

Committee on Student Success Meeting Minutes of

A. Request Board Approval of Provisional Status for the Bachelor of Arts in Education Studies (BAES) at UHH

Chancellor Irwin briefly spoke about the demand for fully credentialed teachers on Hawai'i Island, as well as throughout the State, and introduced Michele Ebersole, Professor of Education at UHH, to provide information on a proposal developed by UHH's School of Education to address this need.

Dr. Ebersole explained that the proposal to develop a BAES degree program at UHH grew out of a desire to address the critical shortage of qualified teachers in Hawai'i while also serving as part of the university's response to Act 141, Session Laws of Hawai'i, 2022, which required the university to establish K-12 expanded teaching cohort programs in each county for students who are pursuing undergraduate degrees in education. She presented an overview of the request to grant provisional status for the BAES degree program within the School of Education at UHH; noted the program's fulfillment of a clear need to provide undergraduate training toward teacher licensure on the neighbor islands and across the state; talked about considerations taken into account when designing the program; discussed various features of the program including the alignment of curricula with national teacher preparation standards, the use of an in-person instructional modality, and its rural serving nature; reviewed the teacher licensure in elementary K-6 and education studies tracks encompassed by the program; went over the program's alignment with the university's mission and strategic plan, as well as preliminary efforts to establish streamlined pathways for this program with Hawai'i Community College (HawCC); and highlighted support for the program received from community partners and complimentary teacher education programs at UHM and UHWO. If approved by the board and the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board, the BAES degree program expects to welcome its first cohort in fall 2024.

Vice-Chair Haning asked if there was a distinction between the teacher licensure in elementary K-6 and education studies tracks contained within the proposed BAES degree program. Dr. Ebersole replied that the elementary K-6 track will lead to teacher licensure while the education studies track is geared more towards students who want to pursue a degree in education but have a greater interest in educational policy making, working in after school or out-of-school programs, or pursuing advanced degrees in education in the future. She also stated that, should they choose to do so, students who complete the education studies track do have alternatives to obtaining teacher licensure in the future such as through the post-baccalaureate education track currently provided by UHH.

Regent Mawae inquired as to when students enrolled in the BAES degree program will gain hands-on classroom experience. Dr. Ebersole responded that students who enroll in the BAES degree program will be exposed to 10 hours of classroom work during the spring semester of their first year in order to help individuals decide whether or not they want to continue to pursue a BAES degree.

Board Chair Nahale-a offered his comments on the decision to conduct programmatic instruction via an in-person modality which, in his opinion, demonstrated

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Regent Mawae also verbalized her trepidations about the current lack of a suitable track and field facility for training purposes especially since the women's track and field season has already begun. AD Angelos remarked that arrangements were made with local high schools for the use of their facilities to accommodate this temporary need.

Board Chair Nahale-a expressed his appreciation for AD Angelos and the efforts of UHM Athletics in navigating the complex issues facing intercollegiate athletics, including Title IX. He also supported the idea of having deeper discussions about the athletic programs at UHM and UHH at a future meeting.

Chair Tochiki questioned whether the initiative to create a fund development team for the purposes of increasing fundraising efforts was intended to be complimentary to, or inclusive of, athletic fundraising support received from UHF. AD Angelos replied that one individual from UHF currently assists UHM Athletics with its fundraising efforts. As such, UHM Athletics is seeking to establish a team of individuals to work in conjunction with UHF with respect to fundraising for athletics at UHM.

Regent Mawae requested that discussions on the fundraising relationships between UHM and UHH Athletics, UHF, and the various booster clubs be scheduled at a future meeting in order for regents to gain a better understanding of these interconnections and the various revenue streams available to athletics via these sources.

V. ADJOURNMENT

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