MINUTES OF THE REGENTS’ COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Date: Thursday, September 12, 2002

Place & Time: Moloka‘i Education Center
              Room 105
              3:45 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Regents McElrath (presiding)
                            Lee
                            Poe
                            Yamasato
                            Kobayashi (ex-officio)

Committee Member Excused: Regent Nunokawa

Other Regents Present: Regents Dowling
                        Hartley
                        Ikawa
                        Kawakami
                        Kurisu
                        Thurston

Others Present: Evan S. Dobelle, President, University of Hawai‘i
                Joyce S. Tsunoda, Senior Vice President, University of Hawai‘i and Chancellor, Community Colleges
                Rose Y. Tseng, Senior Vice President, University of Hawai‘i and Chancellor, UH-Hilo
                Peter Englert, Chancellor, UH-Mānoa
                William Pearman, Chancellor, UH-West O‘ahu
                Donna Haytko-Paoa, Director, Moloka‘i Education Center
                Flo Wiger, Interim Provost, M–ui Community College
                David Iha, Executive Administrator and Secretary of the Board
                Carl H. Makino, Executive Assistant to the Board

Approval of Committee Meeting Minutes
The minutes of the meeting of the Regents’ Committee on Academic Affairs held on June 20, 2002 and July 18, 2002, were approved as circulated.

Subjects:

1. Change from Provisional to Established Status for the Master of Arts Degree in Hawaiian Language and Literature, Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke’elikūlani College of Hawaiian Language, University of Hawai’i at Hilo

2. Proposed Reorganization of the College of Education, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies in the College of Education, University of Hawai’i at Mānoa

3. Higher Education Needs and Issues of Moloka’i

Change from Provisional to Established Status for the Master of Arts Degree in Hawaiian Language and Literature, Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke’elikūlani College of Hawaiian Language, University of Hawai’i at Hilo

Chancellor Tseng requested that the Committee approve a change in status for the Master of Arts degree in Hawaiian Language and Literature from provisional to established in Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke’elikūlani College of Hawaiian Language, University of Hawai’i at Hilo.

Hawai’i has a voluminous Hawaiian language literary tradition found in the unique history of Hawaiian language use in government, education and among the general citizenry during the nineteenth century. The M.A. degree program in Hawaiian Language and Literature seeks the revitalization of the Hawaiian language and the comprehensive study of its literary tradition in accordance with the mandate given UH Hilo’s College of Hawaiian Language for this purpose by the 1997 Hawai’i State Legislature. In several significant ways, the program has fulfilled these objectives.

UH Hilo has the most developed effort in indigenous language revitalization in the United States and has become a national model for successful language revitalization. Since the provisional program’s implementation in 1998, students have been reaching a high level of competency in Hawaiian language and literature and developing a broad perspective of the Hawaiian language field and its place in international indigenous language revitalization. From among a total of 14 students enrolled in two cohorts, the first student graduated in May 2002, two students are currently writing their thesis and several others have completed all coursework.

The M.A. is the only one in the U.S. focusing on a Native American language. All of the program’s students work full time, making important contributions to the revitalization of Hawaiian language and culture in various teaching and staff capacities at the College’s lab school, Nīwahēkalani’ipu’u, in the College’s Hale Kuamo’o Hawaiian Language
Curriculum, Research and Technology Center, in the College’s academic programs, at the non-profit ‘Aha Pānana Leo and other community organizations.

The work of Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke‘elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language and its outstanding graduate students have drawn national and international attention. In this past year alone, the program has been featured on National Public Radio, the British Broadcasting Company, New Zealand television and a German television program.

In 2001, without the College having made any formal request, the Ford Foundation awarded the College’s consortium with the ‘Aha Pānana Leo a two-year grant of $100,000 to hire an outreach coordinator with a budget to host the College’s many visitors. In addition to the academic programs, visitors expressed great interest in the College’s technological services – the most fully developed for an indigenous language anywhere in the world – including a bilingual Worldwide Web Site and a Hawaiian medium intranet telecommunications system (e-mail). M.A. students have full access to all of these programs and services; in fact, several have enrolled as students in all three of the College’s major academic programs listed above.

