

**Program Effectiveness, Research & Technology Committee (PERT)  
Ohio Board of Regents  
Minutes of the Meeting of June 15, 2006**

The meeting was called to order by Regent Houston at 10:56 a.m. Regents present were:

PERT Committee members

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

David Barber, Consultant, Academic & Access Programs

Jack Connell, Assistant Director, Academic & Access 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

Darrell Glenn, Director, Performance Reporting

Katie Hensel, Administrator, HEFC

Jane Fullerton, Associate Vice Chancellor for Educational Linkages & Access

Cathy Hill, Administrator, Workforce Development

Patty Klein, Executive Secretary to the Chancellor

Neal McNally, Director, Finance

Rich Petrick, Vice Chancellor for Finance

Char Rogge, Administrator, Research & Graduate Programs

Michael Taggart, Director, Workforce Development

Garrison Walters, Interim Chancellor and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Economic Advancement

### **Minutes of the May 18 Meeting**

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

### **June Board Agenda Items**

*The following items were proposed for committee and board approval:*

- Approval for Innovation Incentive Program Awards
- Renewal of a Tuition Reciprocity Agreement between Eastern Michigan University, Monroe County Community College, Owens Community College, and the University of Toledo
- Terra Community College, Associate of Applied Science degree in Nursing

Dr. Harry Andrist, Director for Research & Graduate Programs, briefed the committee on the Innovation Incentive Program Awards. The Economic Growth Challenge/ Innovation Incentive, as proposed by the Governor's Commission on Higher Education and the Economy, is a new line item involving reallocation of current doctoral funding to universities, plus matching levels of state performance funding to achieve a major restructuring and refocusing of Ohio's portfolio of doctoral research programs. The primary objectives of the program are: 1) to enhance doctoral program focus; 2) to attract preeminent researchers; 3) to create commercialization opportunities; and 4) to complement Third Frontier programs.

It is the intent of this new line item to build world-class research excellence and catalyze Ohio's economic growth in concert with the Third Frontier Project. The required reallocation of funds at the institutional level will, by definition, result in the downsizing, or complete elimination, of doctoral programs that are not performing at, or above, a level consistent with national norms.

The proposal, if approved, would distribute the \$2.3 million appropriated by the 126<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in Amended House Bill 66 among the state's twelve (ten public and two independent) doctor of philosophy degree granting institutions.

Jack Connell, Assistant Director for Academic & Access Programs, briefed the committee on the renewal of a tuition reciprocity agreement between Owens Community College, University of Toledo, Eastern Michigan University, and Monroe County Community College. This renewal is the result of a merger of two existing agreements in June 2005. Formerly, the agreements with the Michigan institutions consisted of one for the two 4-year comprehensive universities (created in 1978) and one for the two 2-year community colleges (created in 1982).

The general purpose of the tuition reciprocity agreement is to expand postsecondary educational opportunities in the region while limiting the cost of such expansion to the taxpayers of Ohio and Michigan through collaboration among public institutions of

higher education. The intended outcomes of this collaboration are to increase the availability of programs to residents of the region without needless duplication of educational effort and to promote efficient use of existing educational facilities and resources.

The agreement was created using a standard contract template and is institution, county, and program specific. The agreement shall be effective beginning July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 and may be amended or renewed prior to June 30, 2007 by mutual consent of all of the parties. As the agreement must coincide with the biennial budgets of the State of Ohio, the next renewal shall be for the term of July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2009.

Staff believes that the agreement is functioning in an effective manner and is consistent with the state's interest. Program eligibility changes have been made in the agreement as a means toward achieving more parity in terms of the student exchange.

Dr. Garrison Walters, Interim Chancellor and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Economic Advancement, briefed the committee on Terra Community College's Associate of Applied Science in Nursing degree program. A brief history of the program's evolution is provided below:

- Area hospital administrators in 2002 approached Terra Community College (TCC) to offer an associate degree in nursing to address their nurse shortage. At that time, TCC did not have the nursing facilities needed for a nursing program and as a result of state budget cuts lacked the funds to develop the program.
- Consequently, Terra Community college entered into a partnership with Lorain County Community College (LCCC), which gave TCC student's access to the LCCC nursing program classes via interactive video. This partnership allowed Terra Community College the time needed to develop their nursing program.
- In 2004, Terra began the process of securing Ohio Board of Nursing approval for an associate degree nursing program and began preparing to secure Regents' approval as well. In addition, Terra Community College received a \$250,000 appropriation from the federal government to purchase equipment needed for the nursing program.

The new nursing program is projected to begin in August when the college changes to the semester system. Community and student interest in this program has grown the past two years and currently Terra has a list of over 300 individuals who have expressed an interest in enrolling in the program.

The proposed new program will continue to use the same clinical sites for student placement used in the concluding partnership with LCCC. Nearly all of those clinical sites are in the TCC service district. Two sites are being used in the Owens Community College service district because of the current lack of sufficient sites for the required psychiatric and obstetrics placements in Terra Community College's service district.

Terra Community College will pursue articulation agreements with the University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University ensuring a seamless transition to a bachelor's degree program.

Owens Community College is within a thirty-mile radius of Terra Community College and also offers an Associate of Applied Science degree in Nursing. As part of the review process Regents' staff learned that Owens Community College representatives were concerned that a new TCC nursing program would reduce the number of clinical sites available for the Owens Community College nursing program.

A series of meetings and conference calls were held with representatives of both colleges to examine the shortage of clinical sites as well as ways both could work together to meet the needs of nursing students and achieve high levels of efficiency in doing so.

