STATE BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING
WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT CENTER, OGDEN, UTAH
MAY 29, 2009

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Regents Present
Jed H. Pitcher, Chair
Bonnie Jean Beesley, Vice Chair
Brent L. Brown
Rosanita Cespedes
France A. Davis
Katharine B. Garff
Meghan Holbrook
David J. Jordan
Nolan E. Karras
Robert S. Marquardt
Anthony W. Morgan
Basim Motiwala
Carol Murphy
Marlon O. Snow
Teresa Theurer
John H. Zenger

Regents Excused
Jerry C. Atkin
Greg W. Haws

Office of the Commissioner
William A. Sederburg, Commissioner of Higher Education
Carrie Beckman, Policy and Special Projects Coordinator
David L. Buhler, Associate Commissioner for Public Affairs
Troy Caserta, Accounting Officer
Joyce Cottrell, Executive Secretary
David A. Feitz, Executive Director, UHEAA
Peggy Huffaker, Administrative Assistant
Spencer Jenkins, Assistant Commissioner for Public Affairs
Melissa Miller Kincart, Assistant Director, State Scholars Initiative
Darren Marshall, Manager of Audit and Financial Services
Cameron K. Martin, Assistant Commissioner for Administration and Planning
Paul C. Morris, Assistant Commissioner for Budget and Planning
Phyllis C. Safman, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs
Gregory L. Stauffer, Associate Commissioner for Finance and Facilities
Lucille T. Stoddard, Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs
Gary S. Wixom, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs

INSTITUTIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

University of Utah
Michael K. Young, President
Paul T. Brinkman, Associate Vice President for Budget and Planning
Sarah Jane Crookston, Assistant to the Vice President for Health Sciences
John G. Francis, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
Stephen H. Hess, Chief Information Officer
Michael G. Perez, Associate Vice President for Facilities  
Barbara Snyder, Vice President for Student Affairs  
Laura Snow, Special Assistant to the President and Secretary to the University  

**Utah State University**  
Stan L. Albrecht, President  
Raymond T. Coward, Provost  
David Cowley, Associate Vice President for Financial Services  
Sydney Peterson, Chief of Staff  

**Weber State University**  
F. Ann Millner, President  
David Ferro, Assistant Professor of Computer Science  
Kevin P. Hansen, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Management  
Brad Mortensen, Vice President for Institutional Advancement  
Dale A. Ostlie, Dean, College of Science  
Marcia Richter, Assistant to the President  
Norm Tarbox, Vice President for Administrative Services  
Ryan Thomas, Associate Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Studies  
Jan Winniford, Vice President for Student Affairs  

**Southern Utah University**  
Michael T. Benson, President  
Rodney A. Decker, Interim Provost  
Dorian Page, Vice President for Finance and Facilities  
Kevin Robinson, Executive Director, Continuing and Professional Studies  

**Snow College**  
Scott L. Wyatt, President  
Matthew Dixon, Internal Auditor  
Marvin Dodge, Vice President for Administrative Services  

**Dixie State College**  
Stephen D. Nadauld, Interim President  
Donna Dillingham Evans, Vice President of Academic Services  

**College of Eastern Utah**  
Mike King, Interim President  
Greg Benson, Dean of Arts and Sciences  
Michelle Fleck, Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Betty Hassell, Multi-Media Instructor  
Brad King, Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Student Affairs  
Susan Neel, History/Government Instructor  
David Cox, Student  
Whitney Oliver, Student
Following a breakfast meeting with President Millner and the Weber State University Board of Trustees, the Regents convened in Committee of the Whole. Chair Pitcher welcomed everyone to the WSU campus and called the meeting to order. He excused Regents Atkin and Haws and announced that Regent Murphy, a member of the State Board of Education, would be leaving early. (The SBE was holding interviews in Salt Lake City for a new Superintendent of Public Instruction to replace Superintendent Patti Harrington, who had announced her retirement as of June 30, 2009.)
Administration of Oath of Office

