

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM
Board of Trustees Meeting

at the University of Maine at Presque Isle
September 20, 2015

Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting

Present: Committee Members: Gregory Johnson, Chair; Samuel Collins, James Erwin, Marjorie Medd, Bonnie Newson, Paul Nelson, and Karl Turner. **Presidents:** Susan Hunter, John Murphy, Joyce Hedlund, John Murphy and Linda Schott. **Faculty Representatives:** Ray Albert, Kim-Anne Perkins, Roxie Black, Terry Colby Uriah Anderson, Patti Miles and Cathleen McAnney. **Student Representatives:** Clair Aldrich, Connor Scott, Dominic DeLuca, Jay Knowlton, Kimberley Miner, Jamie Austin, Brad O'Brien, and Elizabeth Day. **System Staff:** Tracy Bigney, Cynthia Huggins, Rosa Redonnett, Dick Thompson, Ryan Low, Vendean Vafiades. **Others Present:** Ellen Chaffee, Stuart Swain (by phone), Ray Rice, and Robert Dixon.

Committee Members Absent: Michelle Hood.

Trustee Johnson, Chair of the Academic & Student Affairs Committee, called the meeting to order.

Update on Academic Transformation and Program Integration: Next Steps. Dr. Ellen Chaffee, the Executive Director of the Academic Program Review and Integration Process and Chair of the Oversight Committee, provided an update on the current status of, and next steps for, academic transformation.

The Board's Strategic Initiative Target 4 focuses attention on academic transformation through portfolio review and academic program integration through Academic Program Review and Integration Process (APRIP). We are discontinuing the use of APRIP because it was not clear what initiatives it encompassed and each is proceeding differently. We continue to use the term Portfolio Review, which assesses portfolios of academic programs across the system for their financial sustainability, service to state needs, and mission criticality under the leadership of the Presidents Council and the Chief Academic Officers. Program Integration is the name of the initiative involving discipline-based academic teams that launched round 1 last winter and will launch round 2 this month to increase collaboration, quality, access, and financial sustainability. Academic transformation is an umbrella term that can include portfolio review, program integration, and other academic initiatives as may be defined in the future.

Status of Program Integration (PI), Round 1

Implementation of Round 1 team recommendations is iterative. CAOs are leading the first wave now in communication with team leaders. They will revisit team reports and develop additional team recommendations as time and support systems allow. The Chancellor has reviewed and approved the CAO plans for FY2016 with some helpful revisions, often involving additional market research or other analysis to demonstrate likelihood of positive outcomes.

Plans for Round 1 collaborative arrangements include:

1. Joint or system degrees
 - a. History: explore the possibility of merging into a single program
 - b. Business: one MBA for UMaine and USM
 - c. Criminal Justice: one associate's degree, common course numbers and outcomes
 - d. Education: common M.Ed. in Instructional Technology (UMaine, USM, UMF)
 - e. Languages: statewide program for language acquisition in French and Spanish
 - f. Marine Sciences: 4+1 Professional Science Master's degree

- g. Nursing: fully aligned/unified nursing curriculum
- 2. Shared courses and faculty
 - a. Education: collaborative delivery of secondary education methods courses statewide
 - b. History: all UMS history faculty are welcome to apply for UMaine graduate faculty status
 - c. Recreation and tourism: semester-long residencies at other campuses for specialized opportunities
- 3. Defining pathways for students to get into programs from other institutions
 - a. Education: 3+2 in Rehabilitation and Counselor Education; pathways into graduate education
 - b. Engineering: uniform curriculum for lower-division mechanical and electrical engineering students (UMaine, USM); clear pathway for transfer into UMaine/USM engineering from other campuses
 - c. Recreation and tourism: define pathways for 4+1 articulation into graduate work
- 4. Short courses and certificates
 - a. History: certificates in Canadian Studies and in War and Peace
 - b. Recreation and tourism: expand short courses; market-based certificate programs

Most teams also have plans to make collaboration an ongoing process among them.

Round 1 team members noted the need for many statewide significant changes to support PI recommendations now and in the future. They fall generally in two categories: (1) instructional technologies that effectively support significantly increased inter-campus and remote-student delivery and (2) integrated/accessible student functions and services for seamless support of simultaneous enrollment at multiple campuses. A unified budget will be a great advantage for collaborative academic initiatives. Planning for a Unified Online initiative is underway and is essential for implementation of Program Integration recommendations. Nearly every function of every institution (such as financial aid, registration, academic policies, tuition policy, bursar functions, institutional research, and information technology) is impacted.

Program Integration (PI), Round 2

Program Integration Round 2 will include seven teams: mathematics, biology, chemistry, physics, English, psychology, and social work. The launch event is Saturday, September 26 in Orono. Their reports are due February 1, 2016.

Most of the Round 2 disciplines have a significant presence in lower-division general education programs. The charge to such teams includes establishing common course numbers for equivalent courses. All team charges also encourage economies by using online delivery to reduce the number of small and duplicative classes. Each CAO will mentor one of the teams from the beginning, in addition to overseeing implementation for one or more disciplines from Round 1. The teams will have more internal data earlier than was possible in Round 1, and the goal is to provide earlier access to existing or commissioned market research for them.

