

Year 2003-04

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

BOARD OF REGENTS

Educational Planning & Policy Committee

September 11, 2003

A meeting of the Educational Planning and Policy Committee of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, September 11, 2003, at 9:45 a.m. in the East Committee Room, 600 McNamara Alumni Center.

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

Staff present: Chancellors Velmer Burton and Samuel Schuman; Executive Vice President & Provost Christine Maziar; Senior Vice President Frank Cerra; Vice President & Chief of Staff Kathryn Brown; Interim Vice President David Hamilton; Executive Director Ann Cieslak; and Provost David Carl.

Student Representatives present: Travis Amiot and Gina Jennissen.

CONSENT REPORT

The Committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the following, as detailed in the docket materials:

New academic programs:

- College of Education and Human Development – Post-baccalaureate certificate in PK-12 Administration
 - Graduate School/College of Continuing Education – Post-baccalaureate certificate in Nonprofit Management
 - University of Minnesota, Duluth – College of Science and Engineering, Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Biomedical Science degree program
 - University of Minnesota, Crookston – Minor in Coaching

Academic program mergers:

- College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences – Merge Animal Production Systems major with Agricultural Industries and Marketing (Animal Industries emphasis) and Science in Agriculture (Animal Science emphasis) to create Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Animal Science

Academic program discontinuations:

- College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences – Animal Production Systems major, Agricultural Industries and Marketing (Animal Industries emphasis), and Science in Agriculture (Animal Science emphasis)

UPDATE: METRO ED STRATEGY

Regents Hogan and Bell and Executive Vice President and Provost Maziar updated the committee on the latest in a series of discussions between the University and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) System. Hogan reported that in July 2003 he and Regent Bell met with two trustees representing MnSCU's Educational Policy Committee as well as senior officers of both systems. The focus of their discussion was the Metropolitan

Higher Education Consortium (MHEC) and the strategies it is pursuing to address important higher education issues unique to the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

Maziar reminded the committee of the four areas of concentration previously identified by the MHEC and MHEC's goals regarding outcomes (materials on file in the Board Office). Maziar also explained that the University and MnSCU have proposed an extension of MHEC's planning horizon to 2020 and the use of relevant resources already developed by a number such organizations as the Citizens League and the Northern Alliance. She expects to report back to the committee in 6-9 months on MHEC's success in producing deliverables.

MAYO/UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP: PROGRESS & ISSUES

Executive Vice President and Provost Maziar introduced Senior Vice President Cerra and Mark Paller, Assistant Vice President for Research, who led the discussion of the Mayo/University Partnership (Partnership). Regent Simmons, a pediatrician and associate professor in the Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine at the Mayo Clinic, acknowledged the appearance of a possible conflict of interest or commitment, but stated that she does not foresee any personal conflict because she has resigned from the Mayo Foundation Board of Trustees and from leadership positions on its executive committee. However, she wanted to give the presenters and members of the committee an opportunity to request that she recuse herself during the discussion.

Regent Reed thanked Simmons for her comments, noting that Simmons had raised with her the potential for conflict. Reed expressed her belief that Simmons' presence would be an asset to the discussion, but she agreed that the committee must be sensitive to potential conflicts and asked that members feel free at any time to request that Simmons leave the room.

Cerra recalled that the impetus for the Partnership was the conviction of many state legislative leaders that cooperation between the state's two health research institutions was critical to Minnesota's efforts to capture value in biotechnology, convert it into intellectual property, and successfully commercialize it. The legislature's continuing interest in a partnership resulted in a three-way communication between the Mayo Clinic, the University's Academic Health Center, and public governance. In August 2003, the Mayo Foundation unanimously endorsed the Partnership.

Cerra described the operating structure of the Partnership (materials on file in the Board Office). Within the University, the president will lead a cross-functional team supported by internal committees functioning as counterparts to the Partnership's four committees (Research/Grant Development, Business Plan, Facilities, and Communications). Paller outlined the purpose of the Partnership, provided relevant background information, identified established goals, and explained sources of funding and scheduled investments in Phase 1 (already under way) and Phase 2 (to be supported by an estimated \$70 million in state and federal funds expected over the next two or three biennia).

