

**MINUTES OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM  
BOARD OF REGENTS  
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE**

**April 15, 2009**

The Chair of the Committee, Jim P. Wise, convened the meeting of the Academic and Student Success Committee of the University of Houston System Board of Regents in the Flamingo Room 275, University of Houston Hilton Hotel, 4800 Calhoun, Houston, Texas, at 9:02 a.m. on Wednesday, April 15, 2009, with the following members present: Carroll Robertson Ray and Welcome W. Wilson, Sr., Ex Officio. Regent Mica Mosbacher and Regent Tamara Goodwin were unable to attend.

Regent Wise stated there would be four approval items and four information items for discussion. He stated that the committee would vote on all of the approval items after they were presented. He then turned the meeting over to Dr. John Antel who introduced these items.

**Action Items:**

1. Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) Degree in Applied Administration – UH-Downtown

Dr. Antel requested approval of the establishment of a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) Degree in Applied Administration at UH-Downtown that would be administered by its College of Business. This degree would offer students the opportunity to develop competencies required for promotion to upper level administrative and supervisory positions in organizations, and when completed, students would have acquired skills and knowledge need for supervision and leadership, human resources, budgeting, interpersonal communication, change management, program planning and evaluation, information systems and development of technology. It is anticipated that 600 students would be enrolled by the fifth year, at a total five year cost of \$3.8 million. Two new faculty would be hired.

2. Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies – UH-Clear Lake

Dr. Antel requested the establishment of a Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies to be administered by UH-Clear Lake's School of Education. This degree would be a collaborative partnership between UHCL and area community colleges. Students who hold an associates degree in a vocational/technical studies area from a two-year institution would be able to fulfill the requirements for this degree by completing the core curriculum as well as the professional core at UHCL. There would be five professional core areas offered: three in early childhood education, one in information technology, and one in healthcare services. It is anticipated that 300 students would be enrolled by the fifth

year at a total five year cost of \$1.4 million, which would include four new faculty as enrollment growth was realized.

3. Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematical Biology – University of Houston  
Dr. Antel requested the establishment of a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematical Biology, which would be administered by the College of Natural Science and Mathematics. This program would produce graduates who would be able to function at the interface of applied mathematics with currently emerging areas in biology, medical research, genomics, and proteomics and would also be an important source of applicants for graduate programs at the many health science center institutions in this region and beyond. Forty-five students were projected by the fifth year, with total costs approximating \$80,000. No new faculty would be needed and existing course work would be used from the Departments of Mathematics and Biology and Biochemistry.
4. UH Charter School Waiver – University of Houston  
Board approval was requested for an application to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for a waiver of the standard attendance requirements required for funding for the UH Charter School. Dr. Antel called on Dr. Charlson who stated this was required due to the closure of the UH Charter School during Hurricane IKE from September 12<sup>th</sup> through September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008 and reopened with very low attendance on September 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. This waiver application was needed to submit this waiver application to the TEA.

Regent Ray moved committee approval of these four action items; Regent Wilson seconded the motion; and members of the committee concurred. These four items will be placed on the agenda for the April 21, 2009 Board of Regents meeting for final board approval.

### **Information Items:**

The following four items were presented for information only and required no action by the committee.

1. UH System Conference on Student Success – UH System  
Dr. Antel introduced this item. The ACE conference had been sponsored by the UH System and University Faculties Executive Council (UFEC) and was held at UH-Downtown on March 27, 2009. This conference focused on student success academics, careers, and engagement. Dr. Antel mentioned that the attendance was doubled from the previous year and numerous topics were addressed throughout the day.
2. Research Update - Opportunities regarding Federal Stimulus Funding Package – University of Houston  
Dr. Don Birx, Vice Chancellor for Research, provided the Board with an update on this issue. A powerpoint presentation on the University of Houston funding overview was addressed. He stated that everything presented was year-to-date and that awards were up 25 percent in 2009, 10 percent in 2008, for a two-year total

overall increase of 35 percent above what we had been doing in the past. Comparing this, Dr. Birx stated since 1992 to 2006, the average increase in awards was three percent per year. By comparing the last two years to these numbers, we are running significantly ahead of what our average increases have been stated Dr. Birx.

Proposals were also way up: 41 percent in 2008 and currently running 4 percent above last year's total for approximately a 45 percent increase in proposal activity from previous years.

Dr. Birx discussed expenditures and stated this was dependent on not the number of proposals, but the number of individuals who do the work.

He also addressed the stimulus package and FY2010 budget. A complete copy of his presentation was filed in the Board office.

3. Information on BP Gift of 22.8 Acres at Ingleside, Texas Property – University of Houston

Dr. Birx presented this item. The gift property is located on the Gulf Coast at Ingleside, Texas, 10 miles from Corpus Christi across the Corpus Christi Bay. It was a gift from British Petroleum to the University of Houston and would be used for activities related to renewable energy only.

4. Frontier Fiesta – University of Houston

Dr. Elwyn Lee, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, presented a report to the Committee on the University of Houston's annual Frontier Fiesta, which is the oldest tradition here at the University of Houston and founded in 1939. Dr. Lee gave a history of this event from its inception in 1939; the early years from 1947-1960; hiatus from 1960-1991; and then its revival in 1992 to present. A complete copy of Dr. Lee's powerpoint presentation was filed in the Board office.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

All documentation submitted to the Committee in support of the foregoing action items, including but not limited to "Passed" agenda items and supporting documentation presented to the Committee, is incorporated herein and made a part of these minutes for all purposes; however, this does not constitute a waiver of any privileges contained herein.

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Others Present:

Carl Carlucci  
John Antel  
Dona Cornell  
Don Birx  
Elwyn Lee

Elaine Charlson  
Carl Stockton  
John Powell  
Suzanne LaBrecque  
Jon Aldrich

David Bell  
Don Bates  
Molly Woods  
Keith Kowalka  
Oscar Gutierrez

University of Houston System

Tim Hudson  
Barbara Stanley  
Dan Wells  
Dineta Frazier

Liz Fletcher  
Ed Hugetz  
Laura Babrick  
Marquette Hobbs

Marcella Long  
Diane Murphy  
Ed Jones  
Gerry Mathisen