

**Program Effectiveness, Research & Technology Committee (PERT)  
Ohio Board of Regents  
Minutes of the Meeting of November 16, 2006**

The meeting was called to order by Regent Tuschman at 10:57 a.m. Regents present were:

PERT Committee members

James M. Tuschman, Chair  
Anthony D. Houston, Vice Chair  
Bruce R. Beeghly  
Walt Reiling

Other Regents in attendance

Edmund J. Adams  
Donna M. Alvarado  
Jeanette G. Brown  
Jim Patterson  
Jerome F. Tatar

Ohio Board of Regents staff:

Harry Andrist, Director, Research & Graduate Programs  
Bret Crow, Assistant Director, Communications  
Shane DeGarmo, Administrator, Academic Affairs & Economic Advancement  
Kristina Frost, Vice Chancellor for Operations  
Deborah Gavlik, Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance & Governmental Relations  
Cathy Hill, Administrator, Workforce Development  
Robert Johnson, Assistant Director, Workforce Development  
Rich Petrick, Vice Chancellor for Finance  
Michael Taggart, Director, Workforce Development  
Garrison Walters, Interim Chancellor and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Economic Advancement

**Opening Remarks**

Regent Tuschman opened the meeting by thanking Dr. Garrison Walters, Interim Chancellor and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Economic Advancement, and his staff for the work they completed during the year.

**Minutes of the October 19 Meeting**

The committee unanimously approved the minutes of the October 19 meeting.

**November Board Agenda Items**

*The following item was proposed for committee and board approval:*

- Ohio Dominican University, Master of Science in Management

Interim Chancellor Walters briefed the committee on Ohio Dominican University's Master of Science in Management degree program proposal. There were no serious concerns raised in the review and staff recommended that the program be authorized.

*The following items were reviewed at the October 19 PERT Committee meeting:*

- Ashland University, Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing
- Ohio Dominican University, Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction Online Degree Program
- Cincinnati State Technical & Community College, Associate of Applied Business in Pastry Arts
- Hocking Technical College, Associate of Applied Science in Network Systems Technology
- Northwest State Community College, Associate of Applied Science in Instrumentation Technology
- Kent State University, Bachelor of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL)
- University of Toledo, Master of Arts in Criminal Justice
- Ohio University, Master of Financial Economics
- Ohio University, Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering
- Case Western Reserve University, Doctor of Philosophy in Molecular Medicine

There were no further discussions about these items. Items 3.1 to 3.11 were moved to the board consent agenda.

### **Items Proposed for the January 18, 2007 Board Meeting**

Interim Chancellor Walters briefed the committee on Firelands Regional Medical Center School of Nursing's proposal for institutional reauthorization. There were no serious concerns raised in the review and staff recommended that the institution be reauthorized through December 2013.

Cathy Hill, Administrator, Workforce Development, briefed the committee on Hocking Technical College's Associate of Applied Business in Music Management degree program proposal. Students in the program will gain the skills needed to produce, manage, and perform musical productions. In the second year of the program, students will have the availability to study abroad and work on musical productions in London, England. Currently, there are no similar programs offered in the region, and the college is in the process of developing an articulation agreement with the University of Rio Grande/Rio Grande Community College, whereby graduates will have the opportunity to transfer into Rio Grande's Music Business baccalaureate degree program.

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

## **Presentation**

*Research Experiences to Enhance Learning (REEL): An Ohio STEM Experiment*

Presenter:

- Dr. Prabir Dutta, Professor and Chair of Chemistry, Ohio State University

The goals of the Ohio REEL Project, a partnership among fifteen colleges and universities, are to:

1. Increase the retention and graduation rates in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields;
2. Introduce laboratory-based research into first and second year chemistry courses;
3. Generate new knowledge in the chemical sciences; and
4. Establish statewide faculty and student teaching and learning communities.

The project is necessary because students are either not choosing or staying in STEM majors, most notably because of teaching methodologies or the lack of financial aid available to continue in their program.

The participating institutions plan to implement the project by developing, implementing, and evaluating new research modules, and integrating these modules into their curricula.

The benefits of the project include: 1) more students will choose and remain in STEM majors; 2) students will gain research training in their first and second year chemistry courses; and 3) stronger partnerships among colleges and universities and high schools.

Dr. Rick Freeman, Dean of the College of Mathematical and Physical Sciences, OSU; Professor Pat Woodward, Director, REEL, OSU; Dr. Vinnie Subramaniam, Administrator, REEL, OSU, and Dr. Larry Mayer, coPI, REEL, Columbus State Community College, were also in attendance and fielded questions from the committee.

## **Discussion Item**

*Regents' Scholars in Computational Science*

Interim Chancellor Walters and Dr. Harry Andrist, Director of Research & Graduate Programs, discussed the possibility of creating a new program entitled Regents' Scholars in Computational Science. One potential source of funding would be a redirection of some portion of the \$1.37 million appropriated for this biennium in the Ohio Eminent Scholars (OES) Program. Regents' staff identified a number of impediments and difficulties associated with the OES program for the following reasons:

1. The current funding level allocated for Eminent Scholars awards is insufficient to fully fund the positions;
2. Eminent Scholars capital support has been withdrawn in the current state capital budget;
3. No funding is currently budgeted to carry out the review of Eminent Scholars proposals; and
4. The Third Frontier Project now funds senior scholars at a much higher level

than the OES Program.

Staff discussed the possibility of developing a competitive process to make funds available to both two- and four-year institutions. Grants would enable colleges and universities to have faculty develop local computational science programs while working in partnership with the Regents' Ralph Regula School of Computational Science. While no formal action is requested at this time, Regents' staff discussed the idea in order to solicit reactions and input from Board members on PERT.

## **Reports**

### *Ohio Workforce Education and Training Advisory Council*

Michael Taggart, Director, Workforce Development, briefed the committee on the recommendations in the Ohio Workforce Education and Training Advisory Council report delivered to Governor Taft on November 1st. Recommendations to the Governor included developing a common set of metrics for all postsecondary education and training providers; continuation of the Regents' staff leadership in articulation and transfer; statewide marketing targeting adult learners; creation of performance measures for education and training programs; oversight of Ohio's Adult Career Centers by the Regents; and expanding the size of the Board of Regents. It should be noted Regent Adams opposed the expansion of the Board and that these recommendations were to be forwarded by the Taft administration to Governor-Elect Strickland's administration.

### *Jobs for America's Graduates Out-of-School Youth Recovery Program*

Robert Johnson, Assistant Director, Workforce Development, briefed the committee on the Jobs for America's Graduate Out-of-School Youth Recovery Program (JAG). In the fall, the Board of Regents was awarded a non-competitive grant to help out-of-school youth attain their GED and prepare them for job readiness and college entry. Stark State Community College will pilot the program, which will begin with 450 youth, ages 16-21. The Board of Regents will serve as the fiscal agent and JAG will administer the program.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.