

**Program Effectiveness, Research & Technology Committee
Ohio Board of Regents
Minutes of the Meeting of September 18, 2003**

The meeting was called to order by Regent Beeghly at 11:21 a.m. Regents present were:

Edmund J. Adams
Donna M. Alvarado
Bruce R. Beeghly, Committee Chair
Jeanette G. Brown
Gerald M. Miller
Thomas W. Noe
J. Gilbert Reese
Ralph E. Schey

Ohio Board of Regents Staff:

Jamie Abel	Shane DeGarmo	Leslie Sawyer
Harry Andrist	Deborah Gavlik	Yvonne Stertzner
David Barber	Darrell Glenn	Jonathan Tafel
Roderick Chu	Catherine Hill	Garrison Walters
Jack Connell	Jay Johnson	Shaun Yoder
Bret Crow	Robert Johnson	

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Minutes of the September 18 meeting were unanimously approved by the Committee.

Presentation

Development of Associate Degrees for Education Paraprofessionals

Dr. Jonathan Tafel, Vice Chancellor for Educational Linkages & Access, Ohio Board of Regents

Dr. Tafel gave a brief presentation on the *No Child Left Behind Act* and its impact on educational instructional aides. In order to comply with federal law, instructional paraprofessionals must meet one of three criteria by January 8, 2006 to become qualified:

1. Complete at least 2 years of study at an institution of higher education (48 semester or 60 quarter hours).
2. Obtain an associate's degree (or higher) from an accredited institution.
3. Meet a rigorous standard of quality and demonstrate, through a formal state or local academic assessment, knowledge of and the ability to assist in instructing reading, writing and mathematics, or knowledge of and the ability to assist in readiness for reading, writing and mathematics.

In October 2002, the Ohio Department of Education (ODE), through small planning grants, encouraged colleges and universities to develop associate degree programs for paraprofessionals that would meet federal requirements and provide a new pathway

into the teaching profession for instructional aides who may be interested in pursuing such a career. Twenty-one campuses responded and were awarded planning grants by ODE. Grants were awarded to technical colleges, community colleges, regional campuses, and public and private colleges and universities. Since that time, several campuses have been engaged in developing associate level programs – either through existing mechanisms such as the associate of arts degree, through revisions to existing early childhood education degrees at the associate level, or through the development of new degree programs. Additional campuses who did not receive planning grants from ODE may be submitting proposals in the future.

OBR staff has been working with campuses throughout the program development phase to address issues such as need, articulation, and supervision of clinical experiences. In order to assess both the long and short term need and impact of such degree programs, OBR staff recommends that all programs be initially approved for a three-year period of time. At the conclusion of the three year time period, the approved institution(s) will be expected to provide a program update on the status of its students, articulation to teacher education programs, and all other relevant issues prior to continuing approval.

September 18, 2003 Board Agenda Items

- Marietta College, Master of Arts in Psychology
- Marietta College, Master of Corporate Media
- Mercy College of Northwest Ohio, Associate of Science in General Studies
- Mercy College of Northwest Ohio, Associate of Science in Therapeutic Massage
- Bowling Green State University Firelands College, Associate of Applied Science degree in Radiologic Technology
- Hocking Technical College, Associate of Technical Study (Type B) in Construction Management/Carpentry
- Hocking Technical College, Associate of Technical Study (Type B) in Construction Management/Commercial and Residential Electricity
- Hocking Technical College, Associate of Technical Study (Type B) in Construction Management in Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration

Regent Beeghly moved for these items to be added to the full Board consent agenda. Regent Brown seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

Tentative Board Agenda Items – October 2003

- Mount Vernon Nazarene University, Master of Science in Management
- Bryant & Stratton College, Bachelor of Business Administration
- College of Mount St. Joseph, Associate of Arts degree—Inclusive Early Childhood Education
- Muskingum Area Technical College, Associate of Applied Science degree in Educational Paraprofessional Technology
- University of Akron-Community and Technical College, Associate of Applied Science degree in Emergency Medical Services

Mr. Jack Connell, Assistant Director of Academic & Access Programs, gave a brief overview of Mount Vernon Nazarene University and Bryant & Stratton College's proposals. Due to concerns raised by the Mount Vernon review team, OBR staff recommends that the Master of Science in Management degree program be provisionally authorized through December 31, 2006. The program will be reviewed again prior to December 31, 2006 to determine full authorization. Additionally, Mr. Connell indicated that Bryant & Stratton College's Bachelor of Business Administration degree program meets Regents standards for baccalaureate degree programs. There were no serious concerns raised during the review of this program.

Ms. Catherine Hill, Administrator for Workforce Development, gave a brief overview of the University of Akron-Community and Technical College's Associate of Applied Science degree in Emergency Medical Services proposal. The program meets Regents standards for associate degree programs and there were no serious concerns raised during the review process.

The College of Mount St. Joseph and Muskingum Area Technical College's educational paraprofessional degree proposals were discussed during Dr. Tafel's presentation on the development of associate degrees for educational paraprofessionals. Both programs meet Regents standards for associate degree programs. Due to the anticipated number of paraprofessional degrees to be approved, the staff of the Ohio Board of Regents recommends that all paraprofessional degree programs be initially approved for a three-year time period.

Committee Reports

Ms. Hill updated the committee on the Program Viability Review Project initiated to assess the current viability of degrees approved by the board in recent years. A survey was developed by OBR staff and is being submitted to institutions whose new degree program was approved during late 1998 and early 1999. Included in the survey are questions regarding current and previous enrollment, graduation rates, current labor market need, and current degree relevancy. Initial results will be reported to the committee at the October 16 meeting.

Mr. Jay Johnson, Assistant Director, Higher Education Information (HEI), informed the committee that a consultation to discuss inactive programs will take place on October 2, 2003. The consultation, comprised of university provosts, chief financial offices, chief academic officers, and OBR and HEI staff, will examine the number and kinds of inactive programs. The focus of the consultation will be to address the question "Do programs last forever?" and to seek ways to improve accountability at the state level. Currently, there are more than 2,000 inactive programs in the HEI database. At the conclusion of Mr. Johnson's remarks, several Regents posed questions as to what defines an inactive program, what costs are associated with inactive programs, and what disciplines are being inactivated at the graduate level.

Dr. Harry Andrist, Director of Research and Graduate Programs, updated the committee on the Third Frontier Project. An advisory committee recently met to discuss funding and alignment issues. The National Research Council will review proposals for the Ohio Eminent Scholars program. Recommendations for this program will be submitted at the November 13 board meeting.

Mr. Robert Johnson, Assistant Director for Workforce Development, informed the committee of new initiatives in Workforce Development and Jobs Challenge. In Workforce Development, an internship program was developed with five million dollars in funding through the Department of Development. The program has produced 1,734 internships and 354 faculty externships to industry.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.