

**Initiatives Committee
Ohio Board of Regents
Minutes of the Meeting of June 21, 2001**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, Regent Tahlman Krumm.
Regents present were:

Regent Tom Noe
Regent Jerry Gordon
Regent Ralph Schey

Ohio Board of Regents Staff:

Rod Chu, Chancellor
Jonathan Tafel, Associate Vice Chancellor
Harry Andrist, Director, Research and Graduate Programs
Jane Fullerton, Director, Educational Initiatives and Grant Development
Tom Rudd, Director, State Grants and Scholarships
Leslie Sawyer, Director, Access Initiatives Programs
Michael Taggart, Director, Workforce Programs
Robert Johnson, Assistant Director, Workforce Development
Norm Singer, Consultant, Workforce Development
Jack Connell, Administrator, Program Approval
Char Rogge, Program Coordinator, Research and Graduate Programs

Guests:

Laurie Day, Ohio State University
Matt Stencil, Lorain County Community College
Marilyn Wigham, DeVry Institute of Technology
Paul Unger, Owens Community College
Judy Rayburn, Central Ohio Technical College
Terry Thomas, OACC
Cindy McQuade, IUC
Bob Burke, AICUO

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the Initiatives Committee meeting from April 19, 2001 were reviewed and approved. No committee meetings were held in May.

Presentation

Matt Stencil, Skills Max Program Coordinator at Lorain County Community College provided an overview of EnterpriseOhio's Skills Max initiative. Maintaining the fit between worker skills and specific job requirements has never been easy. In today's fast-changing work environment, it is more difficult

than ever before. Yet, failure to bridge the gap can have long lasting and serious consequences for employers and employees alike.

A significant gap now exists between the knowledge and skills needed for success in the Ohio workplace and the capabilities of Ohio's workforce. Skills Max is a new set of services that enables Ohio employers and workers to make informed decisions resulting in a better fit between skill levels and job requirements. Its strength arises from a unique collaboration between the EnterpriseOhio Network of two-year campuses and a consortium of leading assessment and service providers (i.e. Educational Testing Service, iLearning, Inc, Brainbench). Skills Max offers a comprehensive set of tools to individuals, business, educational institutions and public agencies working to meet the skill requirements of a dynamic economy. It does this by providing individuals and employers the opportunity to answer questions such as:

For the individual:

- ◆ Do I have the skills needed for the job I have or want?
- ◆ What jobs best match the skills I have?
- ◆ What career best matches my skills and aptitudes?
- ◆ How can I upgrade my skills to enhance advancement opportunities?

For the employer:

- ◆ Which applicant will fit the job the best?
- ◆ What training is best for this person?
- ◆ Who will provide to be an effective manager?

In the final analysis, Skills Max has tremendous potential for providing better methods of selecting, assigning, training, promoting, retaining and replacing workers. The Initiatives Committee asked that a presentation on the progress of Skills Max be made to the full Board of Regents at its January 2002 meeting.

June 21, 2001 Board Agenda Items:

- ◆ St. Mary Seminary and Graduate School of Theology, Institutional Reauthorization
- ◆ Lima Technical College, Associate of Applied Science in Environmental, Health and Safety Technology
- ◆ North Central State College, Associate of Applied Science in Digital Media Technology
- ◆ Sinclair Community College, Associate of Applied Science in Biotechnology
- ◆ Consideration of an increase in the maximum loan forgiveness rate from 80% to 100% in the Nurse Education Assistance Loan Program (NEALP)
- ◆ Proposed Administrative Rules for the Ohio Outstanding Scholarship Program (3333-1-29) and the Ohio Priority Needs Fellowship Program (3333-1-29)
- ◆ Fiscal Agent for the Incentive Fund Grant Program

Tentative Board Agenda Items – July 2001

- ◆ Mercy College of Northwest Ohio, Institutional Reauthorization
- ◆ DeVry Institute of Technology, Bachelor of Science in Information Technology
- ◆ Malone College, Bachelor of Arts in Management Degree Completion Program, off-site in Boardman, Ohio
- ◆ Central Ohio Technical College, Associate of Applied Science in Personal Fitness Training
- ◆ Ohio University-Chillicothe Campus, Associate of Applied Science in Child Development
- ◆ Owens Community College, Associate of Applied Science in Surveying Technology
- ◆ Bowling Green State University, Bachelor of Arts in Africana Studies
- ◆ University of Cincinnati, Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences
- ◆ Youngstown State University, Master of Science in Environmental Studies

Representatives of three campuses were on hand to answer brief questions from the Initiatives Committee. Judy Rayburn attended from Central Ohio Technical College, Paul Unger from Owens Community College and Marilyn Wigham from DeVry Institute of Technology.