Chair Pitcher administered the Oath of Office to Brent L. Brown and welcomed him to the State Board of Regents. Regent Brown said it was a pleasure to be part of the Board. He said it appeared to be a daunting task, since he did not go to college. A mentor wisely advised him to select an area in which he has a passion outside of his business and to devote himself to that area. For Regent Brown, that area has been education. His companies are involved in charitable donations to the work of educating our youth. As a business owner, he found that he is dependent on what happens in education, from kindergarten through college. He said he was proud to be a part of this endeavor and he hoped to bring a business perspective to the Board while he is educated from an academic perspective. Chair Pitcher assigned Regent Brown to serve on the Finance Committee and the Audit Review Subcommittee.

Report of the Commissioner

Appreciation. Commissioner Sederburg expressed his appreciation to Dr. Elizabeth Hitch for her work as Interim President of Utah Valley University.

Strategic Goals Update. The Commissioner reported that his office had been reorganized, and the OCHE budget was aligned to fit the Regents’ strategic goals. The Utah Electronic College was eliminated. The Commissioner’s staff was reduced by five positions. Some activities were shifted to one-time money. Commissioner Sederburg announced that Melissa Miller Kincart would become the Assistant Commissioner for Outreach and Access and would supervise the Utah Scholars program. He asked the Associate Commissioners to comment briefly on their respective parts of the Regents’ strategic goals.

Participation. Associate Commissioner Buhler said he was pleased for the opportunity to work more closely with Melissa Kincart, Carrie Beckman and Andrea Cox on the Utah Scholars program. We have learned that the subgroup of our population that is growing the fastest is also the least represented in higher education. Commissioner Sederburg said he and his staff were in conversations with business leaders around the state in a joint effort to promote higher education.

Retention. Associate Commissioner Stoddard referred to the retention report behind Tab G. Our campuses have worked diligently on retention for several years. Consultants have been used, and studies have been done. Retention is a complex issue. Retention at the universities is higher than at the community colleges. Part of the reason is because of the entrance requirements at the universities, whereas community colleges are required to accept everyone (open access). Degree-oriented students are more likely to complete, also. The system retention rate is 59 percent and ranges from the high 40 percent range to the high 60 percent level. Should the system try to increase its retention rates? Yes, probably to about 61 percent. The Retention Task Force believes that institutional goals must be considered because of the differences in institutions. She called attention to the five recommendations listed on the report. Dr. Stoddard said all of the institutions had reported to the Regents about their process in the area of completion. More work is needed in increasing advisor-to-student ratios, but that has been delayed because of the budget cuts. The group is well along on the completion studies and is pleased with what is happening. She urged the Regents to read the retention report.
Economic Development. Assistant Commissioner Martin reported that the system had hosted a Utah Business Roundtable in December. This has become an initiative focusing on economic clusters. A cluster acceleration program has been developed to better leverage the resources of higher education. President Millner has led this endeavor, collaborating with the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED), Workforce Services, and the Governor's Office to better support and sustain a more viable economy in the state.

Commenting on the state budget, Commissioner Sederburg noted that revenues were slightly higher than expected, but there is no immediate relief from budget reductions. Mandated costs are a major sector of the budget. The 17 percent budget reduction will likely remain in place for next year. If so, Utah will be more negatively impacted in higher education than most other states.

Other State Issues. Commissioner Sederburg said with Governor Huntsman's appointment as U.S. Ambassador to China, we anticipate more partnerships between higher education institutions in Utah and in China. The Commissioner said Lieutenant Governor Herbert had been a strong advocate for UVU and is expected to be a very strong supporter of higher education. He is expected to follow the course set by Governor Huntsman.

