

**MINUTES**  
**UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM**  
**BOARD OF REGENTS**  
**ACADEMIC AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE**

Friday, November 14, 2014 – The members of the Academic and Student Success Committee of the University of Houston System Board of Regents convened at 11:16 a.m. on Friday, November 14, 2014, at the University of Houston, Athletics/Alumni Center, Melcher Board Room 100B, 3100 Cullen Boulevard, Houston, Texas, with the following members participating:

ATTENDANCE –

Member(s) Present

Paula M. Mendoza, Chair  
Welcome W. Wilson, Jr., Member  
Asit R. Shah, Student Regent  
Tilman J. Fertitta, Ex Officio

Member(s) Absent

Durga D. Agrawal, Vice Chair

Non-Member(s) in Attendance

Spencer D. Armour, III, Regent  
Jarvis V. Hollingsworth, Regent  
Beth Madison, Regent  
Peter K. Taaffe, Regent  
Roger F. Welder, Regent

In accordance with a notice being timely posted with the Secretary of State and there being a quorum in attendance, Chair of the Committee, Paula M. Mendoza called the meeting to order. Regent Mendoza stated the committee would consider five (5) action items and one (1) information item would be presented.

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AGENDA ITEMS

**Action Item(s):**

1. Approval of Minutes – Item B

On motion of Regent Wilson, Jr., seconded by Regent Fertitta, and by a unanimous vote of the members present, the following minutes from the meeting listed below were approved:

- August 20, 2014, Academic and Student Success Committee Meeting

Following the approval of the minutes, Regent Mendoza asked Dr. Paula Myrick Short, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost to introduce the items on the committee's agenda.

2. Approval is requested of the Academic and Student Success Committee Charter – University of Houston System, Item C – A&SS-C

Dr. Paula Myrick Short introduced and presented this action item requesting Board approval to adopt committee charters as a housekeeping item. The Bylaws describe the basic functions

and duties of the Academic and Student Success Committee and the Bylaws also state that the Board “shall adopt” a charter. This proposed charter follows the items that the committee has typically handled over the years. It also generally follows the charters the UH System Boards have had in the past.

On motion of Regent Wilson, Jr., seconded by Regent Fertitta, and by a unanimous vote of the regents in attendance, the Academic and Student Success Committee Charter – University of Houston System was approved.

3. Approval of Bachelor of Science in Political Science – University of Houston-Victoria – Item D - A&SS-D

Dr. Short presented this item requesting approval of a Bachelor of Science in Political Science at UH-Victoria. In the last three years, students at UH-Victoria have pressed to have a degree in a political science on the campus. UHV had administered an online survey in 2013-2014; and the survey administered to the students in the government core classes indicated that there was a great deal of interest in having a major in political science.

This particular program will have two major tracks:

- (a) Political Science; and
- (b) Pre-Law Concentration.

Students will take courses in American Politics, Pre-Law, Constitutional Law, Comparative Politics, and International Relations. As with most majors in political science, students will be able to seek employment in both the private and/or public sectors and/or pursue a graduate or professional degree should that be their interest.

It is expected that 20 students will enroll in the program’s first year with approximately 190 students by the fifth year. The program also expects to generate revenue in its second year.

Dr. Short stated it was important for UH-Victoria that they build their cadre of programs offered on the UH-Victoria campus that will draw students and help them to develop their destination campus.

On motion of Regent Wilson, Jr., seconded by Regent Fertitta, and by a unanimous vote of the regents in attendance, the Bachelor of Science in Political Science – University of Houston-Victoria was approved.

4. Approval of Bachelor of Arts in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies – University of Houston – Item E - A&SS-E

Dr. Short introduced this item requesting approval of a Bachelor of Arts in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) at the University of Houston. As gender roles shift quickly in all professions and all realms of private and public life, and the contributions of women and people of diverse sexualities are increasingly recognized and valued both in the workplace and in academia, it is an important major for the University of Houston in that it will prepare individuals to be able to navigate the developing context that we see in the world.

This particular degree is an interdisciplinary degree and it is based on the current programs and courses offered through the WGSS Program at UH. The University of Houston currently has a minor in this degree.

This major will provide a new degree-completion option for students currently taking the Women's Studies and LGBT minors in the WGSS program. In addition, some 800 students a year take courses cross-listed in WGSS, and many of them will have an interest in this major. It will also serve students seeking work in Social Services, Human Resources, Business, Education, Law, Health, Humanities, Politics, Economics, and Communications. This proposed degree will be an asset to employers in all these fields.

