

Initiatives Committee  
Ohio Board of Regents  
Minutes of the Meeting of September 21, 2000

The meeting of the Initiatives Committee of the Ohio Board of Regents was held at the College of Mount Saint Joseph. The meeting was called to order by Acting Committee Chair, Regent Thomas W. Noe. Regents present were:

Thomas W. Noe  
Stephen A. Perry  
J. Gilbert Reese

Ohio Board of Regents Staff:

Harry Andrist, Director, Research and Graduate Programs  
Michael Brown, Director of Communications  
Jack Connell, Program Approval Officer  
Kristina D. Frost, Director of Operations  
Shannon Lee, Administrator, External Affairs  
Leslie J. Sawyer, Associate Director, Access Initiatives  
Michael Taggart, Director, Workforce Development  
Jonathan Tafel, Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic and Access Programs  
Frank Tepe, Consultant, Research Programs  
Russell Utgard, Project Director for Eisenhower Program  
Garry Walters, Vice Chancellor, Academic and Access Programs

Guests:

John Buttlerwerth, Chair, Faculty Senate, Cincinnati State Community and Technical College  
Willie Houston, Central State University (Ohio Faculty Council Initiatives)  
Randy Morris, University of Cincinnati (Ohio Faculty Council Initiatives)  
Pat Myers, Kent State University  
Jessica Poprocki, Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Ohio  
Michael Porter, Medical College of Ohio  
Pat Roberts, University of Akron  
Paul Unger, Owens Community College  
Sarah Williams, Inter-University Council

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the Initiatives Committee from the July 19, 2000 were reviewed and approved.

## **Presentation**

Update on the Ohio Resource Center for Science, Math and Reading

Dr. Len Simutis, Director  
Eisenhower National Clearinghouse for  
Mathematics and Science Education  
The Ohio State University

Dr. Simutis presented a comprehensive update on the Ohio Resource Center for Science, Math and Reading and the services that the Center is providing to organizations to enhance teaching and learning in these critical areas. Dr. Simutis shared, for example, the types of services the Center provides to engage universities with their communities and local businesses, help fully integrate teacher education with other areas of the university, effectively use and build on the state's technology infrastructure and existing programs (e.g., Project Discovery, Eisenhower, and Tech Prep). Attached are copies of the slides from Dr. Simutis' presentation.

There were many questions and much discussion following the presentation. Regent Stephen Perry asked Dr. Simutis what measures would be used to gauge progress and success (e.g., number of hits to website). Dr. Simutis explained that the center does not provide services directly to students, but instead serves as an information resource and provider for organizations and teachers. Therefore, an example of a success measure might be the number of teachers that indicate the Ohio Resource Center provided them with useful information through customer surveys or the amount of material being requested. Dr. Simutis stated that ultimately the true measure of success would be that schools are doing a better job teaching and students are better in learning math, science, and reading. The job of the Center is to provide materials and products for teachers and teaching practices to aid in the process.

Regent Perry raised another question regarding the shortage of math and science teachers with few entering the pipeline. Dr. Simutis responded that the remedies are primarily long-term. However, the problem needs to be addressed in the short term as an infrastructure issue through distance education and the coordination of activities that can improve content areas for teacher preparation purposes and to improve learning for students.

Chancellor Chu asked how practical are we in equipping teachers [through resources such as the Center] to help students who have problems in these subject areas. What are the alternative solutions? Dr. Simutis responded by saying that much will be dependent on long-term efforts and a lot has to do with the environment of the schools. In the short-term there is a need for action oriented research with parents, teachers, and school administrators working closely together toward common solutions.

Jon Buttlewerth asked if the center provided a listserv to promote regular communication among teachers. Dr. Simutis replied that the Center can build

a compendium of findings (i.e., summaries of activities or practices that work) and share them throughout the teaching network.

Regent Noe praised the work of the Center, but expressed concern about the ability of its services to positively impact all teachers, especially those who really need it. He questioned how can the center ensure that teachers use and apply the information, materials, and products provided to improve their teaching in the classroom? Dr. Simutis suggested ongoing regional dialogues and continued dialogue with the Board of Regents. Chancellor Chu emphasized that we will have to determine how to truly reach the teachers who need the information, resources, and help.

