

MINUTES

BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING

APRIL 18, 2024

A video recording of this meeting may be viewed at the Board of Regents website as follows:

Diamond Head Road, Honolulu, HI 96816, with regents participating from various locations.

Quorum (8): Interim Chair Gabriel Lee; Interim Vice-Chair Ernest Wilson; Regent

Lauren Akitake; Regent William Haning; Regent Wayne Higaki; Regent Laurel Loo; Regent Diane Paloma; and Regent Laurie Tochiki.

Excused (): Regent Neil Abercrombie; Regent Abigail Mawae; Board vacancy.

Others in attendance: President David Lassner; Vice President (VP) for Administration Jan Gouveia; VP for Academic Strategy Debora Halbert; VP for Community Colleges Erika Lacro; VP for Legal Affairs/University RI + D Z D L μ L 8 + General Counsel Carrie Okinaga; VP for Research and Innovation Vassilis Syrmos; VP for Information Technology/Chief Information Officer Garret Yoshimi; VP for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer Kalbert Young; VP for Advancement/UH Foundation Chief Executive Officer Tim Dolan; UH- 0 — Q (RUBM) Provost Michael Bruno; Honolulu Community College (HonCC) Chancellor . D U H Q / H H . D S L μ R O D Q L & R P P X Q L W (KapCC) Chancellor Misaki Takabayashi; Executive Administrator and Secretary of the Board of Regents (Board Secretary) Yvonne Lau; and others as noted.

Interim Chair Lee announced that Agenda Item V, the Quarterly Governance Group Report – 8 Q L Y H U V L W \ R I + D Z D L μ L 6 W X G H Q W & D X F X V Z R X O G E H

V. QUARTERLY GOVERNANCE GROUP REPORT – UH STUDENT CAUCUS (UHSC)

Bronson Azama, Chair of the UHSC, presented information on the organizational structure of the UHSC noting that it is the officially recognized shared-governance body for undergraduate and graduate students across the 10-campus university system and serves as the liaison between these constituencies and the university administration. He spoke about the achievements of the UHSC over the past year, including the filling of all available positions on the executive council and the securing of representation from every campus; highlighted a few of the challenges the UHSC continues to face, in

addition to some of the activities it has been engaged in; and noted meetings held, or scheduled to be held, with university administrators to discuss topics which students have deemed important.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 16, 2024, AND MARCH 7, 2024, MEETINGS

Interim Chair Lee announced the need to amend the minutes of the February 16, 2024, meeting to correct an

In light of some of the comments regarding the acceptance of public testimony noted above, Interim Chair Lee stated the board office would be seeking advice from the Office of General Counsel as to whether comments on a committee report constituted public testimony.

Written testimony may be viewed at the Board of Regents website as follows:

[Late Written Testimony Received](#)

Regent Higaki returned at 10:17 a.m.

IV. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

A. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Update and Impacts on UH

President Lassner updated regents on the FAFSA challenges being encountered by students and their families which he initially spoke about during the March 21, 2024, board meeting. Despite progress being made in addressing some of the issues reported on, such as the ability for institutions of higher education to receive a student's Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) from the United States Department of Education (USDOE), a record which helps to determine eligibility for various federal student aid programs, troubles persist. After ISIRs started to be received by campuses,

while simultaneously serving as a laboratory for training students enrolled in the Program.

To illustrate the success of KapCC and HonCC's educational strategies and programming and the impact this has had on students, Kamil Anthony, a HonCC student in the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Technology Program, and Bradley Padama-Kinere, a KapCC student in the Registered Nurse Program, provided testimonials on the life-changing impacts of their decision to attend HonCC and KapCC respectively. They also offered personal insights into their unique educational journeys, stating the support received from faculty, staff, fellow students, and family were instrumental to their academic and personal successes.

Regents lauded the work of both campuses and praised the accomplishments of Kamil Anthony and Bradley Padama-Kinere.

Referencing

Nevertheless, the university will continue taking a proactive approach to addressing the delays in developing financial aid packages as a result of the FAFSA situation.

In light of this response, Regent Tochiki remarked that it sounded like the university was ready to proceed with developing financial aid packages for students as soon as their FAFSA received the green light from the USDOE. AVP Gomes replied in the affirmative, although it was noted that almost all campus financial aid offices remain understaffed.

VI. COMMITTEE AND AFFILIATE REPORTS

- A. Report from the Committee on Independent Audit
- B. Report from the Committee on Institutional Success
- C. Report from the Committee on Student Success

Acting Chair Lee referred regents to the respective standing committee reports from the April 4, 2024, committee meetings which were contained in the materials packet.