Other Tier-One comparative institutions here in Texas - Rice, UT, and A&M all offer similar majors which have been offered for some time. The program expects to enroll 25 students in its first year and approximately 120 in its fifth year. This program expects to generate revenue in its fourth year with a cumulative gain of \$199,680 in its first five years.

On motion of Regent Wilson, Jr., seconded by Regent Fertitta, and by a unanimous vote of the regents in attendance, the Bachelor of Arts in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies – University of Houston was approved.

5. Approval of Master of Science in Global Hospitality Business – University of Houston – Item F – A&SS-F

Dr. Short presented this item requesting approval of a Master of Science in Global Hospitality Business at the University of Houston. Recent development in the hospitality industry has led to its becoming the second largest labor force in the United States, behind only the health service industry (Department of Labor, 2014).

There are numerous countries currently developing a hospitality/tourism industry in order to boost their economic status; it is a booming tourism industry internationally. Faculty and leadership in the Hilton College of Hotel and Restaurant Management believe it is important that they provide opportunities for students and those who have graduated and want to return to have an experience that prepares them for the global enterprise in which they will work in the hospitality industry.

This particular degree will focus on global economics, political, social, and cultural forces that shape the hospitality industry; and their aim is to develop global hospitality managers that understand that business from a first-hand experience.

One of the interesting things about this particular degree is that it is a Master's degree; it is focused on the global hospitality business; and the students will take classes at three (3) campuses:

- (1) The Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne (ECHO Hotelier de Loozhan);
- (2) The School of Hotel and Tourism Management at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University;
- and
- (3) The Conrad N. Hilton College at the University of Houston.

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Students will do this over three (3) consecutive semesters and it is expected that this will be a real draw for the program. With this type of experience at the three (3) top hospitality business programs in the world, the university believes this will be a very unique program that will give the Conrad N. Hilton College international recognition for how it is preparing students for this industry.

It is expected that 25 students will enroll in the program in its first year; but it is anticipated that this program will grow very quickly and be very popular locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. This program complements the Ph.D. proposal that was approved by both the Board and the Coordinating Board and that the university will be implementing this fall. UH is only one of 14 of the 200 hospitality programs or colleges in the country to have a Ph.D. program; and it is the only one of its kind. Therefore, adding this Global Masters to that will be a great step forward for the Conrad N. Hilton College.

On motion of Regent Wilson, Jr., seconded by Regent Fertitta, and by a unanimous vote of the regents in attendance, the Master of Science in Global Hospitality Business – University of Houston was approved.

6. Approval is requested for the Academic Excellence Award – University of Houston, Item G – A&SS-G

Dr. Short presented this item requesting approval for the Academic Excellence Award at the University of Houston. This proposed award, which would be a regents' award, is a formal way for the Board to recognize academic programs or initiatives across the campuses at the University of Houston System that are exemplars for academic excellence. This will be accomplished through a nominations process and a selection process that the university will develop and handle and we will, at each quarterly Board of Regents meeting, have one recipient to bring before the Board. The Board will have the opportunity to hear from the recipients - what they are doing; why their program is worthy of the Academic Excellence Award; and the Board will be able to hear comments from the faculty and students that are engaged in that initiative in a brief presentation presented to the Board. This will be a benefit to them because this will give them recognition from the System for excellence.

Dr. Short stated that they will solicit nominations from across all four (4) UH System campuses and they look forward to Board approval and bringing the first recipient before the Board at the February 2015 Board of Regents meeting.

On motion of Regent Wilson, Jr., seconded by Regent Fertitta, and by a unanimous vote of the regents in attendance, the request for the Academic Excellence Award - University of Houston was approved.

At the conclusion of the approval of the last action item presented, Regent Mendoza called for a motion to place all five (5) action items presented to the committee on the Board of Regents' Consent Docket Agenda for final Board approval at the Board of Regents meeting scheduled for later today, Friday, November 14, 2014.

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On motion of Regent Wilson, Jr., seconded by Regent Fertitta, and by a unanimous vote of the committee members present, the following five (5) action items will be placed on the Board of Regents' Consent Docket Agenda for final approval at the November 14, 2014 Board meeting as listed below.

1. Approval is requested of the Academic and Student Success Committee Charter – University of Houston System;
2. Approval of Bachelor of Science in Political Science – University of Houston-Victoria;
3. Approval of Bachelor of Arts in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies – University of Houston;
4. Approval of Master of Science in Global Hospitality Business – University of Houston; and
5. Approval is requested for the Academic Excellence Award – University of Houston.

