

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

Thursday, August 20, 2015 – The members of the Academic and Student Success Committee of the University of Houston System Board of Regents convened at 12:00 noon on Thursday, August 20, 2015, at the Hilton University of Houston Hotel, Conrad Hilton Ballroom, Second Floor, 4450 University Drive, Houston, Texas, with the following members participating:

ATTENDANCE –

Member(s) Present

Paula M. Mendoza, Chair
Durga D. Agrawal, Vice Chair
Welcome W. Wilson, Jr., Member
Garrett H. Hughey, Student Regent
Tilman J. Fertitta, Ex Officio

Non-Member(s) in Attendance

Spencer D. Armour, III, Regent
Jarvis V. Hollingsworth, Regent
Beth Madison, Regent
Peter K. Taaffe, Regent
Roger F. Welder, Regent

In accordance with a notice being timely posted with the Secretary of State and there being a quorum in attendance, Chair of the Committee, Paula M. Mendoza called the meeting to order. Regent Mendoza stated the committee would be presented eight (8) agenda items: five (5) action items for the committee's consideration and approval and three (3) information items. Regent Mendoza asked Dr. Paula Myrick Short, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost to present these items to the committee.

AGENDA ITEMS

Action Item(s):

1. Approval of Master of Education in Educational Technology at the University of Houston-Victoria – UH-Victoria, Item B – A&SS-B

Dr. Paula Myrick Short introduced and presented this action item requesting Board approval of a Master of Education in Educational Technology at the University of Houston-Victoria. The proposed Master of Education in Educational Technology is a 30 semester credit hour online graduate program. Its purpose is designed to prepare students who can serve in leadership roles as technology specialists and instructional designers both in higher education, corporate settings, public schools, K-12 schools, and human service organizations.

Dr. Short stated that graduates from this program will be able to evaluate and incorporate technology into the operations of the organization and in the educational setting. Graduates from this program will also be prepared to train individuals to use technology in an effective manner and also educate others to the value of technology in the instructional setting.

There is a great need for this degree in the public schools; and very important to schools who

are implementing technology within an instructional setting. Statistics from the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the top five (5) jobs likely to remain in demand through 2018 are Instructional and Educational Technology Specialists.

This degree will require one (1) new faculty hire and they expect to enroll 115 students in the first five (5) years and generate revenue starting in its third year. This proposal has been thoroughly reviewed and approval was recommended.

On motion of Regent Wilson, Jr., seconded by Regent Agrawal, and by a unanimous vote of the regents in attendance, the approval of a Master of Education in Educational Technology at the University of Houston-Victoria was approved.

2. Approval of Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies at the University of Houston – University of Houston, Item C - A&SS-C

Dr. Short presented this item requesting approval of a Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies at the University of Houston. The proposed Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies will build upon the Bachelor of Arts Liberal Studies program at the University of Houston. There are over 400 majors currently in that degree, and the belief is, if we establish a Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts, we will broaden the opportunity for students to obtain a Liberal Arts degree while focusing on the STEM and science areas in their background.

Currently, the B.A. degree requires two minors in the degree out of three from the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS). The B.S. degree will allow up to two minors outside of CLASS which will allow students to take courses in mathematics, in the STEM areas and in the science areas.

These students are very marketable and sought after by employers who want students who are critical thinkers, who have the Liberal Arts background but also have the STEM background in one of their two minors. It is the belief that after the fifth year of this program, there will be approximately 650 students enrolled in the six cohorts that are planned to admit. It will be a very popular degree and a degree that will broaden the access to the Liberal Arts degree for students. The B.A. and the B.S. will complement each other; therefore this degree was recommended for approval.

On motion of Regent Agrawal, seconded by Regent Wilson, Jr., and by a unanimous vote of the regents in attendance, the approval of a Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies at the University of Houston was approved.

3. Approval of Master of Science in Pharmacy Leadership and Administration at the University of Houston – University of Houston, Item D – A&SS-D.

Dr. Short requested approval of a Master of Science in Pharmacy Leadership and Administration at the University of Houston. This proposed degree would consist of leadership training, health-systems pharmacy administration training, research, and business-related coursework. This program would also expand the ongoing collaborations between the University of Houston College of Pharmacy and the Texas Medical Center institutions and other institutions that offer pharmacy practice residencies.

