

**Program Effectiveness, Research & Technology Committee (PERT)
Ohio Board of Regents
Minutes of the Meeting of March 22, 2007**

The meeting was called to order by Regent Patterson at 11:02 a.m. Regents present were:

PERT Committee members

Jim Patterson, Chair
Walt Reiling, Vice Chair
Bruce R. Beeghly
Jim Tuschman

Other Regents in attendance

Edmund J. Adams
Donna M. Alvarado
Jeanette G. Brown
Anthony D. Houston
Jerome F. Tatar

Ohio Board of Regents staff:

David Barber, Consultant, Academic & Access Programs
Bob Bowers, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor for P-12 Education
Jack Connell, Assistant Director, Academic & Access Programs
Bret Crow, Assistant Director, Communications
Shane DeGarmo, Administrator, Academic Affairs & Economic Advancement
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor
Kris Frost, Vice Chancellor for Operations
Jane Fullerton, Associate Vice Chancellor, Educational Linkages & Access
Michael Taggart, Director, Workforce Development
Garrison Walters, Senior Vice Chancellor

Minutes of the January 18 Meeting

The committee unanimously approved the minutes of the January 18 meeting.

March Board Agenda Items

The following items were proposed for committee and board approval:

- Athenaeum of Ohio, Institutional Reauthorization
- Temple Baptist College:
 - Bachelor of Arts in Christian Ministry
 - Bachelor of Science in Business
 - Bachelor of Science in Education
- Union Institute & University, Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice
- Union Institute & University, Doctor of Education

Jack Connell, Assistant Director, Academic & Access Programs, briefed the committee on proposals from the Athenaeum of Ohio, Temple Baptist College, and Union Institute & University. There were no concerns raised in the review of the Athenaeum of Ohio's request for institutional reauthorization. Staff recommended that the institution be reauthorized through December 31, 2014.

Temple Baptist College also submitted a request for institutional reauthorization. The review team found inconsistencies with administrative practices, program quality, faculty credentials and qualifications, and library resources. Therefore, the team recommended an overall restructuring of institutional policies and procedures related to academic control, curricular processes, faculty appointment and development, and library resources/services. The administration and board of trustees readily accepted the recommendations of the team, and formally requested provisional authorization and active monitoring by the Regents for its programs while the institution restructures its operations and practices. Staff recommended provisional authorization through June 30, 2009, with progress reports due June 30, 2007; December 31, 2007; June 30, 2008; and December 31, 2008. A reauthorization review will be accommodated prior to June 30, 2009 to determine continued authorization.

Union Institute & University submitted program proposals to offer a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice and Doctor of Education degree program. The proposed criminal justice program, which has been delivered from the university's Los Angeles and Sacramento campuses in seated and online formats for nearly ten years, will be delivered in an online format using the eCollege platform and will emanate from Cincinnati. The review team had some concerns about program assessment and faculty staffing models, to which the institution responded to appropriately in its institutional response. Therefore, staff recommends provisional authorization through June 30, 2008, with a progress report due by December 31, 2007. The program will be reviewed prior to June 30, 2008 to determine continued authorization.

The proposed Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) program contains areas of specialization in Educational Leadership and Higher Education and is designed to support education professionals to acquire advanced knowledge of scholarship in the field and to develop the skills and attributes that will help them become effective researchers and professionals. The review team identified concerns related to program assessment, faculty staffing and professional development, to which the institution responded appropriately in its institutional response. Therefore, staff recommends provisional authorization of the proposed Ed.D. program through December 31, 2009, with progress reports to be submitted by December 31, 2007 and 2008. A follow-up review will be performed prior to December 31, 2009 to determine continued authorization.

The following items were reviewed at the January 18 PERT Committee meeting:

- Hocking Technical College, Associate of Applied Business degree in Theater Arts and Management
- Zane State College, Associate of Applied Science degree in Health Information Management
- University of Dayton, Master of Laws (LLM), and Master in the Study of Law (MLS) in Intellectual Property and Technology
- Bowling Green State University, Ph.D. in Statistics

- Ohio State University, Ph.D. in Dance Studies
- University of Cincinnati, Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT)

There were no further discussions about these items. Items 3.2 to 3.7 were moved to the board consent agenda.

Items Proposed for the April 25, 2007 Board Meeting

Jack Connell briefed the committee on proposals from Tiffin and Capella universities. There were no concerns raised in the review of Tiffin University's proposed Associate of Arts in General Studies degree program. The program, which is composed of previously authorized courses, offers study based in the liberal arts and sciences for those who seek a broad, interdisciplinary approach to knowledge. Staff recommended authorization for the program through December 31, 2011.

Capella University submitted proposals for master of science degrees in education and psychology. The Master of Science in Education degree review found concerns with curricular elements, the number of specializations proposed and appropriate faculty in each area of specialization. The institution was able to demonstrate its ability to deliver and staff each specialty area in accordance with Regents' minimum standards. Therefore, staff recommended provisional authorization of the program through December 31, 2009, with yearly progress reports due December 31, 2007 and 2008. A follow-up review will be performed prior to December 31, 2009 to determine continued authorization.

