

Committee on Educational Planning, Policies, and Programs

Minutes

388th meeting, August 12, 2010

Members Present: Mr. Barringer, Mr. Davis, Mr. Deal, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Leatherwood, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Pitts, Dr. Roseman, Ms. Sanders, Dr. Taylor

Chancellors Present (ex officio members): Chancellor Anderson, Chancellor Dubois, Chancellor Gilchrist, Chancellor Ponder, Chancellor Woodson

Other Board Members Present: Mr. Bhula, Mr. Blackburn, Ms. Blank, Dr. Buffalo, Mr. Davenport, Mr. Dixon, Ms. Gage, Ms. Goodnight, Ms. Goodyear, Mr. Hans, Dr. Robinson

Others Present: Ms. Atkinson, Dr. Blouin, Mr. Bowles, Dr. Brady, Dr. Chapman, Dr. DePaolo, Dr. Dixon, Dr. Gravett, Mr. Harrison, Dr. Killingsworth, Dr. Leath, Dr. Mabe, Dr. Mallette, Dr. Martin, Dr. Prochaska, Ms. Ryan, Dr. Sadler, Ms. Schuettpelez, Ms. Thompson

Chairman Deal called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room at the C.D. Spangler Center in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

There being no corrections or additions to the minutes of the June 10, 2010 meeting, it was moved by Dr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Mitchell that the minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Dr. Alisa Chapman introduced June Atkinson, Superintendent of Public Instruction, who made brief comments about the Common Core Standards and why they are important for North Carolina. The Governor has asked that each educational sector endorse the State Board of Education's adoption of the national Common Core Standards for North Carolina public schools. The development of the standards will be state-led but will be common among all participating states. The standards for mathematics and language arts will bring greater rigor to the curriculum and better prepare our students for college and work.

After discussion it was moved by Dr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Mitchell that a recommendation be made to the Board of Governors that they go on record supporting the decision by the State Board of Education to adopt the national Common Core Standards for North Carolina and that the Board will be an enthusiastic partner with the State Board of Education and the other educational sectors in moving to implementation of the Common Core Standards. Motion carried.

The following item was an Administrative Action item (*action by consent*):

Request for authorization to discontinue the following master's degree program:

- Master of Chemistry (MC) at North Carolina State University

It was moved by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Leatherwood that the item on the Consent Agenda be approved. Motion carried.

UNC Degree Program Proposals (*Items were discussed individually*)

A. *Request for authorization for the following baccalaureate degree program:*

- Bachelor of Social Work at Fayetteville State University

After discussion it was moved by Mr. Hays and seconded by Mr. Barringer that the above degree program be approved subject to the availability of funding. Motion carried.

- Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology at the University of North Carolina at Asheville

After discussion it was moved by Mr. Hays and seconded by Mr. Barringer that the above degree program be approved subject to the availability of funding. Motion carried.

B. *Request for authorization for the following master's degree program:*

- Master of Arts in Anthropology at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte

After discussion it was moved by Dr. Roseman and seconded by Mr. Davis that the above degree program be approved subject to the availability of funding. Motion carried.

C. *Request to approve the following doctoral degree programs for planning:*

The Committee had a discussion of the signals the University is getting from the General Assembly about the State's financial condition as the next biennium budget is prepared. It was expressed that the University must be cautious and acknowledge the General Assembly's concern in its work. There was a strong sense in the Committee that campuses should continue to plan as they always have, but that the Board may have to postpone or delay some programs if the resources are not there. The Committee had a wide-ranging discussion about how to proceed and there was recognition that the Committee would have to be very sensitive to the economic conditions when a doctoral program approved for planning comes back for approval for establishment.

After this discussion the Committee proceeded to consider the five doctoral programs proposed for planning:

- Doctor of Philosophy in Economics at East Carolina University

After discussion it was moved by Dr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Hays that the above doctoral degree program be approved for planning. Motion carried.

- Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work, a joint degree program at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and North Carolina A&T State University

After discussion it was moved by Mr. Mitchell and seconded by Dr. Taylor that the above doctoral degree program be approved for planning. Motion carried.

- Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science at North Carolina A&T State University

After discussion it was moved by Mr. Leatherwood and seconded by Mr. Pitts that the above doctoral degree program be approved for planning. Motion carried.

- Doctor of Philosophy in Public History at North Carolina State University

After discussion it was moved by Mr. Leatherwood and seconded by Ms. Sanders that the above doctoral degree program be approved for planning. Motion carried.

- Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health Sciences at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte

After discussion it was moved by Mr. Leatherwood and seconded by Mr. Pitts that the above doctoral degree program be approved for planning. Motion carried.

Dr. Mabe gave an overview of the Board directive on excused absences for religious observance. The General Assembly passed legislation requiring the Board of Governors to instruct each constituent institution to adopt a policy that would authorize a minimum of two excused absences each academic year for religious observance. This is applicable to this academic year so campuses are already in the process of putting this requirement in place. The Committee discussed whether there might be system-wide guidelines or campus-by-campus response. The Committee agreed that we should instruct the campuses as the legislation requires but GA staff will follow up to see if any system-wide guidelines would be in order.

It was moved by Mr. Hays and seconded by Mr. Pitts that a recommendation be made that based on legislative requirements, the Board of Governors direct each constituent institution to adopt a policy that authorizes a minimum of two excused absences each academic year for religious observances required by the faith of a student. The policy may require that the student provide written notice of the request for an excused absence a reasonable time prior to the religious observance. The policy shall also provide that the student shall be given the opportunity to make up any tests or other work missed due to an excused absence for a religious observance. This policy shall be applicable beginning with the 2010-2011 academic year. Motion passed.

A presentation was given by Dean Robert Blouin, of UNC-Chapel Hill, regarding an opportunity to partner with the National University of Singapore and the Singapore government to offer a joint international pharmacy degree with the National University of Singapore in Singapore. All costs are to be covered by Singapore. The Committee discussed the impact this might have on the continuing developments in Elizabeth City and Asheville. There was brief discussion of progress at both sites, and Chancellor Gilchrist and Dean Blouin agreed to provide a progress report to the Committee at the October Board meeting. Dean Blouin assured the Committee that if the joint international degree comes to fruition it would not detract from the Elizabeth City initiative and would likely enhance it.

The Committee encouraged the pursuit of this international opportunity with the understanding that any joint degree proposed would follow the standard process and would require Committee and Board approval. Financial arrangements would be reviewed at that time as well.

A brief review of the standards for productivity for our degree programs was given by Dr. Sadler. GA is preparing to do the biennial degree productivity study which will identify low producing academic programs. There was a suggestion that it might be beneficial to look at retention in majors as well. The results of the study will be presented to the Board later this academic year.

Due to time constraints the Athletic Report and the Report on Licensure were postponed to the next meeting.

Chairman Deal adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.