Other issues facing the Regents are the College of Eastern Utah, K-16 committee restructuring, setting benchmarks for Dixie State College, increasing advocacy efforts, federal changes to the UHEAA operation, and a Quality Improvement Initiative on Trustee Empowerment. Commissioner Sederburg reported a noticeable surge of interest in the New Century Scholarship at the same time funding has been reduced. We anticipate being able to fund new scholarships only at the 45 percent level instead of 75 percent. In addition, the Regents' Scholarship could be limited to about 46 percent of tuition costs.

Good News. Commissioner Sederburg said he was happy to report that Associate Commissioner Buhler was healthy and back to work. He announced that Assistant Commissioner Spencer Jenkins' wife had given birth to a healthy baby boy the previous evening.

The Regents were dismissed to their respective committees at 9:40 a.m. and reconvened in Committee of the Whole at 11:15 a.m. Chair Pitcher asked the committee chairs to report on only the action items of their committees. He welcomed Senator Sheldon Killpack, who said expressed his appreciation for higher education’s efforts. Senator Killpack noted he had made a trip with GOED officials to research companies looking to locate in Utah. An area near Hill Air Force Base, when built out, will be nearly the size of downtown Salt Lake City. He noted higher education must meet the needs of that market.

Reports of Board Committees

Academic, ATE and Student Success (“Programs”) Committee

Revision of Regents' Policy R165, Concurrent Enrollment (Tab A). Chair Garff said the proposed changes complied with changes made to the concurrent enrollment program during the 2009 Legislative Session. A statement of purpose was added, and the definition of concurrent enrollment was modified to agree with the State Board of Education rule. Chair Garff moved approval of revised Policy R165. Regent Marquardt seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.
Proposed Revision to Regents' Policy R312, *Configuration of the Utah System of Higher Education and Institutional Missions and Roles* (Tab B). Chair Garff said a considerable amount of work had been done on this policy. The proposed revisions reflected changes in the Carnegie classifications. Each institution’s mission and role was included in the policy, and references to UCAT were deleted. Institutions can elect Carnegie classifications; some of the USHE institutions have elected the new Community Engagement classification. **Chair Garff moved approval of the proposed revisions to Policy R312. Vice Chair Beesley seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.**

Salt Lake Community College – Associate of Applied Science Degree and Diploma in Biomanufacturing (Tab C). Chair Garff said the AAS degree program was intended to be comprehensive and could be completed in four semesters. Some of the topics covered will be required, while others are elective, based on the emphasis selected. The diploma program could be completed in three semesters. Other institutions are supportive of this program. **Chair Garff commended SLCC officials for their progressive action and moved approval of the programs. Regent Snow seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.**

Science and Math Education Consortium (Tab D). Chair Garff said this was a proposal to officially form a science and math consortium, with authorization for the Commissioner to establish appropriate procedures to facilitate the work of the consortium. She introduced Dr. Dale Ostlie, Dean of Science at Weber State University. Dr. Ostlie briefly described details of the proposed consortium, which will be comprised of the Deans of the nine USHE institutions along with representatives of public education, the Governor’s Office, and other areas. Dr. Ostlie said Utah must have a well-trained workforce in science and mathematics. It is important to have educated citizens to make important decisions in these areas in the future. Endorsement by the Board would allow the group to solicit funding from grants, private sources, etc. No funding was requested of the Regents.

Regent Jordan asked if the consortium would be embodied in a legal entity or if it would be an unincorporated collaborative effort. Dr. Ostlie said it would be a collaborative effort. Chair Garff said the proposal represented a remarkable effort to bring all of the institutions together to address disciplines in the fields of math and science and to address issues before the appropriate governing and accrediting bodies. She thanked Dr. Ostlie for his presentation to the committee as well as his remarks to the Board. Commissioner Sederburg noted the recommendation charged the Commissioner to work with the consortium to establish appropriate procedures to facilitate the work of the consortium. **Chair Garff moved the Commissioner’s recommendation. Regent Holbrook seconded the motion, and the proposal was adopted unanimously.**

Chair Pitcher welcomed former Commissioner Rich Kendell to the meeting. He was present to speak to the Programs Committee about the proposed consortium.

