

Board of Governors for Higher Education

Advisory Committee on Accreditation

Minutes of the Meeting

Thursday, March 18, 2010

The Advisory Committee on Accreditation met in the Board's Conference Room, Department of Higher Education, third floor, 61 Woodland Street, Hartford, at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 18, 2010.

Members or alternates present: Shirley Adams, Miller Brown, Susan Capasso, Ann Clark, John Donohue, Robert McCarthy, Leon Newman, Joseph Paige, Gordon Simerson, and Abbey Zink.

Board Members present: None

Staff present: Michael Meotti, Patricia Santoro, Carlota Schechter, Christine Thatcher

1. CALL TO ORDER

Miller Brown called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES – Minutes of January 21, 2010

Miller Brown called for approval of the minutes of February 18, 2010. Ann Clark moved approval and Shirley Adams seconded; the motion passed with Robert McCarthy and Gordon Simerson abstaining.

3. DISCUSSION

4. LICENSURE APPLICATIONS

a. University of Rhode Island – Relicensure of a Chemistry program, leading to a Master of Science (M.S.) degree, offered at Pfizer Research Center in Groton, Connecticut

Carlota Schechter, Senior Associate, Academic Affairs, presented the application and introduced Clifford Katz, Vice Provost for Academic Finances and Personnel and William Euler, Chair of the Department of Chemistry; who represented the University.

After discussion, the program was found to be in compliance with Board of Governors' approval standards. Shirley Adams moved approval and John Donohue seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

b. Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA – Licensure of programs in Business Administration, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Manufacturing Engineering, Materials Process Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Systems Engineering, each leading to a Master's degree, and licensure of a program in Power Systems Engineering, leading to a graduate certificate

Christine Thatcher, Associate Director of Academic Affairs, presented the application. The Institute was represented by Stephen Flavin, Associate Provost and Dean of

Corporate and Professional Education, Brian Degon, Associate Director of Program Operations, and Tracy Hassett, Vice President of Human Resources.

The Committee raised a concern regarding the thesis/capstone experience as an elective in each of the Master's programs. In order to align with Connecticut regulations, the Institute agreed to require Connecticut students to complete a thesis or capstone project.

After discussion, the program was found to be in compliance with Board of Governors' approval standards. Shirley Adams moved approval with the stipulation that the Institute require a thesis or capstone experience in each of the Master's degree programs. Gordon Simerson seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

5. ACCREDITATION APPLICATIONS

a. Mitchell College – Accreditation of a program in Communication, leading to a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree with concentrations in 1) Interpersonal and Organizational Communication and 2) Performance and Technology

Patricia Santoro, Director of Academic Affairs, presented the application and introduced President Mary Ann Jukoski, David Dunlop, Dean of Academic Affairs, and Richard Lucas, Program Director, who represented the College

After discussion, the program was found to be in compliance with Board of Governors' approval standards. Abbey Zink moved approval and John Donohue seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

b. University of Bridgeport – Accreditation of a program in Global Development and Peace, leading to the Master of Arts (M.A.) degree, to be offered online and on campus

Patricia Santoro presented the application. The University was represented by Dean Thomas Ward, Professor Dave Benjamin, and Professor Nancy Wei.

After discussion, the program was found to be in compliance with Board of Governors' approval standards. John Donohue moved approval and Leon Newman seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

c. University of Connecticut – Accreditation of a program in Public Health with a concentration in Occupational and Environmental Health Sciences, leading to a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree

Carlota Schechter presented the application and introduced Nancy Bull, Vice Provost for Academic Administration, Nicholas Warren, Co-chair of Occupational and Environmental Health, Ann Ferris, Director of Doctoral Programs in Public Health, and Professor Thomas Babor, who represented the University. Dr. Bull thanked Commissioner Meotti and department staff for their efficient and thorough review of the program.

After discussion, the program was found to be in compliance with Board of Governors' approval standards. Shirley Adams moved approval and Susan Capasso seconded; the motion passed with Robert McCarthy abstaining.

6. SIMULTANEOUS LICENSURE AND ACCREDITATION

a. University of New Haven – Licensure and Accreditation of a program in Engineering and Operations Management, leading to the Master of Science in Engineering and Operations Management (M.S.E.O.M.) degree

Christine Thatcher presented the application and introduced Barry Farbrother, Dean of the College of Engineering, Ali Montazer, Associate Dean, and Alex Sommers, Program Director, who represented the University.

After discussion, the program was found to be in compliance with Board of Governors' approval standards. Robert McCarthy moved approval and Shirley Adams seconded; the motion passed with Gordon Simerson abstaining.

7. PROGRESS REPORTS

None

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

Monthly Update

9. OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Meotti engaged the Committee in a discussion concerning their role in program review and approval.

10. BOARD OF GOVERNORS RESOLUTIONS – Meeting of February 17, 2010

11. NEXT ACA MEETING – April 15, 2010

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:17 a.m.