

XI. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

A. Academic Affairs Committee

Ms. Green will report on the committee meeting of January 19, 2018 in the absence of Mr. Bridges, chair.

**Academic Affairs and Enrollment Committee
Meeting of January 19, 2018**

Minutes

Present: D. Fecher, S. Fitzpatrick, A. Goyal, S. Green, B. Langos, B. Montgomery, C.D. Moore, A. Rains, G. Ramos

Guests: M. E. Ashley, S. Berberich, W. Branson, T. Broderick, L. Chan, T. Doom, N. Kinzeler, D. Palmer, E. Reinsch Friese, M. Rizki, C. Schrader, T. Sudkamp

Ms. Stephanie Green, in the absence of committee chair Michael Bridges, called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. and read the conflict of interest statement.

Provost Report

Provost Sudkamp briefed the Board on the following updates:

- **Assurance Agreement, March 2020:**
Wright State has been informed by the Higher Learning Commission that their four-year review under the Open Pathways Accreditation Process will be take place in March 2020. A committee will be formed in the fall to begin work on the development of the University's Assurance Argument, which provides the information needed for the review. The review does not include a site visit but rather will be performed by a peer review panel assessing information provided in the assurance argument.
- **Accreditation Visits**
Social Work and Music will both receive accreditation visits this fall for their disciplinary programs.
- **2017 Remediation Report:**
Provost Sudkamp presented Wright State's 2017 Remediation Report to the committee. The report was filed in December with the state of Ohio and will be repeated on an annual basis. Information tracked in the report includes the number of entering students requiring remedial education, the cost of remedial coursework provided, the specific areas of remediation, and causes for remediation. The report showed that 53% of Wright State's direct from high school incoming students did not meet the state's remediation free standards, 50% did not meet the math remediation free standards, and 32% failed to meet the English standards.

Wright State has a number of programs are in place to help students gain academic proficiency. These include the Summer Bridge Program, the

Academic Advantage program sponsored by the College of Engineering, and a writing program offered by the department of English.

The 2017 Remediation Report can be accessed here:

<http://www.wright.edu/sites/www.wright.edu/files/uploads/2018/Jan/meeting/Wright%20State%20University%202017%20Remediation%20Report.pdf>

- **Regional Compact Agreement:**

A provision within the state budget requires the creation of regional compacts and the development of a Regional Compact Agreement. Wright State and Central State, along with community colleges: Sinclair, Edison and Clark State, will make up the Western Region. Academic related tasks under review in the agreement include duplication of programs, sharing of courses, and development of pathways for student transfer. Further details will be forthcoming concerning this agreement due in June.

1. **Textbook Sales Tax Exemption**

Mr. Daniel Palmer, Student Government Association chief justice, briefed the committee on House Bill 337 that proposes to exempt students from paying Ohio sales on the sale of college textbooks. Since 1978, the cost of textbooks has increased 812% whereas the Consumer Price Index (a key indicator for inflation) has gone up 250%. Textbook costs have risen more than 3 times the CPI over this period. Based on Ohio's annual textbook spend of \$382 million, which averages \$1,200 per student, this bill would save students \$22 million per year if enacted.

The Academic Affairs and Enrollment Committee is recommending that the full Board approve the following resolution before them today.

RESOLUTION 18 -

Wright State University Board of Trustees to Support Legislative passage of HB 337 to Exempt Post-secondary textbooks from State Sales and Use Tax

WHEREAS, the Office of the Governor and the members of the Ohio General Assembly repeatedly requested that all possible steps be taken to lower the costs of obtaining an education at the state's universities and institutions of higher education;

WHEREAS, HB 337, introduced by Representative Michael Duffey on September 11, 2017 and which, if enacted, would exempt from Ohio sales and use tax on the sale of college textbooks to students enrolled at a post-secondary institution is currently being considered in the Ohio House of Representatives;