The Oversight Committee will continue to provide advice and monitor progress this year, but they will meet less often now that the initial phase is complete. Much of what remains to do either we have done before or requires a longer time frame to develop.

Discussion centered on success of transfers, getting student input on direction of programs, and concerns about the perception of moving to more online. Student Representatives stated they would be happy to help with focus groups.

Update on AQI Progress. UMKF Provost Robert Dixon provided a brief update on the Academic Quality Indicators (AQI). The UMS Board of Trustees' Strategic Outcomes includes the following Education mission outcomes: statewide access to educational opportunities, high rates of student success, and program affordability, quality, and relevance. One important step in meeting these outcomes is the establishment of a dashboard of academic quality indicators, to document our progress toward these outcomes and highlight areas of success and concerns.

To this end, the Chief Academic Officers are undertaking, in concert with the faculty representatives to the Board of Trustees, an initiative to develop this dashboard. A draft will be available in November.

Brief Update on Credit Transfer Initiative and ABCDE. Ms. Rosa Redonnett, Chief Student Affairs Officer, provided a brief update on the Credit Transfer Initiative and the Adult Baccalaureate Completion Distance Education (ABCDE) project.

Credit Transfer Steering Committee

As has been discussed at recent Board meetings, the Credit Transfer Project is aimed at improving the college credit transfer process to make it easier for students to move among Maine's public universities and to transfer from the Maine Community College System (MCCS) to the University of Maine System (UMS) and vice versa. A memorandum has been executed with the Maine Community College System and much work is ongoing.

Adult Baccalaureate Completion Distance Education (ABCDE)

As identified within the Board of Trustees Goals and Actions and also within the UMS Strategic Enrollment Plan, the development of a comprehensive approach across our institutions to serving the non-traditional, adult students in Maine is a critical next step in our ongoing efforts to meet the needs of Maine's workforce, enhance economic development within the state, and, most importantly, provide the best opportunity for all of Maine's citizens to attain baccalaureate degrees.

The Adult Baccalaureate Completion/Distance Education (ABCDE) Committee developed a comprehensive, system-wide plan to enhance baccalaureate degree attainment and completion by Maine's adult and non-campus based citizens; implementation of the recommendations is well underway. \$797,000 in scholarship support has been awarded over two years. There are 74 new recipients, 98 returning recipients this fall, and 6 have graduated. UMS is working with a group to build a statewide coalition for adult degree completion.

Preliminary Fall Enrollment Summary. Ms. Redonnett provided an update on the status of enrollment at our campuses for Fall 2015 based on an early snapshot of enrollment. The Fall 2015 Enrollment Report will be produced after our census date of October 15 and will be discussed at the November Board of Trustees meeting.

Total headcount is down by 790 or 2.7% as of 9/14/15 compared to 9/15/14. The total credit hours have declined by 6,556 or 2.0% of the same time period. The total credit hours as of 9/14/15 vs Fall 2014 census is down by 3,746 or 1.2%. However, UM, UMA, UMF, UMFK and UMPI have seen increases in their total credit hours. The undergraduate credit hours have declined by 5,199 or 1.7%

with increases in out-of-state credit hours. The graduate credit hours have continued with the 6 year decline with a reduction of 1,357 or 5.7%.

Review and Discussion of the Academic & Student Affairs FY2016 Work Plan. Trustee Johnson reviewed the draft plan with the Committee in preparation for its adoption at the September Board of Trustee meeting. Annually, a work plan for the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board is formulated. The work plan is intended to cover both action items required for governance of the University of Maine System and those topics of import and interest to the Board.

Faculty Representatives Discussion Topic.

Cathleen McAnneny, UMF

- She indicated that the Faculty Representatives have been meeting via Google hang-out. Topics they would like to discuss are the Academic Quality Indicators, impact on class size and curriculum, a unified charter and timeline for on-line education, and the IT survey distributed at the end of the spring semester. They will conduct another survey at the end of the fall semester and add procurement, travel and human resources.

Student Representatives Discussion Topic.

Conner Scott, UM

- He congratulated the Board on the Food Solicitation contract. This is an area, as well as the reduction in carbon footprint, that the Student Representatives feel strongly about and are pleased with the outcome.
- He encouraged the Board to use the Student Representatives as a pipeline for communication to the student body.

Jamie Austin, UMF

- She announced that UMF will be hosting the annual Student Government Conference this year. The date of the conference is January 29-31, 2016 and the Board is invited to participate. More information will be available at the November Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting.

Jay Knowlton, USM, Graduate Student Rep.

- He expressed appreciation for the Board for pursuing the faculty and student perspective on the various strategic initiatives currently underway. He applauded the efforts of transparency and inclusion.
- He commented that USM does not have a graduate student government. He has been working with the Graduate Student Coordinator and the campus President on an initiative to start a graduate student activity fee which will assist in starting a communication strategy to the graduate students.

Brad O'Brien, UMA

- He commented that UMA has started "coffee with the Student Government" sessions and this semester they have focused on wine and cheese night (grilled cheese sandwiches and complaining sessions). The purpose of these sessions is to communicate to the larger student body the briefings on the System-wide initiatives.

Adjournment

Ellen Doughty for
Tracy B. Bigney, Clerk of the Board