Consent Calendar, Programs Committee (Tab E). **On motion by Chair Garff and second by Vice Chair Jordan, the following items were unanimously approved on the Programs Committee’s Consent Calendar:**

A. Southern Utah University – Discontinuation of Level II Math Endorsement
B. Utah Valley University -- Discontinuations
   1. Electrical Automation Emphasis and Semiconductor Instrumentation and Maintenance Emphasis in AAS in Electrical Automation and Robotics Technology
2. Outdoor Leadership Emphasis in BS in Integrated Studies
3. Recreation and Physical Education Emphases in AA/AS Pre-Major in Physical Education/Rec

D. Utah College of Applied Technology (Ogden-Weber ATC Campus)
   1. Certificate of Completion in Apprenticeship
   2. Certificate of Proficiency in Electrical Trades Preparation
   3. Certificate of Proficiency in Machinist I
   4. Certificate of Proficiency in Welding Production
   5. Discontinuation of Utah Criminal Justice Collaborative Degree

The following informational items were discussed by the Programs Committee but not by the entire Board:

A. Information Calendar (Tab F)
   1. Utah State University – Specializations, Name Changes and Consolidation of Emphases
   2. Weber State University – Minor in Environmental Studies
   3. Southern Utah University – Name and Structure Changes

B. Retention Progress Report (Tab G)

Finance, Facilities and Accountability Committee

University of Utah – Research Facilities Revenue Bonds, Series 2009A (Tab H). Acting Chair Karras said this approval was the last step required to authorize issuance of the bonds to finance the acquisition and construction of infrastructure improvement projects. The bonds already had been pre-approved by the Board of Regents, the State Building Board, and the Legislature. Bonding parameters were shown on the attached document. Chair Karras moved approval of the University of Utah’s Research Facilities Revenue Bonds, Series 2009A. Regent Davis seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

University of Utah – Student Housing Property Purchase (Tab I). Chair Karras reported the purchase was for housing for international graduate students. Although the University’s campus master plan did not include expansion of housing, the current residence halls are near capacity, so this purchase was considered timely. The proposal was for two existing properties, with the funding source identified as the University’s Auxiliary and Campus Facilities Bond System. Chair Karras moved approval of the property purchases, at an amount not to exceed the average appraised value of two independent appraisals. Regent Davis seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Utah State University – U.S. Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Conceptual Agreement (Tab J). Chair Karras explained this was a land lease arrangement with the U.S. Agricultural Research Service. The building will be used jointly by USU and the ARS. Preliminary Regent approval is the first step in the process required under federal rules. This will come back to the Regents later for final approval. Chair Karras moved approval of the conceptual agreement. Regent Davis seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Weber State University – Campus Master Plan (Tab K). Chair Karras noted that the IHC property and the “East Bench” proposal had been removed from previous versions of the campus master plan. A housing development was added on the south side of the Ogden campus, which allowed for a new structure to replace
two existing structures and another remodel. This would provide an additional 525 beds. Funding sources and 
final approval were still to be developed. **Chair Karras moved approval of the WSU Campus Master Plan. 
Regent Davis seconded the item, and it passed unanimously.**

**State Board of Regents Administrative and Programmatic Budget (Tab L).** Chair Karras said the OCHE 
budget had been reviewed previously by the Regents’ Executive Committee. In the future, the OCHE budget 
will be reviewed by the full Board, along with the USHE budget. Most of the items budgeted to the Commis-
sioner’s Office and the Regents were "pass through" items to the institutions. The remainder were routine 
expenses of the Commissioner’s office. Chair Karras complimented Commissioner Sederburg for bringing this 
forward to the Board. **Chair Karras moved approval of the OCHE administrative and programmatic 
budget. The motion was seconded by Regent Davis and adopted unanimously.**

