

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
BOARD OF REGENTS
Educational Planning & Policy Committee
June 8, 2006

A meeting of the Educational Planning and Policy Committee of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, June 8, 2006, at 8:00 a.m. in the West Committee Room, 600 McNamara Alumni Center.

Regents present: David Larson, presiding; Dallas Bohnsack, David Metzen, and Patricia Simmons.

Staff present: Chancellors Charles Casey, Kathryn Martin, and Samuel Schuman; Senior Vice President & Provost Thomas Sullivan; Senior Vice President Robert Jones; Vice President Linda Thrane; Executive Director Ann Cieslak; and Provost David Carl.

Student Representatives present: Will Kellogg and Desiree Price.

BOARD OF REGENTS POLICY:
ANIMAL CARE AND USE

Senior Vice President & Provost Sullivan introduced Timothy Mulcahy, Vice President for Research, and Associate Vice President Richard Bianco, who led the discussion of Board of Regents Policy: *Animal Care and Use*. The policy was before the committee for both review and action because of the relatively minor nature of the changes, which reinstate a citation inadvertently omitted when the policy was amended last year. The citation reflects the University's commitment to the standards of care outlined in the *Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals*.

A motion was made and seconded, and the committee voted unanimously to recommend adoption of proposed amendments to Board of Regents Policy: *Animal Care and Use*.

BOARD OF REGENTS POLICY:
***RESEARCH INVOLVING RECOMBINANT DNA
AND HAZARDOUS BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS***

Senior Vice President & Provost Sullivan introduced Timothy Mulcahy, Vice President for Research, and Associate Vice President Richard Bianco, who led the discussion of proposed amendments to Board of Regents Policy: *Research Involving Recombinant DNA and Hazardous Biological Materials*. Mulcahy noted that the most significant changes are the removal to administrative policy and procedures information regarding specific responsibilities, expansion of policy scope to include teaching, and a new title.

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

**BOARD OF REGENTS POLICY:
RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS**

Senior Vice President & Provost Sullivan introduced Craig Swan, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, who led the discussion of Board of Regents Policy: *Reserve Officers' Training Corps*. Swan observed that proposed amendments substantially revise the current policy, approved more than 30 years ago. The proposed policy reaffirms the University's commitment to the program, clarifies delegations of authority, and eliminates dated references addressed by other policies.

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

**BOARD OF REGENTS POLICY:
COLLEGE CONSTITUTIONS**

Senior Vice President & Provost Sullivan led the discussion of proposed amendments to Board of Regents Policy: *College Constitutions*. He advised that the policy has been reformatted and edited to conform to the style of Board policies and permits, but does not require, college constitutions. He also mentioned that an ongoing review will ensure that existing constitutions are consistent with all Board and other University policies and procedures.

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

**ANNUAL BUDGET PROPOSAL:
IMPACT ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES**

Senior Vice President & Provost Sullivan led the discussion of the academic priorities in which major investments will be made. As a part of the strategic positioning process, action strategies have been identified that relate directly to academic investments in the following areas:

- 1) **Collegiate Restructuring** – Provides \$2 million in 2006-07 and \$7.5 million in FY007 to fund new faculty positions, technology enhancements, academic leadership support, interdisciplinary initiatives, and the reorganization of six colleges into three.
- 2) **Interdisciplinary Initiatives** – Provides \$5.5 million for system-wide investments in the areas of environment and renewable energy, neuroscience, medical devices, healthy foods/healthy lives, nanotechnology, and biocatalysis.
- 3) **Graduate School and Research Investment Initiatives** – Provides nearly \$25 million in FY2006-07 to colleges, schools, the Academic Health Center, and the coordinate campuses for recruitment and retention of the best faculty and students.
- 4) **University Libraries** – Provides \$1.5 million in FY2007 to be invested in Twin Cities campus libraries for collection enhancement in support of the academic mission.
- 5) **Coordinate Campus Compact Investments** – Provides an additional \$3 million through the compact process for campuses to enhance compensation, research initiatives, and scholarships/fellowships.

In response to questions, Sullivan emphasized that faculty compensation is a top priority and that the budget proposal is partially the result of improved efficiencies

that allow administrative cost savings to be reinvested. The committee expressed particular interest in the status of faculty recruitment and retention relative to competing institutions, the availability of additional dollars to fund unanticipated opportunities, and the potential for cooperation with the private sector to enhance employment opportunities for faculty spouses.

**CAMPUS REPORTS & STRATEGIC POSITIONING UPDATE:
DULUTH & ROCHESTER**

Senior Vice President & Provost Sullivan introduced Chancellor Martin and Provost Carl, who led the discussion. Martin reviewed the mission and vision of the University of Minnesota Duluth (UMD) and described recent enrollment trends. She also profiled the student body, noting continued improvement in such indicators as average ACT scores, the percentage of entering students in the top 10% of their high school class, and the high level of student satisfaction with the quality of academic life and support services (materials included in the docket and distributed at the meeting are on file in the Board Office).

Martin identified the following as challenges for UMD:

- tuition relative to peer and competitor institutions;
- identifying resources beyond tuition;
- improving retention and graduation rates; and
- maintaining and expanding research funding.

To address these challenges, UMD's strategic planning process includes the development of goals, strategies, implementation steps, and assessment procedures in the areas of resource allocation; student profile; retention rates; research funding; physical infrastructure in support of academic programs; and contributions to regional economies. Among the important policy issues to be considered is the balance UMD should establish between standards of academic excellence and access.

In response to questions from the committee, Martin confirmed that improving graduation rates continues to be a priority at UMD. One strategy will be to provide financial aid to more students, who sometimes must work multiple jobs to pay for their education. Higher per-student financial aid also would improve UMD's attractiveness relative to peer and competitor institutions, where tuition often is substantially lower.

Provost Carl surveyed current academic offerings, enrollment trends, and credit hour production at the University of Minnesota Rochester (UMR). He stated that UMR, through its unique mission, strong signature programs, and strong institutional reputation, seeks to help the University become a Top 3 research university. He indicated that UMR focuses its offerings in health services and technology, two important contributors to Minnesota's economic vitality. He also noted UMR's significant long-term involvement with the Rochester community and the consistency of UMR's strategic direction with the recommendations of the Rochester Higher Education Development Committee (materials included in the docket and distributed at the meeting are on file in the Board Office).

Carl identified the following as UMR's initiatives:

- Prepare high quality healthcare and technology professionals;
- Secure appropriate facilities;
- Capitalize on public/private partnerships;
- Become a magnet for faculty and students;
- Expand services of technology commercialization office; and
- Provide financially viable programming in support of initiatives.

Carl observed that UMR challenges include a need for additional resources, classrooms, faculty offices, and laboratories and proximity for students to clinical and research settings.

CONSENT REPORT

A motion was made and seconded, and the committee unanimously recommended approval of the following academic program changes, as described in the docket materials:

New Academic Programs:

- College of Education and Human Service Professions (Duluth Campus) – Offer existing Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.Sc.) Degree in Psychology in online format.
- Department of Agriculture (Crookston Campus) – Create new Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Degree in Agronomy with two tracks: Agronomic Science and Crop Production.
- Department of Natural Resources (Crookston Campus) – Create a new Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Degree in Horticulture with two tracks: Production Horticulture and Environmental Landscaping.
- Department of Natural Resources (Crookston Campus) – Create new freestanding minor in Horticulture.

INFORMATION ITEMS

There were no information items this month.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

ANN D. CIESLAK
Executive Director and
Corporate Secretary