MINUTES

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
BOARD OF REGENTS
Academic and Student Affairs Committee

May 14, 2015
142 Gerberding Hall

Call to Order and Attendance

Committee Chair Regent Jaech called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Committee Members Present: Jaech (Chair), Brown, Rice, and Riojas
Other Regents Present: Ayer, Blake, Harrell, and Smith

Approval of Minutes

Regent Jaech announced that, hearing no objections, the minutes from the Committee meeting on March 12, 2015, were approved, as distributed.

Academic and Administrative Appointments (Action) (Item no. A–1)

Provost Baldasty highlighted the appointment of Mia Tuan as Dean of the College of Education effective on July 1, 2015. Regent Riojas moved and the Committee voted to approve the academic and administrative appointments as presented. Regent Brown abstained.

Transfer of the Molecular Medicine Graduate Certificate from the Graduate School to the Department of Pathology (Action) (Item no. A–2)

Rebecca Aanerud, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Planning in The Graduate School and Nancy Maizels, Professor and Director, Molecular Medicine Graduate Certificate Program, presented this item.

Regent Riojas moved and the Committee voted to approve item A–2.

Discontinuation of the Graduate Certificate in Global Trade, Transportation, and Logistics (Information only) (Item no. A–3)

Rebecca Aanerud described this informational item.

Approval of Name Change for the Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs to the Daniel J. Evans School of Public Policy and Governance (Action) (Item no. A–4)

Dean Sandra O. Archibald presented the background and rationale for changing the name of the Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs to the Daniel J. Evans School of Public Policy and Governance, effective on July 1, 2015. At the time the School was founded in 1962, as the Graduate School of Public Affairs, Dean Archibald said the term “public affairs” was well-understood and reflected the interdisciplinary nature of the School, but that is no longer the case. Public Policy and Governance is globally understood, used by peer schools, and better communicates the School’s curriculum and purpose. Regent Rice, an alumna of the School,
endorsed the name change and praised the collaborative process to arrive at the new name. She also recognized the stature of the Evans School in the national rankings.

Regent Rice moved and the Committee voted to approve the name change for the Evans School.

Annual Recommendations from the Provost Advisory Committee for Students (PACS) (Information only) (Item no. A–5)

Three UW students from PACS (Emma van Inwegen, PACS Chair; Senior, Mathematics; Alice Popejoy, GPSS President, Graduate Student, School of Public Health; and Aaron Vetter, Director of University Affairs for GPSS, Graduate Student, Evans School of Public Affairs) gave the Committee an overview of their recommendations in five specific areas:

1) International student fee. PACS supports the funding of services for international students be collectively borne by all students;
2) Capital projects. PACS discourages funding capital projects with tuition dollars;
3) Mandatory practicum hours. PACS encourages an investigation of these, with a focus on the School of Social Work;
4) Student Parent Resource Center. PACS requests this be funded by the Provost rather than by the Services and Activities Fee (SAF);
5) Minimum wage. PACS supports UW’s move to a $15 per hour minimum wage.

Overview of Housing Master Plan and Efforts to Maintain Affordability (Information only) (Item no. A–6)

Pam Schreiber, Executive Director, Housing & Food Services (HFS) provided a high level overview of the demand for student housing. The residence halls are at capacity and HFS is focused on improving the residential experience. She said the residence halls under construction are on time and under budget. In Phase IV, HFS will explore using different room types to offer lower price points. In response to a question, she said all freshmen who apply by the deadline will be accommodated with on-campus housing. And, that pricing hasn’t impacted the demand for UW housing. HFS uses the demand for housing by returning students as a metric of satisfaction. The off-campus housing market situation was discussed.

Laura McFarlane, President, Residential Community Student Association; Senior, Informatics and Musical Theatre, described how students are engaged in Housing’s efforts to address affordability. Provost Baldasty praised the efforts to involve students in planning and affordability.

Faculty Research: Community Engagement (Information only) (Item no. A–7)

Joel Berg, Dean, School of Dentistry introduced faculty members conducting research reflecting community engagement.

J. David Hawkins, the Social Work Endowed Professor of Prevention in the School of Social Work, described Communities That Care, a community-based prevention system proven to reduce youth health and behavior problems.

Peter House, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Health Services, School of Public Health talked about partnering with local communities. Recently, eight Master of Public Health candidates from the Community Oriented Public Health Practice Program in the School of Public Health’s Department of Health Services endeavored to promote pedestrian safety along the Rainier Avenue corridor in South Seattle
Elham Kazemi, Geda and Phil Condit Professor in Science & Mathematics Education, College of Education, described research focused on the challenge of designing professional learning experiences for elementary mathematics teachers and instructional leaders so that teachers’ classroom practices improve in ways that produce more equitable outcomes.

Regents asked about student involvement in these projects and learned graduate and undergraduate students are involved in all aspects of this research. Provost Baldasty said these projects were selected to present to Regents based on creativity and the impact of the research, Rogelio asked how to educate and inform the legislature about community research results.

Faculty Research: Innovation (Information only) (Item no. A–8)

Vikram Jandhyala, Vice Provost for Innovation, introduced the faculty presentations with a focus on innovation.

Katherine Beckett, Professor, Law, Societies & Justice Program; Department of Sociology, College of Arts & Sciences, described her research, which seeks to explain why incarceration rates (as well as levels of racial disproportionality in incarcerated populations) have nudged only slightly downward despite significant reductions in crime, intensified budget pressures, and concerted policy efforts to reduce prison and jail populations. Findings to date indicate that recent criminal justice reforms co-exist with countervailing trends in policy and practice that have worked to buttress exceptionally high incarceration rates.

Brandi Cossairt, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry, College of Arts & Sciences, said her research program targets new chemistries that will help reduce non-renewable energy use through improved energy efficiency and mitigate carbon dioxide emissions via photochemical and catalytic transformations.

Shyam Gollakota, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, College of Engineering, described his work which addresses some of the most important problems in power systems, human computer interaction, and mobile health. He demonstrated battery-free communication through the use of existing ambient radio signals. He also described diagnosing sleep apnea on a mobile phone by transforming the phone into an active sonar system that emits frequency-modulated sound signals and listens to their reflections. His design monitors the minute changes to these reflections to extract the chest movements.

Suzie Pun, Robert J Rushmer Professor, Department of Bioengineering, College of Engineering, said the major research goal for her laboratory is the development of new materials to improve medical care. She described PolySTAT, an injectable, hemostatic polymer that finds forming clots and stops bleeding. Injection of PolySTAT to rats in an otherwise lethal trauma model results in 100% survival. This synthetic hemostat may potentially revolutionize pre-hospital and early-stage trauma care.

Regents were impressed by the research described in both of these presentations.

Adjourn

Hearing no other business, Regent Jaech adjourned the Academic and Student Affairs Committee at 10:20 a.m.

Approved at the meeting of the Committee on June 11, 2015.