

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

Thursday, August 23, 2018 – The members of the Academic and Student Success Committee of the University of Houston System Board of Regents convened at 12:03 p.m. on Thursday, August 23, 2018, at the Hilton University of Houston Hotel, Conrad Hilton Ballroom, Second Floor, 4450 University Drive, Houston, Texas 77204, with the following members participating:

ATTENDANCE –

Member(s) Present

Beth Madison, Chair
Paula M. Mendoza, Vice Chair
Durga D. Agrawal, Member
Jack B. Moore, Member
Peter K. Taaffe, Member
Andrew Teoh, Student Regent, Non-voting
Tilman J. Fertitta, Ex Officio

Non-Member(s) in Attendance

Doug H. Brooks, Regent
Steve I. Chazen, Regent
Gerald W. McElvy, Regent

In accordance with a notice being timely posted with the Secretary of State and there being a quorum in attendance, Regent Beth Madison, Chair of the Committee called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. Regent Madison stated the committee would be presented five (5) agenda items: four (4) action items for the committee's consideration and approval and one (1) information item.

Regent Madison moved to the first approval item, the approval of the minutes from the May 24, 2018, Academic and Student Success Committee meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS

Action Item(s):

1. Approval of Minutes – Item B

On motion of Regent Agrawal, seconded by Regent Moore, and by unanimous vote of the committee members present, the following minutes from the meeting listed below was approved:

- May 24, 2018, Academic and Student Success Committee Meeting

Following the approval of the minutes, Regent Madison moved to the next item listed on the agenda, Item C, the Approval of Faculty Workload Report – University of Houston System and introduced Dr. Paula Myrick Short, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost, to present this item.

Dr. Short stated that faculty workload for each academic year was reported to the Board of Regents by the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs as described in the Texas Education Code (Section 51.402) and UHS Board of Regents Policy 21.05.

She explained that these faculty workload reports were required to list the rank/type of faculty appointment held, full- or part-time status, effort distribution across the three (3) possible components of faculty workload (teaching/instruction, research/scholarship and/or service activities), number and type of classes taught, academic year salary and salary source for each individual faculty member across the various UH System institutions.

In addition, Dr. Short stated that accompanying each institution's required listings were summary documents that provided aggregated information on how faculty workload was distributed across the three (3) domains of faculty activities, including a breakdown of effort by faculty appointment type (tenured/tenure-track, non-tenure track) and average salaries across individual academic colleges in each of the system campuses. Dr. Short also made note of possible differences in this report between universities due to their distinct missions and the role of faculty in particular programs based on the needs of the department.

Finally, Dr. Short stated that this report fulfills the requirements of the Texas Education Code and Board of Regents Policy.

On motion of Regent Mendoza, seconded by Regent Taaffe, and by unanimous vote of the members present, Item C, the Approval of Faculty Workload Report – University of Houston System was approved.

Next on the agenda was Item D, Approval of Bachelor of Arts in African American Studies – University of Houston. Regent Madison asked Provost Short to present this item to the committee for their consideration.

Dr. Short stated that the University of Houston was seeking approval to establish a BA in African American Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. This program consisted of 120-hour interdisciplinary degree. Dr. Short explained that this program currently existed as a minor in the college and enrollment for these courses increased over 45% in the last 10-year period.

Dr. Short added that faculty in the college are very confident that this would be a highly sought after bachelors degree. As a side note, Dr. Short mentioned that only UT Austin currently offered this degree; however, all of the universities in our athletic conference have a BA in African American Studies.

Lastly, Dr. Short stated that students graduating from this program should be able to find employment in various areas including management industry, communication media, education, non-profit, government and politics.

On motion of Regent Agrawal, seconded by Regent Mendoza, and by unanimous vote of the members present, Item D, Approval of Bachelor of Arts in African American Studies – University of Houston was approved.

The next action item on the agenda was Item E, Approval of the Doctor of Nursing Practice – University of Houston. Regent Madison asked Dr. Short to present this item to the Board.

Dr. Short stated that UH was presenting this item for approval to establish a Doctor of Nursing Practice. This program would provide individuals with a master's degree the opportunity to develop their leadership skills in clinical practice and prepare them to move into high level positions in the healthcare industry.

Dr. Short explained that this program was designed for working nurses as a part-time, post master's hybrid delivery program using both online and face-to-face courses. Dr. Short expressed her confidence in the program as it is in high demand due to the need for advanced practice registered nurses and it was expected to grow by 31% by 2024 per the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. She added that it would also produce highly trained students for faculty positions in nursing education.

Lastly, Dr. Short stated that this program was expected to generate revenue starting in its fourth year and to become a stellar program in the College of Nursing.

A brief discussion followed.

On motion of Regent Agrawal, seconded by Regent Mendoza, and by unanimous vote of the members present, Item E, Approval of the Doctor of Nursing Practice – University of Houston was approved.

The last action item on the agenda was Item F, Approval is requested to update the University of Houston System Board of Regents Academic and Student Success Committee Charter – University of Houston System. Regent Madison asked Dr. Short to present this item.