The objective of the program is to prepare graduates in pharmacy leadership and management who are able to go into pharmacy organizations either in medical center, hospital or retail settings and step into leadership and administrative roles fully prepared to help that organization to be successful.

There are currently 14 residents in the College of Pharmacy Health-System Pharmacy Management Program who will be the first students to enter the curriculum. It is expected that 38 students will enroll in the first five (5) years of the program. This program does not currently exist at the University of Houston or any other College of Pharmacy in the State of Texas.

This program will generate revenue the first year of the program.

On motion of Regent Wilson, Jr., seconded by Regent Agrawal, and by a unanimous vote of the regents in attendance, the approval of a Master of Science in Pharmacy Leadership and Administration at the University of Houston was approved.

4. Introduction of Dean, University Libraries – University of Houston, Item E – A&SS-E.

Dr. Short introduced Ms. Lisa German, the new dean of the University of Houston Libraries and Elizabeth D. Rockwell chair; and asked Ms. German to please come forward. Ms. German came to us from Pennsylvania State University Libraries where she served as associate dean for collections, information, and access services. At Penn State Libraries, she was responsible for planning, organization, policy development, implementation, assessment, and direction.

Ms. German has also published extensively in these areas and is a highly regarded research library administrator. Ms. German has participated in the Leadership Institute for Academic Librarians at Harvard University and the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) Research Library Leadership Fellows Program. She has received numerous awards for her accomplishments from the University of Illinois, Penn State University, and the American Library Association – Association for Library Collections and Technical Services.

Ms. German earned her Bachelor's degree in History and a Master's degree in Library Science, both from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Dean German's appointment was effective on August 1, 2015.

Dr. Short welcomed Dean German to the University of Houston and asked her to say a few words.

Dean German thanked Dr. Short and stated how much she appreciated the fine welcome that she has received since she arrived at the University of Houston and that she was looking forward to working with Dr. Short and all of her colleagues.

This item was for information only and required no committee action.

5. Approval of Professor Emeritus Appointment – University of Houston, Item F, A&SS-F.

Dr. Short presented this item requesting approval for a Professor Emeritus appointment at the University of Houston. Faculty emeriti recommendations were presented to the Board at the May 2015 meeting, but due to an administrative error, Dean Ira Colby's Professor Emeritus request was left off inadvertently. Dean Colby is one of our long term distinguished deans of the Graduate College of Social Work and in order to correct the error, Dr. Short requested the Board approve his status as Professor Emeritus at the University of Houston.

On motion of Regent Agrawal, seconded by Regent Wilson, Jr., and by a unanimous vote of the regents in attendance, the approval of Dean Ira Colby's Professor Emeritus Appointment at the University of Houston was approved.

6. Report on University of Houston System Administrative Memorandum 01.D.08, Sexual Misconduct Policy (Interim 2) – University of Houston System, Item G – A&SS-G.

Ms. Dona Cornell, Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs and General Counsel introduced this item regarding the University of Houston System Administrative Memorandum 01.D.08, Sexual Misconduct Policy (Interim 2) and gave a brief summary of the changes. The University's Title IX Coordinator and Head of the Equal Opportunity Services Office, Dr. Richard Baker, who has worked tirelessly on the University's Sexual Misconduct Policy was available to answer any questions.

Ms. Cornell stated that Title IX is a huge area of risk for every university and is something of national concern. A revised policy was presented for the Board's consideration. The last policy the university had was written in 2012. It was compliant with the law; however, the university has used this policy over the last three years and has watched some of the changes and how universities have been interpreting those changes in the law. This revised policy will clarify any issues of confusion that could have arisen, e.g., some of the due process issues.

Our policy is an "Investigator Lead Model" stated Ms. Cornell so the investigators are the ones that make the initial findings; but those initial findings are all subject to an appellate process. The General Counsel believes that this is the right way to have Title IX processes going forward. The university's investigators are very experienced and are all attorneys (although they are not required to be); but they are all very thorough, methodical and experienced in what they do.