The Master of Science in Psychology degree program prepares graduates to apply empirical knowledge to solve applied problems within ever-changing professional settings. The program seeks to deliver the knowledge sets, academic and intellectual skills, and the practice proficiencies needed by professionals in the field of psychology. The review team had concerns with the number of specializations in the proposed program and determined that only the areas in Clinical, Counseling and General were appropriately staffed in the program at this time. The university responded appropriately to the suggestions and recommendations of the consultants' report. Therefore, staff recommended provisional authorization of the program through December 31, 2009, with yearly progress reports due December 31, 2007 and 2008. A follow-up review will be performed prior to December 31, 2009 to determine continued authorization.

Michael Taggart, Director, Workforce Development, briefed the committee on proposals from Hocking Technical College, Kent State University-Ashtabula Campus, and University of Rio Grande and Rio Grande Community College. Hocking's proposed Associate of Applied Science in Fitness Management degree will provide students with the education and skills needed to be a fitness professional. Students will learn how to develop appropriate, effective and safe exercise training programs, conduct physical fitness assessments, and identify potential health risks. There were no serious concerns raised in the review and staff recommended that the program be approved.

Kent State's proposed Associate of Applied Science in Aviation Maintenance Technology degree program meets Federal Aviation Administration requirements and qualifies graduates to take the Federal Aviation Administration examination to become

a certified Airframe and Powerplant technician. For students interested in continuing their education, they will have the opportunity to enroll in Kent State University's Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautics. There were no serious concerns raised in the review and staff recommended that the program be approved.

Rio Grande's proposed Associate of Applied Science in Respiratory Therapy degree will prepare students to sit for the National Board of Respiratory Care entry-level examination. In collaboration with Buckeye Hills Career Center, the center will offer some of the respiratory courses and the university will offer the accredited curriculum of core courses in the humanities and physical/behavioral sciences required for the degree. To ensure the program would not duplicate other programs in the region, nor take away clinical placements from the other established programs, the university discussed its plans with representatives of Shawnee State University, Washington State Community College and Hocking Technical College. There were no serious concerns raised in the review and staff recommended approval of the program.

Dr. Garrison Walters, Senior Vice Chancellor, briefed the committee on proposals from the following institutions:

- Cleveland State University, Master of Nonprofit Administration and Leadership;
- Miami University, Master of Education and Master of Arts in Instructional Design and Technology, and Ph.D. in Student Affairs in Higher Education;
- Wright State University, Master of Information Systems; and
- University of Toledo, Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering.

All of the programs were reviewed and approved by the Regents' Advisory Committee on Graduate Studies. Dr. Walters noted that the degree titles were market driven and designed to meet the needs of students and the workplace. In addition, the programs would not require any additional resources and Miami University and University of Toledo would not receive any additional subsidy as a result of mounting their respective doctoral programs.

There was no further discussion about these items. The committee recommended that they be considered for approval at the April board meeting.

Report

Accreditation Recognition Project

Jack Connell briefed the committee on the National Accreditation Agency Recognition Project. The project was initiated in the fall of 2006 in response to requests by legislators and institutions accredited by national accreditors to determine if Regents could recognize national accreditation in lieu of regional accreditation for institutions seeking authorization in Ohio. More specifically, the purpose of the project is to evaluate the standards and practices of certain national accreditors, and then to assess the relevance of the information gathered, i.e., whether the information would be suitable for Regents purposes and acceptable in place of regional accreditation.

Upon careful review, staff concluded that institutions holding accreditation by the first two agencies reviewed, the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) and the Accrediting Commission for Career Colleges and Schools of Technology (ACCSCT), should be recognized in lieu of regional accreditation.

After consideration by the Board, staff are prepared to entertain program proposals for review from ACICS & ACCSCT accredited institutions, and to revise the regional accreditation requirement in Rule 3333-1-08 to accommodate the change in policy. The current requirement is that an institution must seek regional accreditation within six years after achieving Regents authorization. That requirement will be revised to read that institutions holding accreditation recognized by the USDE (U.S. Department of Education) or CHEA (Council for Higher Education Accreditation) and the Ohio Board of Regents may submit requests for authorization to the Ohio Board of Regents.

Staff will submit a recommendation for revising Rule 3333-1-08 (Standards for Issuing Certificates of Authorization) for this proposed policy change at the May meeting as well as Chapter 1713 of the Ohio Revised Code under which the rule operates. Staff have been working on draft revisions to both the rule and Chapter 1713 for some time in an effort to update the statutory language. With the Board's consent, the Accreditation Recognition Project will continue to review other national accreditors for Regents recognition in an effort to further accommodate the requests from SBCCS, state legislators, and other stakeholders.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.