**Proposed Revisions to Policy R512, Determination of Resident Status (Tab M).** This item was 
discussed by all of the committees. The changes to the policy were listed in the Commissioner’s cover memo. 
Most of the revisions were made to comply with changes made to the residency laws during the 2009 
Legislative Session. Regent Jordan said the changes were consistent with the latest direction from the 
Legislature, including direction about Dixie State College’s border waivers. USU has a similar program. There 
must be clarity when policy decisions are made regarding other institutions. Regent Jordan said we need to 
be clear about why we are doing this, and ensure that it does provide benefits to the State of Utah. The 
Legislature also needs to know the clear reasons these policies are made so it can make informed policy 
decisions. Regent Brown said another key factor was that sometimes a community is close enough [to an 
adjacent state] that a student would likely enter the workforce in the State of Utah.

**Regent Garff moved approval of the proposed changes to Policy R512. Regent Jordan 
seconded the motion, and the revised policy was adopted unanimously.**

**Proposed Revisions to Policy R513, Tuition Waivers and Reductions (Tab N).** Chair Karras said the 
amended policy puts in place the changes made in the last Legislative Session. Four hundred three (403) 
border waivers have been allocated to the institutions; the Regents are given authority to allocate the other 600. 
**Chair Karras moved approval of the proposed revisions to Policy R513. Regent Davis seconded the 
motion, which passed unanimously.**

**Proposed Revisions to Policy R608, Utah Engineering and Computer Science Scholarship Program 
(Tab O).** Chair Karras said the proposed revisions comply with legislative changes. The Engineering and 
Computer Science Loan Forgiveness Program now becomes a scholarship program. Other changes were listed 
in the Commissioner’s cover memo to Tab O. **Chair Karras moved approval of the proposed revisions to 
Policy R608. Regent Davis seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.**

**Consent Calendar, Finance Committee (Tab P).** Upon motion by Chair Karras and second by 
**Regent Davis, the following items were approved on the Finance Committee’s Consent Calendar:**

A. Utah State University – North Logan Property Disposal Request

B. Southern Utah University – Real Property Gift
USHE – Financial Ratios (Tab Q). Chair Karras pointed out that this information was being provided to the Regents for the first time. It took a lot of work to compile. Chair Karras complimented the Commissioner’s staff for their efforts and recommended that this report be discussed in greater detail at a later date.

USHE – Proposed Presidential Salaries for 2009-2010 (Tab R). Chair Karras commended the presidents for agreeing not to take a salary increase this year. All of them are underpaid when compared with their peers. He expressed the Regents’ appreciation to the presidents for their hard work.

USHE – Capital Improvement Funding Update (Tab S). This report detailed cuts to the capital improvement projects and showed the projects that were funded by the State Legislature.

USHE – Update on Institutional Health Plan Changes for 2009-2010 (Tab T). Chair Karras reported that Associate Commissioner Stauffer would continue to work on this study.

UHEAA Update (Tab U). Chair Karras recommended that Regents read the report to keep up with changes going on in Washington to the federal student loan program. Associate Commissioner Feitz reported that student loans are the way most students and their families finance their education. Loan volume is up considerably this year. UHEAA has been able to fully fund those loans in spite of a difficult credit environment. National policy is changing. President Obama has proposed that all loans be federally financed. Director Feitz said he had been in Washington, D.C. to meet with the Utah Congressional delegation to try to implement a plan for UHEAA’s future. UHEAA will continue to service loans locally. UHEAA officials are forecasting the lowest default rate in history at 2.1 percent. Associate Commissioner Feitz said he expected to know the national policy sometime this fall.

