DRAFT Minutes HEI Advisory Committee May 5, 2000

Attendance:
Rosemary Jones
Ralph Gutowski
Bill Knight
Darrell Winefordner
Bob Burke
Patsy Scott
Jay Johnson
Harold Horton
Rob Sheehan
Jed Dickhaut
Wynette Barnard
Roberta Sikula
Kirk Trickett
LeAnn Conard
Chris Doll
Andy Lechler
Michael Long
Rich Petrick

Issues Discussed

Conferences

Harold Horton reviewed the recommendations made by attendees of the HEI Users Conference held in March. He noted that the feedback was mostly positive, and that participants stated that similar conferences should be held in the future. Attendees stated that there is little formal training in HEI matters on their campus, and advised that the Regents provide a formalized training program. In response Horton stated that the Regents would identify new users as they are added to the database, and offer them training when there were sufficient numbers.

Conference attendees also expressed a need to have more frequent updates and possibly regional meetings. There was also a consensus to pursue the electronic discussion forum demonstrated at the conference.

Liaisons at the meeting expressed concern about the magnitude of responsibilities incumbent upon them because of HEI. They noted that they lack the resources and authority to effectively administer HEI operations. Regents staff and members of the Advisory committee noted that there is not source of money from the state that is intended to HEI operations, and discussed sources of money that the state could provide to help with campus HEI operations.

An advisory committee member who attended the liaison meeting stated that there is a need for increased communication between the Advisory Committee and the liaisons. The member noted that the liaisons' roles differ according to campus practices—some coordinate HEI reporting while others are the primary data reporters. Concerns were expressed about the representativeness of the committee since members are not in the trenches.

The committee made four recommendations to improve relations with liaisons

1. Send minutes of Advisory Committee meeting to liaisons after they are finalized.
2. Convene a meeting of liaisons with members of the advisory committee present (proposed for July 7.)
3. Remind liaisons to advise Advisory Committee of any pertinent issues
4. Invite liaisons to add items to the agenda of the Advisory Committee

IPEDS/SHEEO

Harold, Rob Sheehan, and Rich Petrick were in Washington DC the previous week to attend a conference sponsored by the State Higher Education Executive Officers Organization (SHEEO). Among the topics discussed at the conference were changes to IPEDS reporting and other federal reporting.

There is massive confusion and disagreement across the country in regard to the best way to report racial/ethnic data about persons with multiple races and ethnicities. NCES has tabled reporting of new racial categories until new guidelines can be developed (2003).

NCES released a new CIP code list for public comment. Having received feedback NCES will not be deleting any CIP code from the 1990 revision, but will add new codes and combines codes where necessary.

NCES had originally announced that IPEDS data will be collected via the Web in 3 collection periods. For 2000 there will be 2 data collections—one in Fall (9/1-10/31) and one in Spring (2/16-4/5 2001.) A committee member noted there will be an IPEDS training session in Columbus. The workshop will be held on Thursday, July 20 and Friday, July 21, 2000 at Smart Solutions in Columbus, Ohio. More information is available via the OAIRP WWW site at http://www.bgsu.edu/organizations/oairp/workshop.htm.

The Advisory Committee noted that the IPEDS coordination in Ohio differed from most states. IPEDS reports are routed through the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services rather than the Regents. In the past this has caused some problems for campuses and the Advisory Committee advised that Regents staff investigate assuming responsibility for the IPEDS reporting.

Space Utilization Workshop

Regents staff noted that workshop originally scheduled for May 11 has been postponed until late summer or early fall.

SID Reporting

Jay Johnson and Matt Heinrich demonstrated the proposed Web based version of the Student Inventory Data report. They noted that users will likely not be able to print a full version of the SID from the Web in one step. The first SID reports will be released 1-2 weeks after the meeting and will be in draft form.

Sheehan noted that the Vision, Missions, and Goals report was released in a similar fashion and had received positive feedback from Presidents and Provosts.

Reporting Subcommittee

Johnson noted that transfer activity may be included in future SID reports. Regents' staff was advised to be wary of Fall to Fall retention issues because of potential political sensitivities. Sheehan stated that with HEI Regents staff can compute retention rates for an institution and for the system as a whole. Regents' staff was reminded that transfers represent individual choices and should not be used for evaluative purposes.

FERPA

Regents' staff and others had discussions with individuals from the Federal Department of Education in regard to FERPA issues. The discussions were good and there seems to be an interest at the Department in helping states share information with their constituencies. The AAHE has proposed an amendment to FEERPA to allow institutions to share information. Regents' staff and others will monitor developments.

