

**Initiatives Committee
Ohio Board of Regents
Minutes of the Meeting of May 23, 2002**

The Meeting was called to order by Regent Tahlman Krumm. Regents present were:

Regent Jeanette Grasselli Brown

Ohio Board of Regents Staff:

Garry Walters, Vice Chancellor
Jonathan Tafel, Vice Chancellor
Harry Andrist, Director, Research and Graduate Programs
Jane Fullerton, Director, Education Initiatives and Grant Development
Leslie Sawyer, Director, Access Programs
Michael Taggart, Director, Workforce Development
Janet Schilk, Associate Director, K-16 Initiatives
Cathy Hill, Administrator, Workforce Development
David Barber, Consultant, Academic and Access Programs
Char Rogge, Administrator, Research and Graduate Programs
Yvonne Stertzler, Administrator, Budget and Resource Planning
Shane DeGarmo, Administrative Assistant, Program Approval
Carol Kenner, Administrative Assistant

Guests:

John Buttleworth, Cincinnati State Technical and Community College
Bob Burke, AICUO
Laurie Day, Ohio State University

Minutes of the April 18, 2002 Meeting

Minutes were approved by the Committee.

May 23, 2002 Board Agenda Items

- Incentive Fund Program Awards
- Muskingum College, Master of Arts in Teaching
- Ursuline College, Institutional Reauthorization
- United Theological Seminary, Institutional Reauthorization
- Lorain County Community College, Associate of Applied Science in Public Administration
- Youngstown State University, Master of Social Work
- University of Cincinnati, Doctor of Philosophy in Regional Development Planning

There were no additional questions regarding the recommended May agenda items. Dr. Andrist noted that the Incentive Fund awards will be a topic for the full Board of Regents meeting and will highlight various of the funded projects.

Tentative June Board Agenda Items – 2002

- Hayes Investment Fund awards
- Bryan and Stratton College, Institutional Reauthorization
- Pittsburgh Theological Institute, Institutional Reauthorization
- Muskingum Area Technical College, Associate of Applied Business in Microcomputer Applications Technology

Vice Chancellor Walters provided some preliminary comments regarding the Hayes Investment Fund Award process. Dr. Walters noted that the proposals for investment continue to get stronger and are characterized by more extensive collaborative efforts. Ohio's research infrastructure has been strengthened as a system by the Hayes Investment Fund and the opportunities provided to leverage state funds to obtain additional revenue from federal and corporate sources. Dr. Harry Andrist provided more specific details on the Hayes Investment Fund award process and noted that the actual awards will not be publicly identified until the June meeting, at which time the final awards will be highlighted. The Hayes Investment Fund provides capital investment funds for research initiatives that are collaborative in nature. A total of 24 research consortia were invited to submit full proposals for review and, ultimately, eleven research consortia were invited to make formal presentations to the Review Panel. Nine proposals were recommended for \$12 million in funding by the Hayes Investment Fund Review Panel. Each proposal was reviewed multiple times by national experts. Regent Krumm noted regret that the Board of Regents is only able to fund a small array of programs, due to insufficient funding. Vice Chancellor Walters noted the value of the Hayes Investment Fund in providing a model to other states of Ohio's efforts. Ohio is a national model in collaborative research efforts and indicated that the Hayes Investment Fund had gained its greatest notoriety outside of the state. Regent Brown cited the importance of sharing the success of the Hayes Investment Fund more publicly. This is the sixth Hayes Investment Fund competition since its inception in 1991.

Reports:

- **K-16 Initiatives:** Vice Chancellor Tafel noted that the Articulation and Transfer Council will be actively reviewing the state's policies and engaging in an active discussion of general education. A statewide conference is scheduled for June 11. National and state experts will be asked to address the changing nature of general education as a prelude to reviewing the current policy for transfer and articulation, and as a means of ensuring that students are being prepared in ways that articulate with workforce and educational needs.

Vice Chancellor Tafel also reported on awards to Ohio's Centers of Excellence in Mathematics and Science. These Centers were developed and funded as a means of bringing the state's various mathematics and science capacity building efforts together in order to develop a more systemic statewide approach to improving achievement. The Centers will be more fully described at a future meeting.

- **Degree Approval:** No report at this time.
- **Workforce Development:** Director Michael Taggart reported on OBR participation in the strategic planning work of the Governor's Workforce Policy Board. A key issue raised with the Policy Board is the importance of creating a greater demand for learning. Employees need to recognize and act upon the reality that continuous skill building is key to increased pay and employment opportunity. At the same time many employers need to be convinced of the importance of making continuous employee learning a key component of their success strategy.
- **Research:** This update was captured during the earlier discussion of the Incentive Fund competition and the Hayes Investment Fund, although Dr. Andrist noted that the Research Challenge claims from each university had been analyzed, and the recommended funding levels had been discussed with the university research officers.

In addition to the information on the Hayes Investment Fund, Vice Chancellor Walters reported on efforts to improve Ohio's economic climate through research. Vice Chancellor Walters described the Board of Regents work with others such as the Department of Development and the Battelle Institute to articulate the economic development needs of the state. Battelle, with the Ohio Board of Regents assistance and comment, is drafting a report that outlines Ohio's economic climate and suggests recommendations for future action. The draft report will likely be very comprehensive and advocate the development of centers of innovation that blend research with commercialization opportunities in Ohio. Areas suggested by the draft report include advanced materials, biological sciences, power and propulsion (applied opportunities), instrumentation and controls (applied opportunities), and technology. The report also references the need for a major investment over time in order to ensure cutting edge research and commercialization. The draft report calls for a specialized product development network different from the efforts already being nurtured through the Edison Centers. The Battelle report also talks about the importance of creating seed funding, regionally managed and developed, for the early phases of idea development as a means of building on the longer term possibilities for business, industry and higher education. Vice Chancellor Walters will provide the executive summary to the Board of Regents, with the full text of the report to follow. As an interesting historical note, Dr.

Walters commented on another Battelle report that also called for significant state investments, particularly in the area of technology, as follows: “What data are available indicate that Ohio may be behind other states in the utilization of new technology in its economy.” The shock is that this other Battelle report was written in 1967!

- **Access Initiatives:** Regent Brown noted that the Board of Regents access initiatives will be highlighted at the July meeting.