Information Item:

- ◆ Proposed degree designation change from Master of Education in Food and Nutrition to Master of Science in Nutrition at the University of Cincinnati

Staff responded to questions regarding the information item.

Reports

- ◆ **K-16 Initiatives:** Dr. Jane Fullerton briefly reported on a statewide public arts, sciences and education deans meeting. The meeting provided a nearly unprecedented opportunity for discussion regarding the campus-wide responsibility for the preparation of teachers. This effort is linked to Ohio's ongoing Title II Improving Teacher Quality grant efforts.
- ◆ **Degree Approval:** No report.
- ◆ **Workforce Development:** Presentation on Skills Max
- ◆ **Research and Graduate Programs Programs:** Dr. Jon Tafel made opening comments and introduced Dr. Harry Andrist, who provided an update and brief overview of the Regents' research support programs portfolio. The current funding level for the five major research support programs is \$74 million per biennium, which includes \$48.7 million from the operating budget and \$25.3 million from the capital budget. The following synopsis was provided by Dr. Andrist to the Initiatives Committee Board members:
 - **Ohio Eminent Scholars Program:** The funding level is \$5.2 million, plus an additional \$2.75 million in capital support, that is intended to provide endowed faculty chair positions in currently outstanding

academic departments. The four-phase review process has been completed, Sinclair Community College has been designated as the responsible fiscal agent, and the recommendations for funding will come to the July 19 meeting of the Initiatives Committee.

- **Incentive Fund Grant Program:** The funding level is \$3.5 million, which represents the 2% of FY 2001 doctoral subsidy to be reallocated in order to encourage state-assisted universities to address critical State of Ohio needs as specified by the Graduate Funding Commission. Phase one of the three-phase review process has been completed, Columbus State Community College has agreed to be the responsible fiscal agent, and the recommendations for funding will come to either the July 19 or September 20 meeting of the Initiatives Committee.
- **Research Challenge Program:** The funding level will be \$20.0 million in each year of the new FY 2002-03 operating budget, which represents a decrease of 7.4% from its level of \$21.6 million in FY 2001. The Research Challenge Program is a performance-based program that provides direct rewards to universities on the basis of their success in generating external research support in the previous biennium. Leveraging data collected by Regents' staff over a sixteen-year period show that more than \$10 in external funding is garnered for every dollar of Research Challenge investment. The analysis of university claims on external funding of research during FY 2000 has been completed by Regents' staff, and the FY 2002 Research Challenge claims report has been finalized. The recommendations for FY 2002 funding will come to the July 19 meeting of the Resources Committee.
- **Hayes Investment Fund Program:** The funding level is approximately \$12 million during the FY 2001-02 capital biennium, which will be used to make selective investments in university research infrastructure to position certain Ohio research programs to become nationally and internationally prominent in targeted areas, and to support Ohio's industrial needs. The request for proposals was posted on the Regents' web page on May 14, 2001 and the letters of intent have now been received from the universities. The three-phase review process, involving preliminary proposals, final proposals, and reverse site visits will be completed in the spring of 2002, and it is anticipated that recommendations for funding will come to the March or April, 2002 meeting of the Initiatives Committee.
- **Action Fund:** The funding level is approximately \$10.5 million during the FY 2001-02 capital biennium, which represents a three-fold increase in the success rate of university research proposals incorporating Action Fund commitments over the level obtained during the previous capital biennium. Action Fund grants are awarded throughout the year as matching funds to accompany university research proposals that include major capital equipment or research facilities. The Action Fund is designed to encourage major projects of significant magnitude since only those research proposals with total project costs of \$0.25 million or more are eligible for support under this program. Leveraging data collected by Regents' staff support the conclusion that Ohio's universities are more competitive nationally for external research funding with the support of the Action Fund.

- ◆ **Access Initiatives:** Ms. Leslie Sawyer reported that the U.S. Department of Education had approved this year's annual performance report with no questions or requests for additional information. Based on the excellent performance of the Ohio program in this second year, the Ohio GEAR UP Grant will be funded for a third year. Ms. Sawyer responded to questions about continued funding for the GEAR UP Grant and other current program initiatives.