Faculty Survey and Faculty Improvement Report

Sheehan stated the Part-time Faculty survey is currently underway and data collection should end sometime at the end of May.

Regents' staff are looking to remove the legislative mandate for the faculty improvement report, or find ways to generate the needed data from HEI. Campuses had in the past expressed the view that the data collection for the improvement report was onerous and Regents staff are responding accordingly.

AE File Comparison

Chris Doll presented an analysis of the data in the Aggregated Enrollment (AE) file compared with 15th day course enrollment data from the Course Enrollment (CN) file for the 1998-99 academic year. The advisory committee had questioned the necessity for the AE collection. The analysis suggested there was no spiking activity occurring statewide, as had been feared. Questions arose about the feasibility of maintaining AE data collection. The Advisory Committee advised that the report be shared with campus representatives, and that if the file is discontinued campuses be encouraged to save the programming for the AE in case it should ever return.

Cohort Tracking

Johnson noted that the Cohort Tracking (CT) file will be made available to campuses beginning in July. The Advisory Committee advised that given the parameters of defining a cohort, it may be easy to overlook numbers of students since. Petrick advised that the focus not be on retention, but rather on persistence and success. Horton noted that the CT provides information that campuses cannot get their own, and that no other state higher education agency could provide that type of information.

Resource Analysis

Andy Lechler presented the outcome of the first Resource Analysis to be produced out of HEI. He noted that Doctoral FTE were about 20% higher in HEI than in UIS, and too many FTE were being derived to the Doctoral level, because of mixed (masters and doctoral) course sections. Regents' staff decided to split these course sections and prorate a portion of the costs to the masters students and a portion to the doctoral students. An Advisory Committee member stated that the costs were the same to the institution regardless of the level of the student. Sheehan noted that Regents have evidence that students in mixed sections did have different experiences based on their level, so that there was both a pedagogical and cost basis for splitting the sections. Petrick observed that doctoral FTE have been historically overstated because of the 51 hour rule and that it is inappropriate to show a variance of 20%.

Data Anomalies

Regents' staff are following up on data anomalies discussed at a prior Advisory Committee meeting.

Request Extension Page

Regents' staff released the Request Extension page to allow campus personnel to requests extensions for their edit windows via the Web. To date feedback from campuses (and analysts) have been very positive. A question was received about who received messages from HEI in regard to extension requests. Regents' staff stated that the liaison and all personnel with reporting responsibilities for the data area receive the message. Staff felt it better to err on the side of too much inclusion versus too little. The Advisory Committee suggested that the messages that are sent out in regard to extension requests be more specific and contain the reason for the request.

Negotiations with AICUO

AICUO and the Regents are close to finalizing an agreement that would allow HEI to capture aggregate data about enrollments in Ohio's private colleges and universities. Once finalized private campuses will decide individually whether to participate. There are caveats in the agreement to allow private colleges membership on the Advisory Committee based on their participation in HEI.

Web Development

Employment Data in HEI

OBR and OBES recently signed an agreement to allow OBR access to employment and salary information by SSN. A question was raised about the source of the data. Sheehan stated that the data come from the ES202 which is a federally accepted source of information. The data received will detail the quarterly salary of an individual and the type of business s/he is employed in, though not the specific occupation. There are 3 classes of persons for whom no data are captured—1. Agricultural employers; 2. Sole proprietors; and 3. Those on different unemployment systems. The Advisory Committee suggested that Regents staff have aggregate reports by the next meeting. A question was raised about collecting data from contiguous states. Regents' staff stated that they will pursue these data through OBES.

Personnel Issues

OBR brought on two programmers, one as a replacement, and one new programmer.

The Advisory Committee acknowledged the contributions of Senior Vice Chancellor Matt Filipic to HEI development. Filipic is leaving the Board of Regents to accept a position at Wright State University.

Regents' staff acknowledged that the HEI staff will be reorganized.

Instructional Subsidy Issues

An Advisory Committee member stated that issues related to study abroad will be discussed at the Instructional Subsidy consultation. There is some indication that study abroad is underreported in HEI.

Petrick shared an observation from the Ohio Learning Network that the subsidy process is "broken." He invited others to provide feedback about how the process could be improved.

A question was raised about how well HEI was capturing distance and the implications of distance education on the Resource Analysis. An Advisory Committee member observed that distance education provides a different metric for measurement than traditional course, and another observed that Web based courses were challenging assumptions. The participants were cautioned that there are different modalities in providing distance education, and that HEI will likely not be able to fully describe distance education for a while.