WHEREAS, college and university students in Ohio paid between \$25 and \$30 million dollars in sales tax on textbook purchases during the 2015-2016 academic year;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Public Interest Research Group has found that nationwide textbook costs are approximately 26% of the cost of tuition at state universities and 72% of the cost of tuition at community colleges;

WHEREAS, many states already specifically exempt textbook purchases for secondary education from sales tax;

WHEREAS, the Wright State University Faculty Senate has passed a resolution supporting the passage of HB 337; and

WHEREAS, members of the Board of Trustees of Wright State University believe that passage of HB337 would benefit the students of the university by lowering the cost of obtaining an education;

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Wright State University Board of Trustees supports the passage of HB 337 by the members of the 132nd General Assembly of Ohio.

I offer this Motion:

Do I have a Second:

Roll Call Vote:

2. **BS in Information Technology and Cybersecurity**

In 2012, Wright State adopted a Master of Science program in Cyber Security and implemented undergraduate feeder courses to this program. There is strong interest for the creation of a B.S. in Information Technology and Cybersecurity undergraduate program with the intention of creating pathways for Sinclair's Network Security students, the Community College of the Air Force students, and students looking for an applied focus. Dr. Matt Rizki, chair of computer science, presented a proposal for this new program.

A discussion ensued around the program's potential and how it may impact enrollment growth. With a limited timeframe to advertise for enrollment based on securing state approval in June, estimates predict 10-15 incoming students for Fall. Several trustees saw great upside potential for this program and wondered if the estimates were too conservative. They also asked if additional resources were allocated now, would the program have more impactful growth.

This triggered a conversation about developing "reach" programs that recognize economic potential and strong likelihood for demand provided the resources are immediately enhanced versus a "safe approach" utilizing only existing resources

and growing into potential. While there is no correct answer in every case, the Board indicated that they would like to have these “fun conversations” of what it takes to be great and then decide the level of support based on review of a sound business plan and projections.

Trustee Fecher remarked that the Board approves all new program requests but does not see programs leaving the university and was concerned about program bloat. Dr. Doom, faculty president, indicated that Board approval is not necessary to discontinue a program. However, the Faculty Senate does receive requests to discontinue programs and can include this information in their report to the Board.

Provost Sudkamp outlined several ways programs are evaluated which include the University’s schedule for program reviews every 5 years, yearly or as necessary department reviews, accreditations, and the upcoming Program Efficiency Review. In addition, the state now requires enrollment reviews through the Low Enrollment Program Report. Dr. Schrader indicated her support of “fun conversations” coupled with the Program Efficiency Review and the Strategic Planning Process to chart Wright State’s future with the best use of resources and talents.

The Committee offered a motion and second (Green and Montgomery) to present the following resolution to the full Board for approval.

RESOLUTION 18-

Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and Cybersecurity

WHEREAS, Wright State University is proposing a new Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and Cybersecurity major within the Department of Computer Science and Computer Engineering in the College of Engineering and Computer Science; and

WHEREAS, the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and Cybersecurity will complement Wright State University’s undergraduate programs in computer science, computer engineering, and the Master’s degree in Cybersecurity; and

WHEREAS, the program was developed to be consistent with the accreditation requirements of Information Technology Accreditation by ABET; and

WHEREAS, the program prepares students for real-world problem solving and meeting the increasing demand for college graduates with skills in computer and information security; and

WHEREAS, Information Security is one of the in-demand professions in the State of Ohio as designated by the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services; and

WHEREAS, the program is aligned to articulate with associate degree programs at partner community colleges; and

WHEREAS, the program has been approved by the Faculty Senate and the Provost; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and Cybersecurity major as submitted to the meeting be, and the same hereby is endorsed.