Dr. Short stated that per UH System Board of Regents Bylaws 5.2.1, the charters of the standing committees should be reviewed by the committee annually.

Dr. Short explained that this recommendation included two (2) additions to the Charter as listed below:

- Review and recommend approval of the Academic and Student Success Committee Charter every year during the August meeting; and
- Review and recommend approval of the UH System Faculty Workload Report every August.

On motion of Regent Agrawal, seconded by Regent Mendoza, and by unanimous vote of the members present, Item J, Approval is requested to update the University of Houston System Board of Regents Academic and Student Success Committee Charter – University of Houston System was approved.

Following the approval of the last action item, a motion was called to place all four (4) action items, unanimously approved by the committee, on the Board's Consent Docket Agenda for final Board approval as follows:

1. Approval of Faculty Workload Report – University of Houston System;
2. Approval of the Bachelor of Arts in African American Studies – University of Houston;
3. Approval of the Doctor of Nursing Practice – University of Houston; and
4. Approval is requested to update the University of Houston System Board of Regents Academic and Student Success Committee Charter – University of Houston System

On motion of Regent Mendoza, seconded by Regent Moore, and by unanimous vote of the committee members present, all four (4) action items were placed on the Board of Regents' Consent Docket Agenda for final Board approval at the Board meeting held later that day, August 23, 2018.

The last item listed on the agenda was Item K, a Presentation on Student Success Story – University of Houston.

Regent Mendoza introduced Ms. Caroline Ferguson, whom she read about on a magazine from the Bauer College of Business on how she overcame tragedy, and with the help of family, friends and the Bauer School, Caroline was able to turn such a terrible experience into a successful project while giving back to the community.

Caroline thanked the Board and Chancellor for the opportunity to present her story. She is a student at University of Houston C.T. Bauer College of Business and part of the 2018 class.

Caroline and her family moved to Texas when she was young, her father secured employment in the oil and gas industry, while her mother stayed at home with her and her sister. All appeared to go perfectly and the family seemed to be very stable. Caroline referred to her father, Steve, as the epitome of strength and wisdom; he was her best friend and childhood hero.

On October 6, 2006, her life changed, Steve committed suicide in the middle of the night. Caroline was 9 years old, and at her young age, she was unable to understand how this could have happened; how someone so strong and so capable could break; and how no one saw the signs. The grieving process was confusing with no one or nothing to blame for the loss of her father.

In her search for answers, Caroline began her journey to find ways to prevent others from experiencing such a tragedy. She came across three (3) key things proven in studies that help people lead healthy and happy lives, to feel loved, valued and seen.

Caroline made it her mission to understand the contributing factors that could lead someone to take their own life and to save those who might be considering suicide. She discovered that gratitude was connected to our actions both while receiving and participating. Through her experience as a Bauer student, she launched Grateful & Company, a business with what she stated was an admittedly “big” mission statement.

Caroline stated that Grateful & Company existed to radically recreate an awareness for physical gratitude with the intent of empowering people to recognize their self-worth; to acknowledge the value in the people around them and to do both of these things through showing physical appreciation, with the sole intent of ending suicide.

During her research she found a few staggering and heartbreaking statistics, such as every 40 seconds, on average, someone in the United States commits suicide, and for college students, suicide was the second cause of death.

At UH students can access the Center for Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), however, Caroline explained that there was a gap in the student-to-counselor ratio, and Grateful & Company was determined to help close this gap by actively working towards securing funding for suicide prevention programs on campus and preparing students and staff to act as resources for those in need of help. Recent achievements included obtaining approval to build a memorial for those members of the UH community who took their own lives, and working on a suicide prevention week on campus.

Caroline concluded by stating that she would hope that her father was still alive and that she could still have the opportunity to share her message. She believed that it should not take a tragedy for our community to realize that there was an epidemic of people not feeling loved or appreciated. Caroline and Grateful & Company will continue working to empower people to recognize they are worth it, valued and loved, that being grateful is taking the initial step to recognize value in people and sharing that with them.

Regent Mendoza and Regent Madison thanked Caroline for her presentation and for her invaluable contribution to the UH community.

It was noted that an Executive Session would not be held.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:28 p.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.

Others Present:

Renu Khator
Jim McShan
Paula Myrick Short
Dona Cornell
Amr Elnashai
Don Guyton
Eloise Dunn Brice
Jason Smith
Richard Walker
Ira K. Blake
Juan Sánchez Muñoz
Robert Glenn
Mike Johnson
Lisa Holdeman

Kathryn Tart
David Oliver
Macie Kelly
Ramanan Krishnamoorti
Mike Rosen
Lisa Gossett
Mike Emery
Ed Hugetz
Dave Ralph
Sabrina Hassumani
Dan Maxwell
Brenda Robles
Elwyn Lee

Don Price
Caroline Ferguson
Joe Brueggman
Mark Clarke
Shannon Harrison
Ryan Harrison
Wayne Beran
Matthew Castillo
Phil Booth
Jon Aldrich
Gerry Mathisen
Marquette Hobbs
Brian Thomas