by assessing local and regional needs, a model that has improved outcomes statewide and generated positive constituent responses. Today's Extension Service also is better prepared to meet the needs of underserved populations; to play a role in the University's strategic positioning process; and to support Presidential Initiatives in the areas of *Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives; Environment & Renewable Energy; and Children, Youth & Families*.

Durgan identified funding and risk management as policy questions the Extension Service must address as it supports the University's mission in the areas of teaching, research, and public engagement. She assured the committee, however, that the mission remains the same: to address critical issues in Minnesota by connecting community needs and University resources.

In response to questions from the committee, Durgan commented that fee assessments are determined by program teams, business plans, and state and federal funding stipulations.

The committee requested an update in a year on the Extension Service and its reorganization.

CONSENT REPORT

No consent report items were presented this month.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Senior Vice President & Provost Sullivan introduced Frank Cerra, Senior Vice President, Academic Health Center, who described an affiliation agreement between the

University and ISP Hong Kong for the ISP Off-Site Executive Study Program in Healthcare Administration. Cerra emphasized that this program is the result of Healthcare Administration's return to the School of Public Health and the opportunities it provides to establish relationships around public health issues.

Sullivan directed the committee's attention to the Fall 2005 Enrollment Summary, which includes preliminary data regarding the University's new freshman class (materials on file in the Board Office). He stated that by any measure the academic profile of this year's freshman class has improved. With unprecedented class rankings and ACT scores, the two best predictors of postsecondary success, these students are poised to achieve, which is reassuring to an institution that strives to ensure not only access but graduation.

In response to a question from Regent Ransom, Sullivan noted that the number of international students has increased 1.5% over last year.

In response to a question from Bell, Wayne Sigler, Director, Office of Admissions, reported that in recent years the University has been more successful in competing for exceptional students, but that competition for the best students remains intense.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

ANN D. CIESLAK
Executive Director and
Corporate Secretary