Regent Perry recommended that objectives be set along with measures of success and strategies to achieve the objectives, and a system to track the achievement of objectives.

### **September 21, 2000 Agenda Items**

Previously reviewed by the Committee:

- Distribution of Federal Funds under the Eisenhower Professional Development Program 2000
- University of St. Francis, Joliet, Illinois, Bachelor of Science in Health Arts
- Permanent Charter for Cincinnati State Technical and Community College
- Belmont Technical College, Associate of Applied Science in Information Services
- Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, Associate of Applied Science in Integrative Medical Massage Therapy
- Cuyahoga Community College, Associate of Applied Science in Surgical Technology
- Ohio State University, Master of Physical Therapy

Dr. Russell Utgard gave a brief overview of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Professional Development Program. He explained that the objective of the program is to initiate and support intensive high quality professional development activities for pre-college teachers to, in turn, ensure that they will provide challenging learning experiences in sciences and mathematics for their students. Each state's allotment of federal funds is based on the number of children in the state. Money is provided for higher education projects that benefit elementary and secondary education. The Eisenhower Program brings faculty from Ohio's colleges and universities together with math and science teachers to help teachers learn new instructional techniques in these disciplines, increase their understanding of math and/or science concepts, and learn about new developments in these fields. This year, 58 proposals were received from 28 institutions of higher education and four from non-profit organizations. At this time, \$2,123,399.38 is recommended for allocation to 31 projects representing 18 different higher education institutions and one non-profit organization.

Dr. Jon Tafel stated that it is not certain whether Ohio will continue to be funded from the national level. Ohio may be funded for another year until the new federal administration implements its new program for education. Funding ultimately could be administered in the form of block grants to states to determine how it will be used. Dr. Tafel further shared that Ohio's 16 percent of Eisenhower Program funding is distributed annually on a competitive basis and added that the process is an extremely rigorous one which Dr. Utgard has developed over the years. In answer to a question from Regent Noe about how the funds are used, Dr. Utgard explained that most funds are used for short-term professional development projects and activities.

Dr. Tafel suggested that if there were no further questions on the September 21, 2000 agenda items, that the Committee move forward with the Tentative Board Agenda for October 2000.

### **Tentative Board Agenda Items - October 2000**

- Ursuline College, Master of Arts in Liberal Studies
- Owens Community College, Associate of Applied Science in Wide Area Networking Technology
- Owens Community College, Associate of Applied Science in CAD Technology
- Cuyahoga Community College, Associate of Applied Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography
- Stark State College of Technology, Associate of Applied Science in Computer Networking and Telecommunications Engineering Technology
- Southern State Community College, Associate of Applied Science in Computer Technology
- Cleveland State University, Bachelor of Computer Engineering
- Cleveland State University, Bachelor of Arts in Women's Studies
- University of Toledo, Bachelor of Arts in Astronomy
- University of Toledo, Bachelor of Arts in Physics
- University of Toledo, Bachelor of Arts in Law and Social Thought
- University of Toledo, Bachelor of Science in Paralegal Studies
- Wright State University, Bachelor of Arts in African and African American Studies
- Cleveland State University, Master of Physical Therapy
- Case Western Reserve University, Executive Doctor of Management

Mr. Jack Connell informed the Initiatives Committee members that the proposed Ursuline College Master of Arts in Liberal Studies is unique in that it is not career-oriented, even though it prepares students to achieve promotion and career advancement. As a correction to the materials mailed to Committee members, the reauthorization for this proposed program is scheduled for December 2001 to be in line with other programs with certificates of authorization from Ursuline College.

Mr. Michael Taggart provided an overall summary of the five proposals from the two-year colleges. Mr. Taggart pointed out that these proposed programs share three common themes in that they all:

- build the technological skills of the workforce
- partner with other groups in the community
- focus on market needs and are designed to meet those needs.

Dr. Jonathan Tafel summarized the two proposed programs from Cleveland State University, the four programs from the University of Toledo, and the proposed program from Wright State University. Dr. Tafel explained that the University of Toledo's proposed Bachelor of Arts in Physics program focuses on broad content for teachers as opposed to narrowing the focus on in-depth higher level concepts of Physics. The University of Toledo's proposed Bachelor of Science in Paralegal Studies is designed to address an increased national need.