In response to a question from Bell, Cerra advised that no activities have been displaced because the University's \$1 million contribution is from unallocated non-state dollars.

In response to several questions, Cerra noted that student involvement is limited because the Partnership's focus is on synergistic areas of research with commercial potential, but both institutions are working to create educational opportunities in this area that far exceed what has been done in the past. Paller added that participation in this initiative will increase educational opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students because the University's research and education missions are so interrelated.

In response to a question from Regent Hogan, Cerra acknowledged that no vision had as yet been established, but among the Partnership's two-year objectives are to achieve excellence by capturing and applying technology to patient care in a way that is highly visible and adds value. This investment also will be critical to the educational, research, and hospital rankings that are essential to attracting and retaining the best faculty and students who, in turn, are expected to increase productivity in basic, translational, and clinical research. He indicated that tangible evidence of the Partnership's success will be the development of an inter-institutional agreement and the increase in new grant applications.

In response to a question from Bell, Maziar explained that current Board policy relative to the development of

intellectual property might make it difficult to outsource basic research to a private biotech firm specializing in commercialization. Bell suggested that in an era of scarce resources the University might consider revisiting the policy.

Cerra remarked that so far no information has been provided regarding the role of the private sector because the Partnership has not yet determined what the appropriate role might be and how Mayo and University policies might affect it. Reed stated that any relationship between two large entities with unique missions and cultures should be governed by an explicit statement of principles that can help resolve difficult issues in such areas as intellectual property and facilities.

TECHNOLOGY ENHANCED LEARNING: UPDATE AND POLICY ISSUES

Executive Vice President and Provost Maziar introduced Billie Wahlstrom, Vice Provost, Distributed Education and Instructional Technology, who led the discussion. Wahlstrom observed that the University has established a robust technology infrastructure that is highly leveraged to enhance efficiency and conserve resources. She then reviewed progress on policy issues discussed with the committee in 2002, listed strategic concerns, and identified policy considerations in the University's efforts to manage the digital University (materials in the docket and on file in the Board Office).

In response to a question from Regent Hogan, Wahlstrom noted that it was unclear what future growth trends might be in this area, but that high expectations among arriving students is an indication of potential future costs.

In response to a number of questions regarding policy issues appropriate for consideration, Reed stressed that it is the job of the committee chair, vice chair, and Maziar to frame appropriate discussions that meet the information needs of committee members. Simmons suggested that Regents might gain a better understanding of technology as a tool for accomplishing the University's mission if, when appropriate, presentations include information on technology's role in a particular area.

COMMITTEE WORKPLAN, 2003-04

Regent Reed asked the committee to review the workplan, identify five topics of highest priority, and suggest additional topics for possible discussion. The committee identified tuition policy, specific plans for improving graduation goals, and updates on previous initiatives as topics of particular interest. Regent Simmons proposed that in some areas, such as student finances, it might be important to begin with an overview involving the full Board, after which critical aspects of a topic would be assigned to appropriate committees. Board Office staff were directed to receive and tabulate individual rankings of workplan topics.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM ADDITIONS & DISCONTINUATIONS

Executive Vice President and Provost Maziar presented a new report, *Academic Program Additions & Discontinuations*, which was prepared at the committee's request. This report will be compiled annually to provide an overview of the changes with regard to academic programs in the previous academic year.

In response to a question from Bell, Maziar indicated that program additions outnumber discontinuations because there is no cost to maintaining what may be a program in name only. She expects next year's report to include more discontinuations because she will be assessing the process to remove barriers and/or provide incentives to encourage departments to discontinue programs no longer supported. Bell requested that future reports include breakdowns by campus, discipline, certificate, and graduate/undergraduate.

INFORMATION ITEMS

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

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

ANN D. CIESLAK
Executive Director and
Corporate Secretary