With this draft, our process was changed in one regard which provides for a more professionalized appeal option for matters in cases of sexual assault. The university provides the opportunity to go to an external hearing officer for the two individuals that would be involved in a sexual assault allegation and would allow that to go outside. They could also keep it inside of our internal processes; but as a committee, it was thought that this was the better approach and would provide a little more protection for all parties involved. The university would expect that this external review officer, most likely a lawyer because in large part these are very complicated legal issues to resolve, stated Ms. Cornell.

The other significant change to the policy was the responsible employee(s). The university certainly encourages all of its employees and she believes that the university has created a

culture on this campus, and all campuses in the System, of compliance and no tolerance; and reporting issues of sexual misconduct. This has been a really big emphasis in all of our training and Ms. Cornell believes this policy goes in that direction.

In the past, the university had every employee being a responsible employee; but the university's definition is a little bit more refined now. It does not include every employee. It was the committee's belief that having it broader created more risk for the institution, and they wanted to be clear that those individuals who actually would be in a position to do something (those individuals - faculty, students and/or staff who thought they could do something) and not just someone who really would have no understanding or real ability to address the issues that were brought forward. Clearly, all faculty is part of the responsible parties/responsible persons under the law; and all supervisors would be responsible persons under the law. This is a System-wide policy. There is one process in place for every campus in the System.

A redlined copy of the changes made to the University of Houston System Administrative Memorandum 01.D.08, Sexual Misconduct Policy (Interim 2) may be found at the following link: <https://v3.boardbook.org/Public/PublicItemDownload.aspx?ik=37467751>

On motion of Regent Agrawal, seconded by Regent Wilson, Jr., and by a unanimous vote of the regents in attendance, the Report on University of Houston System Administrative Memorandum 01.D.08, Sexual Misconduct Policy (Interim 2) was approved.

At the conclusion of the approval of the last action item presented, Regent Mendoza called for a motion to place the first four (4) action items presented to the committee on the Board of Regents' Consent Docket Agenda for final Board approval at the Board of Regents meeting.

On motion of Regent Wilson, Jr., seconded by Regent Agrawal, and by a unanimous vote of the committee members present, the following four (4) action items will be placed on the Board of Regents' Consent Docket Agenda for final approval at the Board of Regents meeting held later today, August 20, 2015, as listed below.

1. Approval of Master of Education in Educational Technology at the University of Houston-Victoria – UH-Victoria;
2. Approval of Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies at the University of Houston – University of Houston;
3. Approval of Master of Science in Pharmacy Leadership and Administration at the University of Houston – University of Houston; and
4. Approval of Professor Emeritus Appointment – University of Houston.

Regent Mendoza also noted that the fifth action item, the Report on University of Houston System Administrative Memorandum 01.D.08, Sexual Misconduct Policy (Interim 2) – UH System which was unanimously approved by the committee would be discussed by the Board in the meeting held later in the day.

The next item presented before the committee was Item H, REECycle Presentation/Update – University of Houston, Item H – A&SS-H. Dr. Ramanan Krishnamoorti, Acting Vice Chancellor for Research and Technology Transfer, introduced this item and stated it was a pleasure to introduce Dr. Casey McNeil, one of the founders of REECycle and a graduate of the University of Houston, C.T. Bauer College of Business. Dr. McNeil was recently named by Forbes magazine as one of the “30 Under 30” super stars amongst our recent graduates. Through a Technology Transfer program that started in August of 2013 by Dr. Krishnamoorti’s predecessor Dr. Rathrinda Bose and Dr. Mark Clarke, a group of students started a process to understand and commercially develop opportunities for technology developed by one of our Welch professors here at UH; Dr. Allan Jacobson and his students adopted to recycling red metals. This group has been able to take this idea and really garner national support for it. REECycle won the National Clean Energy Business Plan competition held by the Department of Energy and has since started its operation as a small company at the Ecosystem being developed at the UH Energy Research Park that is fostering an entrepreneurial spirit amongst our students. Dr. Krishnamoorti asked Dr. Casey McNeil to present his powerpoint presentation to the committee and below is a brief summary of his remarks.

