

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

BOARD OF REGENTS

Educational Planning & Policy Committee

June 13, 2002

A meeting of the Educational Planning and Policy Committee of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, June 13, 2002, at 10:30 a.m. in the East Committee Room of the McNamara Alumni Center.

Regents present: William Hogan, presiding; Dallas Bohnsack, Jean Keffeler, Richard McNamara, Michael O'Keefe, and Maureen Reed. Regent Bryan Neel was present during the presentation of the Information Items.

Staff present: Executive Vice President and Provost Robert Bruininks; Chancellors Donald Sargeant and Kathryn Martin; Vice Presidents Robert Jones and Charles Muscoplat; Executive Director Ann Cieslak; and Associate Vice President Steve Cawley.

Student Representatives present: Jacob Elo and Danielle Stuard.

CONSENT REPORT

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

New Academic Programs:

- College of Continuing Education - Undergraduate Certificate in Applied Business with tracks in Applied Business Function and Applied Business Communication and Leadership
- College of Continuing Education - Postbaccalaureate Certificate in Innovation Studies
- College of Continuing Education - Undergraduate Certificate in Interpreting
- College of Education & Human Development - Postbaccalaureate Certificate in Program Evaluation
- Graduate School (in cooperation with the College of Continuing Education and the College of Human Ecology) - Postbaccalaureate Certificate in Housing Studies
- Graduate School - Postbaccalaureate Certificate Program in Nursing

Academic Program Additions:

- Graduate School - M.S. and Ph.D. in Natural Resources Sciences and Management

- School of Nursing - B.S.N. in Rochester
- University of Minnesota, Crookston - Manufacturing Management Degree Site in the Twin Cities

Academic Program Mergers and Tracks:

- Graduate School - M.A. and Ph.D. in Classical and Near Eastern Studies
- Graduate School - M.S. and Ph.D. in Conservation Biology
- Graduate School - M.A. and Ph.D. in Education, Curriculum, and Instruction
- Graduate School - M.A. and Ph.D. in Classical and Near Eastern Studies
- Graduate School - Five-Year Integrated Degree Programs (B.S./M.S. in Electrical Engineering and B.S./M.S. in Computer Engineering)

Academic Program Name Changes:

- Graduate School - M.A. and Ph.D. in Communication Studies

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES REPORT

Executive Vice President and Provost Bruininks led the discussion related to the University initiative launched last year to assess the status of outreach and to revitalize it to address serious public issues of the 21st century and the needs of Minnesota communities. The initiative was carried out by the Civic Engagement Task Force, co-chaired by Professors Edwin Fogelman and Harry Boyte, and the Administrative Advisory Committee on Public Engagement/Outreach, co-chaired by Vice President and Dean Muscoplat and Dean Charles Casey. Bruininks then introduced Muscoplat and Fogelman, who summarized the report, as presented in the docket materials.

Muscoplat remarked that civic engagement is a core activity of the University because an engaged university strengthens and transforms communities and the economy; applies knowledge to address key social issues; uses teaching and outreach to shape its research agenda; and values the open marketplace of ideas. Because the University is often the best source of impartial information, civic engagement benefits the public, increases accountability, and engenders goodwill.

Fogelman affirmed that civic engagement pervades an engaged university so that research responds to the needs of the larger community, teaching develops the skills and motivations essential to effective citizenship; and outreach establishes mutually beneficial relationships with the community.

Fogelman and Muscoplat listed some issues that need to be addressed and a number of recommendations supported by the task force.

In response to a question from Reed, Muscoplat agreed that discovering the public's needs in civic engagement is a challenge, but that University units maintain contact with the public in a variety of ways, including surveys, websites, and statewide listening sessions. Prioritizing civic engagement activities is a more difficult challenge because in an era of declining financial support, some activities must be funded more creatively or eliminated.

Student Representative Elo observed that the University effectively explains the importance of its teaching mission, but that civic engagement activities are critical and need a similar emphasis so that the public better understands institutions like the University.

In response to questions from Hogan and Reed, Bruininks maintained that civic engagement is not a project, but an activity that must be central to all activities of the University. He stressed the need for careful deliberation and the development and implementation of strategies that imbed civic engagement into the culture of the University. He indicated that the next steps will be implementation of appropriate strategies and a follow-up report to the committee in the next academic year.

**METROPOLITAN HIGHER EDUCATION
ISSUES AND DIRECTIONS:
SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE WORK AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

Executive Vice President and Provost Bruininks and Leslie Mercer, associate vice chancellor for research, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU), led the discussion regarding the joint effort between the two systems to improve metropolitan higher education planning (as described in the docket materials).

Since February the two systems have reached agreement in the areas of career pathway development; improved program delivery to underserved metro area populations; PreK-12 educational partnerships; and technology enhancements to benefit students of all public higher education and the PreK-12 system. To ensure continued progress, the University and MnSCU, in collaboration with metropolitan PreK-12 systems, also have agreed to establish the Metropolitan Education Consortium to be guided by an Executive Steering Council (Council)

O'Keefe commented that the Board has long been interested in this issue, which not only represents an enormous effort by both institutions, but a major step forward in the development of a strategy for metropolitan education. He attributed the success of this effort to excellent staff work and the involvement of members of both boards and the heads of both systems. He suggested that future progress will require continued enthusiasm and involvement at top executive and policymaking levels so that unresolved issues do not become obstacles. O'Keefe emphasized the need for a mechanism through which the Council is accountable to both governing boards as well as a mechanism for a continuation of relationships now established between the two boards. Particularly helpful may be a joint meeting of the educational planning committees of both boards in the near future.

In response to questions from Reed, Bruininks reported that the negotiations had not yet addressed delegations of responsibility for metropolitan education. Critical to this effort will be the appointment of an executive director of the Metro Ed Consortium.

Bruininks identified a number of next steps in the process, including a resolution for the Board's consideration at a subsequent meeting.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Executive Vice President and Provost Bruininks referred the committee members to the docket materials.

University of Minnesota Rochester Update

Executive Vice President & Provost Bruininks reported that the University and MnSCU systems have agreed to revise the 1999 agreement approved by both boards to govern the future of post-secondary education in Rochester. The proposed changes would:

- strengthen the University's leadership role in Rochester;
- reaffirm the roles of Winona State University and Rochester Community and Technical College in Rochester;
- define Winona State's offerings in Rochester and require coordination of offerings with the University; and
- commit the two systems to improve marketing, advising, mission, and academic support services for students.

Bruininks noted that the proposed changes address funding issues, ensure that resources benefit students, and advance the

cause of higher education in Rochester, but that these changes do not substantively amend the 1999 agreement and, therefore, do not require action by the respective boards. He assured the committee that the approval of both boards would be required in the event of substantive changes.

Committee members endorsed the proposed changes, but expressed some disappointment that the Board was not asked to support the changes more formally. They would have done so enthusiastically.

Regent Neel expressed his support for what has been a 20-year effort by the Rochester community to ensure a clearly defined leadership role for the University of Minnesota.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

ANN D. CIESLAK
Executive Director and
Corporate Secretary

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