VII. AGENDA ITEMS

A. Legislative Update

VP Young highlighted a number of measures and priority issues that the university is following at the Legislature this year including the university’s legislative package bills, as well as items of interest involving the administration and board. He briefly went over legislation regarding, among other things, the university’s operating and capital improvement budgets, reviewing the major differences between the university’s budget requests approved by the board and those authorized by the governor in relation to what was included in the House of Representatives’ (House) and Senate versions of the State Budget; university procurement; collective bargaining; technology transfer; innovation and commercialization; the cigarette tax; public agency and open-meetings requirements as they relate to the board; the Research Corporation of the University of Maui wildfires and wildfires in general. He also pointed out numerous resolutions related to the university that are either in the midst of hearings or have been referred to a committee and reviewed the legislative calendar for the remainder of the session which is expected to con

Regent Paloma questioned whether

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VP Young remarked that the budget for the first year of the fiscal biennium appropriated PLOOLRQ WR WKH XQLY study project. However, it was unclear as to who requested these monies and what project it was to be spent on since the university did not ask for this funding. As such, the Senate force lapsed this funding and reappropriated the monies for Hale Noelani renovations as identified in its version of the State Budget. Additionally, the Senate provided \$20 million in revenue bonds for student housing renew, improve, and modernize projects, which could be used for Hale Noelani renovations, although it was noted the university lacks the authority to issue revenue bonds. VP Young also pointed out the board's funding request to address this matter was for \$80 million.

Interim Chair Lee sought clarification on the community college statewide access master plan and a value-added product development center on O R O R, both of which were funded via appropriations contained within the Senate draft of the State Budget. VP Young replied that the appropriation for a statewide access master plan was not a university ask but may be linked to communications occurring last year between the community colleges and the Legislature regarding the development of a master plan for college access. President Lassner added that the aforementioned funding is probably related to an initiative undertaken by the community colleges, based upon a legislative request, to identify areas where they believed training opportunities could be increased and lay out a possible plan for developing a number of programs at specific campuses. With respect to funding for a value-added product deve O R S P H Q W F H Q W H U R Q O R O F Young stated this appears to be for a facility similar to those already in existence on F H U W D L Q F R P P X Q L W \ F R O O H J H S U R S H U W L H V R Q 2 μ D K X

Regent Akitake referenced a number of community college funding requests not included in any version of the State Budget to date and asked VP Young to share his thoughts on this subject. VP Young responded that funding for the university of the last two-to-three years has been dominated by appropriations for the community colleges. Overall, this year's budget contains a fair amount of spread across the university system, although monies designated for the community colleges does appear to be tighter in comparison to funding received in priro(o)10 (ung) Yo, aluate BYobjec1'sDar

attended last month. Regent Loo stated she participated in a number of sessions at the AGB Conference, chief among them being those centered on topics related to university presidential searches, board interactions with a university president, and the student mental health issues which is a serious concern at numerous institutions of higher education across the country.

Regent Tochiki spoke about some of the sessions she participated in noting she took a particular interest in subjects related to, among other things, students and their collegiate experiences and needs; the leadership roles universities can have in helping to resolve national and global concerns; the importance and value of a college education; the educational opportunities afforded by universities to non-traditional students such as older adults; university and board independence; innovations and investments in teaching modalities and educational training initiatives to address a different style of learning in today's world; and shared governance. She also espoused the tremendous number of resources made available to attendees all of which can be accessed via AGB.

Regent Akitake shared a little about her experiences at the conference stating it was refreshing to meet individuals facing the same struggles and challenges as those being faced by members of this board. She discussed some of the sessions she participated in including a pre-summit workshop and meetings related to strategic planning, endowment funds, athletics, and presidential searches. However, for her, the highpoint of the event was a roundtable discussion about the roles of audits in the university setting where she met a board member from Texas and a board member from Massachusetts, both of whom are involved in changing the way audits are viewed at their respective universities. Although most boards continue to take a more traditional approach to conducting audits, others have begun to utilize them as proactive rather than reactionary tools for addressing issues at a university.

Interim Chair Lee concurred with his colleagues about the breadth and diversity of information at the conference highlighting his participation in discussions on the presidential search process and legislative relationships with public university boards.

All of the attendees stated that the AGB Conference was an excellent learning and networking experience

Interim Chair Lee called the meeting back to order at 1:18 p.m. and announced that the board did not have the opportunity to conclude its executive session discussions. In light of the special board meeting scheduled for 1:00 p.m., he suggested recessing this meeting and reconvening in executive session after the conclusion of the special board meeting. Regents concurred with this proposal.

The meeting was recessed at 1:19 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened D W S P D Q G W K H E R D U G Z H Q W E D F session.

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IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Interim Chair Lee announced that the next board meeting was scheduled for