I offer this Motion:

Is there a Second:

Roll Call Vote:

- **Enrollment and Recruiting Report**

Ms. Mary Ellen Ashley, vice president for enrollment management, reviewed the Day 7 enrollment report for Spring 2018. This is a preliminary report with final numbers released when the 14th Day report is issued. Spring enrollment is down a little over 1,000 students or 7%. Most of this decrease is returning students with international down about 400 students and domestic down about 600 students. Spring is not typically strong for new student starts, however, new students are showing a decline of 117 students over expectations.

A full analysis of non-returning students will be done and compared to tracking data spanning the last three years to see if interventions are needed to enhance retention.

Trustee Langos asked why Wright State's enrollment is down when Sinclair, Miami and University of Dayton are up and what is being done operationally to improve enrollment. This led to a discussion of what is preventing growth. Trustee Fecher shared matriculation ratios that showed the percentage of students who apply compared to those that enroll at Wright State. Questions were raised about why students do or don't choose Wright State and what marketing efforts could be implemented to address reservations.

Dr. Schrader indicated that marketing dollars have been shifted to enhancing recruitment efforts and Ms. Ashley said that applications are up for Fall and early indications are good. Six committees across campus are all working on enrollment and retention efforts.

The Board indicated they would like to better understand the answers to the questions posed and to hear about efforts and challenges from the committees and others. Dr. Schrader suggested a collaboration with Provost Sudkamp, Mr. Branson, Mr. Littell, and Ms. Ashley to develop a workshop for the Board on enrollment.

- **Research and Sponsored Programs Report**

Ms. Ellen Reinsch Friese, interim vice president for research, updated the committee on grant and contract proposal submissions, funding, and expenditure data covering year-end 2017.

Wright State faculty are conducting interesting research that is not often heard about. Dr. Tim Broderick, associate dean for research affairs and chief scientist, spoke about his team's research into precision high intensity training through the use of epigenetics. The research has potential for muscle rejuvenation or for enhanced combat training for elite fighting teams.

Dr. Nicole Kinzeler, assistant professor in the field of Population and Public Health, highlighted her work with the Substance Abuse Resources and Disability Issues (SARDI) program that uses collaborative and participatory research to develop intervention programs for women battling substance abuse. This grant funded program is showing promise for reducing HIV and substance abuse among low income African American women living in Montgomery County.

Dr. Schrader thanked Dr. Broderick and Dr. Kinzeler for their presentations and commended their research for the impact it has on people. Research like this happens all across campus and is indicative of the difference Wright State makes in the community.

- **Academic Realignment Committee (ARC)**

The last time Wright State University undertook an academic reorganization was in 1986. Recognizing the need for a Health Sciences College, the Provost appointed Dr. Steven Berberich, associate provost, and Dr. Travis Doom, faculty president, to co-chair the Academic Organization Review Steering Committee (ARC). This 22 member committee was formed in October 2017 and charged with focusing on if/how academic reorganization might:

- Enhance student retention and degree attainment
- Create programs and synergies to increase enrollment
- Facilitate multidisciplinary programs and research
- Enhance student's career preparation for critical jobs in the region

Dr. Berberich reviewed the work done by the committee to identify the various health and human services programs and degrees scattered across multiple colleges and the 3,448 students enrolled in them. The initial "best fit" model shows the School of Professional Psychology, the College of Nursing and Health, and the Human Services areas from the College of Education merging into a newly formed Health Sciences College. Also joining them would be Social Work from the College of Liberal Arts.

This new concentration creates an integrated care model and improves student retention and alignment with careers. It also would allow resources to be channeled into meeting the needs of the community for workforce development in healthcare and human services fields as well as targeting new program development to address demand.

In reviewing the committee's timeline for delivering their final report, Dr. Goyal commented that the community has a severe shortage of health care workers and is presently using agency or out-of-state personnel to staff their facilities. He would like to see the time to implementation shortened to position Wright State to meet this need. Trustee Langos challenged the ARC committee to "be bold" with their timeline and "be disruptive" with their thinking to bring back a proposal that has the potential to succeed on a large scale.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deborah Kimpton