Strategic Planning and Communications Committee

Proposed Revisions to Policy R203, Search Committee Appointment and Function and Regents’ Selection of Presidents of Institutions (Tab V). Chair Holbrook said the committee had discussed the proposed revisions and had agreed that section 3.9.4 should remain as it was previously written (“...a majority of ‘yes’ responses...”). The committee also spent some time discussing whether the trustee chair or vice chair should be required to observe Regent interviews (section 4.6.2). After considerable discussion, they agreed to leave the wording as proposed. Although there was some feeling that section 4.6.9 was redundant, the committee agreed to include it. With those changes, Chair Holbrook moved adoption of Policy R203 as revised. Regent Snow seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Proposed Revisions to Policy R208, Resource and Review Teams (Tab W). Chair Holbrook explained that section 4.3 was clarified to follow the Regents’ practice. The proposed revisions also provided that a report of the Resource and Review Team be sent to the Chair of the institution’s Board of Trustees. Chair Holbrook moved approval of the proposed revisions to Policy R208. Regent Zenger seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Proposed Revised Policy R609, Regents’ Scholarship (Tab X). Chair Holbrook reported that the revisions were made to reflect legislative action. The replacement policy was included in the Regents’ folders and was nearly identical to the Attachment to Tab X included with the original agenda. Associate Commissioner Buhler said some minor issues had been identified and corrected the previous evening. Chair Holbrook
moved adoption of the replacement Policy R609. Regent Zenger seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Authority and Responsibility Quality Improvement Initiative (Tab Y). Chair Holbrook referred to the Supplement to Tab Y in the Regents’ folders and urged the Regents to read it. The report was presented for information only and required no action.

USHE – Minority Participation and Graduation Rates (Tab Z). Associate Commissioner Stoddard briefly discussed the attached report earlier in the meeting, and it was not discussed again by the entire Board.

Facts at a Glance Publication (Tab AA). Chair Holbrook said Regents Zenger and Morgan had pointed out to the committee that this publication was one of the most valuable documents the Regents receive. The facts presented are valuable when speaking to legislators and others.

Update on the Friends of Utah Higher Education group (Tab BB). Chair Holbrook said Regent Marquardt had updated the committee on current activities of the Friends of Utah Higher Education advocacy group.

Discussion of Strategic Planning Agenda Items for 2009-2010 (Tab CC). Chair Holbrook said the committee had tabled this discussion item due to lack of time.

General Consent Calendar

On motion by Regent Theurer and second by Regent Snow, the following items were unanimously approved on the Regents’ General Consent Calendar (Tab DD):

A. Minutes – Minutes of the March 26-27 Board meeting at Dixie State College in St. George, Utah

B. Grant Proposals (On file in the Commissioner’s Office)

C. Grant Awards
   1. Utah State University – U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory; “Responsive Space Technologies”; $1,091,000. Chad Fish, Principal Investigator; Quinn Young, Co-Principal Investigator.

   2. Utah State University – NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory; “Wide-Field Infrared Survey Explorer (WISE)”; $1,174,700. John Elwell, Principal Investigator; Scott Schick, Co-Principal Investigator.


Resolution of Appreciation
Chair Pitcher referred to the Resolution of Appreciation for Regent Motiwala and said he had enjoyed working with him. He has represented the students very well and has had a perfect attendance at Board meetings. He wished Regent Motiwala well in the future. **Regent Holbrook moved adoption of the Resolution of Appreciation for Regent Basim Motiwala. Regent Garff seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.**

**Report of the Chair**

**Congratulations.** Chair Pitcher congratulated Regent Jordan for coaching the state champion lacrosse team. Chair Pitcher noted that with legislative changes effect July 1, this was President White’s last Board meeting as a USHE president. He thanked President White and wished him well.

**Student Successes.** Chair Pitcher said his written report of student successes was not included in the Regents’ folders because it was still being finalized by Assistant Commissioner Jenkins when he took his wife to the hospital. The report will be e-mailed when Spencer returns to the office.

**Retirement.** Chair Pitcher noted the retirement reception for Dr. Patti Harrington, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, at 3:00 p.m. on June 11 at the State Office of Education.

**Meetings of SBR Executive Committee.** Chair Pitcher reported that the Regents' Executive Committee had met twice since the last Board meeting, the most recent meeting being held earlier in the week with representatives of the CEU Board of Trustees, President King and Dr. Mike Petersen.