Dr. McNeil asked the committee to imagine a resource so critical for our daily lives that without would change lives as we know it. Imagine if this resource was almost entirely controlled by one country; a country that was not an ally. No this resource was not oil but rather rare earth elements; and the country is China! Rare earth elements make energy generation more efficient; make consumer electronics smaller; and make our national defense systems more effective said Dr. McNeil. Although there are 17 total rare earth elements, there are two (2) that are most critical – Neodymium (Nd) and Dysprosium (Dy). These elements are used to manufacture rare earth magnets known as neo-magnets. These neo-magnets make energy generation up to 30% more efficient; they allow cell phones to fit in our pockets; and they make our national defense systems more accurate. China, the country that controls almost 100% of the production of these elements, has done so for the past 20 years. As famously quoted by the former leader of China, the Middle East has oil and China has rare earth elements! Because of the ever increasing applications for these materials, along with China’s dominance over their control, supply shortages have become an all too common occurrence within this market.

Dr. Casey McNeil is the CEO of REECycle, the first company ever to be able to profitably recycle Neodymium and Dysprosium. REECycle, through a disruptive innovation, a patented process, is able to recycle these elements from discarded electronics. This technology was developed and patented at the University of Houston. His team was given permission to prove feasibility for commercialization. After proving the feasibility for commercializing this technology, they were granted rights to use it. This has created an unprecedented ground work for paving the way for students behind them for not only The Wolff Center for Entrepreneurship but also from the University of Houston as a whole to commercialize university IP.

Dr. McNeil explained to the committee how the company worked and below is the link to the presentation for reference: <https://v3.boardbook.org/Public/PublicItemDownload.aspx?ik=37467758>.

The committee thanked Dr. McNeil for his presentation and the wonderful work REECycle has accomplished.

This item was presented for information only and required no committee action.

University of Houston System

The last agenda item presented before the committee was Item I, a Presentation of University of Houston-Downtown “Student Success Story” – University of Houston-Downtown, A&SS-I. Regent Mendoza introduced Dr. Judith Harris, who is an assistant professor of criminal justice at UH-Downtown.

In 1999, Dr. Harris received her bachelor’s degree in criminal justice; in 2005, she received her Master of Criminal Justice, both from UH-Downtown; and in 2013, she finished her Ph.D. in the Administration of Justice from Texas Southern University. Dr. Harris began work as a pretrial officer for Harris County, and while working for Harris County, she began adjunct teaching, first with HCC and then with UH-Downtown, in the Department of Criminal Justice.

While Dr. Harris teaches a varied course load, she is especially devoted to her senior seminar course, providing an award-winning service-learning experience for her students through the Harris County Sheriff’s Office (HCSO) Jail Reentry Services program which is the first of its kind in the nation. This is an excellent service-learning opportunity and a major opportunity not only for the students but for the community. When the students are released from this program, they become better citizens, neighbors and more informed Houstonians. Each semester there are approximately 27 students in the program with about 250 inmates at any given time.

This item was presented for information only and required no committee action.

It should be noted that no Executive Session was held.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.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.

Others Present:

Renu Khator
Jim McShan
Paula Myrick Short
Dona Cornell
Ramanan Krishnamoorti

Wayne Beran
Jeffrey Cass
Jonathan Snow
Mark Clarke
Sabrina Hassumani

Dan Maxwell
Brandon Alexander
Dan Wells
Richard Baker
Jesse Pisors

Others Present (cont’d):

Eloise Dunn Stuhr
Richard Walker

Carl Stockton
Ryan Harrison

Phil Booth
Claire Caton

University of Houston System

William Flores
Raymond V. Morgan
William Staples
Elwyn Lee
Jason Smith
Don Guyton
Gerren Lacy
Shannon Harrison
Gerry Mathisen

Judith Harris
Mark Yzaguirre
Akif Uzman
Sacha Ryder
Matthew Castillo
Casey McNeil
Abner Fletcher
Marquette Hobbs

Leigh Van Horn
Ed Hugetz
Lamar Pritchard
Jon Aldrich
Dick Phillips
Chris Stanich
Don Price
Brenda Robles