The last item to be presented before the committee was Item H, a Presentation of University of Houston "Student Success Story" – University of Houston. Regent Mendoza stated it was not an action item but rather a presentation for the committee. Regent Mendoza was very glad that a student was present to give the Board an idea of one of the programs that the University of Houston has and how it has helped him achieve not only success in a university but also in his now career and how he has come full circle and giving back to the University of Houston. Regent Mendoza introduced and welcomed Mr. Alfred Castillo, Jr. to the committee.

Mr. Castillo thanked Regent Mendoza and the Board for allowing him the opportunity to share with them a success story that he highlighted for the Center for Mexican-American Studies here at the University of Houston via the Academic Achievers Program. In 1998, Mr. Castillo received a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and in 2002 he received his Masters of Civil Engineering, both from the University of Houston (UH).

Mr. Castillo highlighted the successes from the Academic Achievers Program via the Center for Mexican-American Studies and how this program had indeed changed his life. Just like many individuals in this program, Mr. Castillo had immigrant parents who had immigrated to this country many years ago; and usually when that case occurs, the chances for a higher education are minimal with most of the individuals' parents working hard to provide food for their families, as was the case in Mr. Castillo's family. Even though his parents encouraged a higher education, the opportunity was pretty bleak in his household. He was the first one in his family to even consider college; and it was not until his sophomore year at Austin High School in Houston where he learned of the program. He stated that a pivotal point in his life was when he came in contact with Dr. Tatcho Mindiola at the Center for Mexican-American Studies which is where he became aware of a program that was launching – the Hispanic Family College Project. This project was the forerunner for the Academic Achievers Program the University of Houston currently has today. He stated that this is where he learned of the opportunity that college was right in front of

him if he was willing to make some sacrifices. After learning about the mentoring and the leadership programs that were involved and the many other requirements that the Center imposed on its students, Mr. Castillo stated he was all for it! And not to mention they were willing to give him a full scholarship to the University of Houston if he was willing to put in the desire and the hard work. He was hooked!

Mr. Castillo mentioned that at a previous banquet held a few weeks ago, Dr. Mindiola shared that they were not looking for the 4.0 students or the brightest and the most intellectual students, but rather students who would give it their all; give it their hard work; come to and go through the program; and undergo the requirements that are imposed on their program; and while they could remove their plights nor anything imposed by their financial backgrounds or disadvantages, they would give them the resources to overcome through education if they were willing to do so.

Mr. Castillo is now employed by the Dow Chemical Company which is the largest chemical company in the world as a civil engineer. He is currently a strategic sourcing manager in their Global Purchasing Department. As he highlighted his successes and what the company has done for him and how it has completely altered his life, he is totally indebted to Dr. Mindiola, the program, the Center for Mexican-American Studies; and he stated that he would do whatever was required of him as an alumnus to continue to support this program. As a successful story, Mr. Castillo mentioned that he would like to come full circle and to give back to that program that had completely changed the course of his life. He currently does this in two ways: (1) by direct involvement and (2) as a donor.

He thanked the Board, the Chancellor and the University of Houston for allowing him to share his success story and to highlight just one example of what the Center for Mexican-American Studies program has done for him.

Regent Mendoza thanked Mr. Castillo for attending the meeting and sharing his story with the Board.

This item was presented for information only and required no committee action.

It should be noted that no Executive Session was held.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

All documentation submitted to the Committee in support of the foregoing action items, including but not limited to "Passed" agenda items and supporting documentation presented to the Committee, is incorporated herein and made a part of these minutes for all purposes; however, this does not constitute a waiver of any privileges contained herein.

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Others Present:

Renu Khator  
Carl Carlucci  
Paula Myrick Short  
Dona Cornell  
Rathindra Bose  
Elwyn Lee  
Richard Walker  
Don Guyton  
William Flores  
William Staples  
Victor Morgan  
Brenda Robles

David Bradley  
Ed Hugetz  
Brandon Alexander  
Jeffrey Cass  
Dan Maxwell  
Dana Rooks  
Dick Phillips  
Wayne Beran  
Oscar Guterrez  
Jon Aldrich  
Joe Brueggman  
Brian Thomas

Tom Ehardt  
Sacha Ryder  
Brian Alexander  
Phil Booth  
Mara Afri  
Don Price  
Carl Stockton  
Katherine Patterson  
Alfred Castillo, Jr.  
Ki-Joon Back  
Marquette Hobbs  
Gerry Mathisen