**Gubernatorial Appointments.** Chair Pitcher said he hoped to know soon who would be appointed/reappointed to the Board of Regents and to the institutional Boards of Trustees.

**Next Board Meeting.** The next meeting of the State Board of Regents will be on July 16-17 at Utah Valley University. The meeting on Thursday will be spent with the State Board of Education. The regular Board meeting will be held on Friday, July 17. It is hopeful that new committee and Resource and Review assignments can be made at that time.

Chair Pitcher said the Executive Session meeting of the Board had been canceled.

**State of Weber State University**

President Millner said she appreciated the opportunity to have the Regents on the WSU campus. The university has been in a continuous state of construction for some time, during which it was not possible to host a Board meeting on campus.

**WSU Vision 2030.** Weber State University is an exceptional comprehensive university focused on personalized student interaction. That has been the vision of this institution for many years. Enrollment currently exceeds 21,000 students, and institutional officials anticipate growing to 30,000 students by 2030 in a multi-campus environment. Weber State University is recognized for integrating research and community involvement with student learning. WSU is a community and economic partner for northern Utah.
Accolades. Weber was recently cited by the Princeton Review and the U.S. News and World Report as one of the top 20 master’s institutions in the United States. In addition, the John B. Goddard School of Business has been recognized by the Princeton Review as one of the 290 best business schools. The WSU wind ensemble was invited to play in Carnegie Hall in April, joined by alumni and friends. Weber received the National Distance Education Award from the National University Telecommunications Network.

Weber State University was recently honored as one of only 195 schools in the nation for the Community Engagement classification by the Carnegie Foundation. Utah Valley University also received that recognition. President Millner said nearly 6000 schools had applied, and 195 were selected, two of which are Utah universities. This is a great accomplishment. She briefly mentioned various civic engagement projects.

President Millner reviewed other areas of note where the university excels and/or is developing programs to meet the needs of its students and/or the community, including undergraduate applied research programs. Weber’s strategic approach is focused on three clusters: aerospace and aviation, outdoor sports and recreation, and chemical and biological products.

Vice President Tarbox spoke of the renewal of WSU’s Ogden campus. He said a 2002 analysis of USHE buildings in 2002 showed that WSU and CEU had the oldest buildings that had not been renovated. In the past four years, Weber has received $125 million in capital renovation funds, only one-third of which has come from state funding. He expressed the university’s appreciation for support from the Legislature and private donors. The bell tower, a fixture on the WSU campus since the early 1970s, became the center of the campus core renewal program.

President Millner and Vice President Tarbox led the Regents and others on a brief tour of the campus core to show the changes that had been made since the Regents last visited the campus.

The meeting reconvened in Committee of the Whole at 1:40 p.m.
Chair Pitcher asked for comments from Commissioner Sederburg, Dr. Mike Petersen, President Albrecht, and President King, followed by a brief question-and-answer period.

**Commissioner Sederburg.** The Commissioner said discussion of the future of the College of Eastern Utah had been taking place for several years. The previous Carlson study, by request, did not contain any recommendations. After studying that report, Commissioner Sederburg instructed Dr. Mike Petersen, former president of CEU, to evaluate a couple of options and to make a recommendation based on his evaluation. It is important that a clear plan be developed prior to the 2010 Legislative Session. The issue must be resolved – for the citizens of southeast Utah; for the faculty, staff and students of CEU; and for the state.

**Dr. Petersen** explained his approach. As a native of Carbon and Emery Counties, and as a 16-year CEU employee, including 11 years as president, his background enabled him to be fair and objective. Dr. Petersen said he had spent time in Price and Blanding, talking with more than 70 people, including each member of the CEU Board of Trustees, as well as administrative staff, many faculty and staff, and members of the Blanding and Price communities. He also spent a significant amount of time at USU discussing this situation with university officials. In addition, he spoke by phone with President Wyatt but was not able to visit the Snow College campus.