The M.A. program’s three graduate faculty have won honors and contribute in significant ways to knowledge about Hawaiian language and cultural topics through publications and other activities while cultivating a strong relationship with Hawaiian and indigenous communities throughout Hawai‘i and in many other parts of the world.

Chancellor Tseng added that this program addresses all of the Hawaiian language and cultural action strategies in the University’s system-wide strategic plan.

Regent Lee moved to grant the Master of Arts degree in Hawaiian Language and Literature permanent academic status, in Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke‘elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language, University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, subject to the Regent’s policy on established academic programs. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Proposed Reorganization of the College of Education, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies in the College of Education, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

President Dobelle recommended a reorganization of the College of Education on the Mānoa campus.

The College of Education continues to make strides in improving teacher education, bridging the gap between K-12 education and higher education and implementing major changes in teacher education curricula. Some examples of this include requiring teacher candidates to spend more time in the classrooms to improve connections between theory and practice and having faculty dedicate more time to the schools.
In 1996, the Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies was approved by the Board of Regents. As a result, methods instructors are more closely involved in field experiences and those who directly supervise field experiences are more aware of the pedagogic issues, thereby strengthening the relationship between field supervision and methods teaching. While the department has been successful in that aspect, combining responsibilities for teacher preparation and graduate level programs under a single department has been problematic. The department chair and coordinator have overlapping responsibilities. Duties for graduate education and teacher preparation compete for faculty member’s time and energy. Governance of this department is difficult because some faculty qualify for participation while others do not. Promotion and tenure actions, as one of many examples, are acted upon by subsets of faculty, and not the entire department.

Based on a careful and systematic review of the functions and academic mission, the College is proposing to divide the department into 1) the Department of Curriculum Studies, which will be responsible for the curriculum studies master’s degree program and the curriculum studies specialization of the doctoral program, and 2) the Institute for Teacher Education, which will spearhead the teacher preparation aspect and foster communication and collaboration among the various groups involved in teacher education. The College will continue to offer the same educational degrees and programs. The organizational changes will enhance the College’s effectiveness. In addition, the College is proposing to establish an Office of Outreach Programs in order to respond to the demand for teacher preparation and advanced professional development programs for all of the neighbor islands. In April 2000, the Hawai‘i State Legislature called for the creation of this program. In 2001, the College developed a plan that was presented to the Legislature and the University committed funding for the program.

The proposal to divide the existing Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies into two discrete units does not add new positions, functions, or programs. Faculty and staff will be placed in one of the new units. Therefore, no additional resources, faculty, or office space are required.

The creation of the Outreach Programs Office and implementation of the outreach plan will require an additional 11.00 FTE (10 faculty and 1.00 civil service), and $772,349 annually (to be provided over a three-year period as programs are phased in). The dean notes that the necessary resources to support this effort have been committed. The director’s position and a civil service position have been allocated; 9.00 FTE will need to be established as the programs are phased in.

The Hawai‘i Government Employees Association and the University of Hawai‘i Professional Assembly were contacted and both organizations have indicated that they have no objections to this proposal. A resolution recommending approval of this
reorganization was passed on July 1, 2002 by the Mānoa Faculty Senate.

Regent Lee moved to approve the proposed reorganization of the College of Education, separating the Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies into the Department of Curriculum Studies and the Institute for Teacher Education and creating a new Outreach Programs Office with the understanding that implementation details shall be subject to existing University policies, statutes and regulations. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Higher Education Needs and Issues of Moloka‘i

Acting Provost Wiger thanked the Regents for holding its meeting on Moloka‘i. Donna Haytko-Paoa, Director of the Moloka‘i Education Center introduced the members of the Moloka‘i Education Center’s Advisory Committee and explained some of Moloka‘i’s educational needs resulting from their unique situation. Ms. Nichole Arce, student at Moloka‘i Education Center, testified on her experience working on her degree at the Center.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Iha, Secretary

Dated: October 11, 2002

c: Chairperson Bert A. Kobayashi
Members, Committee on Academic Affairs
President Evan S. Dobelle
Interim Vice President Deane Neubauer