Dr. Harry Andrist reviewed the two graduate level programs on the tentative agenda for October 2000. Dr. Andrist informed the Committee that the Cleveland State University proposed Master of Physical Therapy program responds to new national level requirements for accreditation and for the Master's level credential required for entry into the profession. He further shared with the Committee that the proposed Case Western Reserve University Executive Doctor of Management program is unique in the State of Ohio, but this model does exist in other states. Because this program is unique in Ohio, RACGS recommended the provisional approval. Case Western Reserve University has now demonstrated the quality and effectiveness of this new doctoral program.

### **Information for Committee**

The University of Toledo:

- M.Ed. in Recreation and Leisure Studies to M.A. in Recreation and Leisure Studies
- M.Ed. in Speech-Language Pathology to M.A. in Speech-Language Pathology
- M.Ed. in School Psychology to M.A. in School Psychology
- M.Ed. in Guidance and Counselor Education to M.A. in Counselor Education

Dr. Andrist explained that these four University of Toledo programs all have undergone a change in name to reflect a move from the College of Education to a Master of Arts from their specific colleges. Although the change in each of these names reflects a change to a different college, the programs retain their same authority and program content.

## Reports

- **K-16 Initiatives:** Dr. Tafel reported on the recent initiative of the Joint Council, the ongoing comprehensive review for the proposed math and science academic standard. A broad-based public engagement strategy including focus groups currently is being conducted to provide input into the appropriateness of the proposed academic standards for math and English. The academic standards may be found on the Regents' web page along with an electronic comment form.
- **Access Initiatives:** Ms. Leslie Sawyer said that she was pleased to announce that the U.S. Department of Education had continued federal funding for the Ohio *GEAR UP* Program Grant for a second year. Ms. Sawyer reported other exciting news that Ohio had received two new local *GEAR UP* Partnership grants, one awarded to the University of Toledo and the other to Canton City Schools/Kent State University. Ms. Sawyer shared that the Ohio *GEAR UP* Program, in collaboration with the Ohio College Access network (OCAN), is beginning to explore ways to identify exemplary access projects and practices that potentially merit replication and/or expansion throughout the state. As the first step of a larger process to accomplish this, the Ohio *GEAR UP* program will present awards, using *GEAR UP* funds, to OCAN programs for outstanding practices that indicate potential for future consideration as a "best practice" for the entire state.
- **Workforce Development:** Mr. Michael Taggart reported a strong response from the business community to the availability of employee training funds available through the Targeted Industries Training Grant Program. Employers using the EnterpriseOhio Network campuses to provide training and assessment services are able to lower their training costs and thus provide more training to more employees. The heavy demand for these grants has resulted in the award of \$4.2 million in training grants in just the first 60 days of the fiscal year.
- **Research:** Dr. Harry Andrist opened by recognizing the presence of Frank Tepe and acknowledging his contributions to the Research area. Dr. Andrist thanked Mr. Tepe for his ongoing commitment and work in the area. Dr. Andrist reported briefly on the status of the Regents' research support programs including Research Challenge.

Reporting on the Hayes Investment, Dr. Andrist stated that the money is available to make awards and that the Hayes competition will be held sometime in late February or early March. Dr. Andrist shared that his area is moving the Ohio Eminent Scholars Program forward. Ultimately, with the available budget, seven scholars will be funded using a four-tier review process. The selections will be made in March and recommendations will be brought to the Board in May.

Dr. Andrist reported that there was a five percent reallocation of funds for the Incentive Fund Program. Sixty proposals were submitted that address critical state needs. Dr. Andrist anticipates bringing these proposals to the Board in March.

The Technology Action Board met last week when Dr. Garrison Walters made a presentation on The Ohio Plan as a significant part of the recommended FY 2002-2003 budget. Dr. Walters explained that the Technology Action Board was developing a total science and technology plan for the State of Ohio that included three action items:

- Workforce Development -- IT Guarantee
- Research and Commercialization -- The Ohio Plan
- Creation of an entrepreneurial climate in Ohio

Dr. Walters stressed that creative and academic activities cannot be separated. According to Dr. Walters, the plans for implementation of these action items would be presented to the Governor on October 3. Dr. Walters commented that he is pleased with the level of collaboration and coordination in research and workforce development in Ohio.