Those discussions examined potential options for collaborative arrangements in administrative operations and instructional support. Although the potential benefits of collaboration seemed promising it soon became apparent that the planned launch of the new nursing program in August would not allow sufficient time to complete the required planning.

Therefore, Regents' staff recommended that:

- Terra's new nursing degree program is approved for a two year term during which Terra and Owens will recognize an imperative to collaborate and will, with the assistance of Regents' staff, make a sustained effort to develop a collaborative nursing program. The extent to which both parties strive to develop an effective collaboration will shape staff recommendations for approval for the program subsequent to the initial two-year period.
- No later than the end of the first year, Regents' staff will recommend to the Board the manner in which the program should continue beyond the second year.
- Terra's new nursing program will be implemented without the use of clinical sites in the Owens service district and that, should any be needed in the near term, Terra will search, with the assistance of Owens and Regents' staff, for alternative sites to substitute as soon as possible.

Representatives from the college and local hospital system spoke to the committee in support of the program.

There were no further discussions about these items. The committee recommended that they be moved to the board consent agenda.

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

- Otterbein College, Institutional Reauthorization
- Winebrenner Theological Seminary, Institutional Reauthorization
- Walsh University, Doctor of Physical Therapy
- Notre Dame College, Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Stark State College of Technology, Associate of Applied Science in Commercial Music Technology
- Zane State College, Associate of Applied Science in Sports and Fitness Management
- University of Akron, Doctor of Philosophy in Integrated Bioscience

There were no further discussions about these items (reviewed at the May PERT Committee meeting). Items 3.1 to 3.7 were moved to the board consent agenda.

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### **Items Proposed for the July 13 Board Meeting**

Jack Connell briefed the committee on proposals from Muskingum College and Northern Kentucky University. Muskingum College's proposed Master of Information Strategy, Systems and Technology degree program is a two-year, project-based cohort program composed of nine six credit-hour courses. Students will study, among others, information technology analysis and design of e-business systems, strategic vision, information technology consulting, and emerging technologies. The end of program culminates in a capstone project, which is student-designed, requires independent research, and demonstrates mastery of the program learning outcomes. There were no serious concerns raised in the review. Staff recommended that the program be authorized through December 31, 2015, with yearly progress reports due December 31, 2006, 2007, and 2008.

Northern Kentucky University's (NKU) proposed Bachelor of Health Science degree is an interdisciplinary program that provides an opportunity for respiratory therapists to enhance their knowledge and skills, improving the possibility for career mobility. The program is designed for those individuals who have earned an associate degree in respiratory care or completed professional coursework in an approved allied health discipline who want to expand their education. The proposed program, a current offering at NKU in Kentucky, will be offered at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Due to the number of concerns raised during the review, the review team and staff recommended provisional authorization through December 31, 2009, with annual progress reports due December 31, 2006, 2007, and 2008. A follow-up review will be performed prior to December 2009 to determine continued authorization.

Dr. Jane Fullerton, Associate Vice Chancellor for Educational Linkages & Access, briefed the committee on proposals from Miami and Wright State universities. Miami University proposed the following items:

- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science;
- Bachelor of Science in Engineering, with majors in: Electrical Engineering, Engineering Management, Mechanical Engineering, Computer Engineering, General Engineering, and Chemical Engineering;
- Change in degree title from Bachelor of Science in Manufacturing Engineering to Bachelor of Science in Engineering, with a major in Manufacturing Engineering; and
- Change of degree title from Bachelor of Science in Applied Science, Systems Analysis, to Bachelor of Science in Systems Analysis.

Miami University currently offers a Bachelor of Science in Manufacturing and a Bachelor of Science in Paper Science and Engineering, both accredited by the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET). These programs are long-standing offerings. In addition, Miami University has more recently offered a range of degree areas within the Bachelor of Applied Science, including chemical engineering, computer engineering, computer science, electrical engineering, engineering management, general engineering, mechanical engineering and systems analysis. With the exception of systems analysis, these degrees have been established in recent years.

Miami University was operating under an erroneous interpretation of the Ohio Board of Regents' degree approval authority and did not seek the required review and approval of degree areas in advance of students being admitted to programs. Through dialogue with Miami University staff, the program review process was clarified. Miami University submitted information on each program area and requested approval for the degrees as well as a renaming of two existing degrees.

Staff recommended approval for the degree areas specified. Any additional major areas, focused or interdisciplinary, will require review and approval by the Ohio Board of Regents. Miami University's programs will assist in meeting the urgent national need to train more engineers at the undergraduate level and will complement other engineering programs in the region.

Wright State University's proposed Bachelor of Science in Statistics degree program, which builds upon an existing area of concentration within the Department of Mathematics, will provide students with preparation for scientific and professional careers in industry, academia or government. The degree also provides a pathway into graduate study, including the university's Master of Science in Applied Statistics. Wright State will draw upon its existing faculty from the statistics concentration and mathematics for the program. No additional faculty and facility resources will be required. There were no serious concerns raised in the review.

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

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## **Reports**

### *Myers University*

Jack Connell updated the committee on the pending sale of Myers University. Discussions between the university and interested parties to sell the institution have been discontinued. Myers University will continue to operate in the Cleveland area as a non-profit institution.

### *Cyber-infrastructure*

David Barber, Consultant for Academic & Access Programs, gave an update on cyber-infrastructure, the networking and computing infrastructure for higher education. He talked about the Regents' three-part strategy to promote computational science, which includes a research, educational, and business outreach program, and described some of the successes of each program. In addition, Mr. Barber described how the success of these efforts are placing a high level of demand on the Ohio Supercomputer Center's computing resources and creating the need for new state investments in computer capacity.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