Dr. Petersen said he had reviewed carefully the Carlson report. He also reviewed all recent reports submitted to the Northwest Accrediting Commission, as well as reports to the Commissioner’s Office. It became clear that the most important objective of most people he interviewed was to protect the central community college mission of the College of Eastern Utah. There was no clear consensus on the direction the future of CEU should take. There was widespread recognition of the value of an enhanced relationship between CEU and USU, done carefully and, at the same time, protecting the community college mission.

In discussions regarding a possible affiliation with Snow College, there was some recognition of a cost savings, but no widespread agreement with that affiliation. Dr. Petersen concluded there was value in changing CEU to a “quasi-autonomous” institution in the system, affiliated with USU. He previously made that recommendation to the Commissioner and now made that recommendation to the Regents. Dr. Petersen’s report (attached to Tab EE) included a series of steps that could be taken to accomplish the key goals.

Dr. Petersen referred to page 5 of his report and briefly described the major features of such a change: CEU would continue to be a comprehensive community college and to respond to the needs of the residents of southeast Utah. The range of student activities would be maintained. An enhanced affiliation with USU would be very beneficial to CEU and would provide a balance of CEU and USU control: CEU Trustees would have primary responsibility to oversee the programs and activities associated with the community college mission, including concurrent enrollment, subject to accountability to and review by the USU Board of Trustees. The current baccalaureate and graduate programs offered by USU in the southeastern part of the state would need to be tailored to programs that would meet the economic needs of that area.

Dr. Petersen recommended that a comprehensive Memorandum of Understanding be drafted that would afford the CEU Trustees executive, administrative and academic flexibility to effectively manage CEU
but would also provide CEU trustees, executives and administrators the control levels they would need. The recommendation, Dr. Petersen said, was made with mixed feelings. CEU has been a vital part of his life, dating back to his experience as a student. In addition, Dr. Petersen’s wife and all of their children attended CEU, and most received associate degrees from there.

Chair Pitcher asked President Albrecht to explain how the USU regional campuses operate. President Albrecht thanked Dr. Petersen for the report. He referred to policy R312 (Tab B), section 312.8. This makes clear that as a land-grant institution for the State of Utah, USU has responsibility for ensuring the community college function throughout the state. He recommended discussions with President Bioteau, who has been charged with looking at the community college role in Utah. Provost Coward listed the goals of USU’s regional campuses: 1. Provide opportunities for students to earn associate degrees. 2. Provide students with seamless transitions to USU four-year programs. Dr. Coward noted that 62 percent of coursework delivered at the regional campuses is at the lower division level. 3. Create selected four-year programs that reflect the individual needs of the local communities.

Provost Coward said HB 185 had provided funding for the delivery of these functions. That funding allowed USU to have on-site facilities for face-to-face instruction and interaction. Full-time faculty are supplemented by adjunct faculty from the community. USU works through UEN to broadcast programs in all districts of the state.

President King said he appreciated the opportunity to speak. He thanked Dr. Petersen for the report and for the time he had spent in preparing and evaluating the material. This has been a very interesting year for CEU. The issue of CEU’s future is of great concern to the local communities as well as to the faculty, staff and students of CEU. There is unanimous agreement that CEU should remain in existence, to meet the needs of southeast Utah and to provide whatever those citizens and business require. President King said he welcomed the study. This issue was discussed when he returned to CEU 13 years ago. There must be a resolution. He offered these key considerations: Does the proposal answer the questions of concern to CEU? Does this help with financial stability? Does it help with enrollment issues? Does it help meet the needs of southeastern Utah? There is much uncertainty on both campuses; some faculty and staff are looking for other positions because their future employment is uncertain.

Regent Marquardt said the overriding priority for the Regents is continued access to higher education in southeast Utah. This will have an enormous impact on the community. While CEU’s enrollment has declined, the cost of educating its students has increased. We need to be able to deliver a quality education in this time of tight budgeting and dwindling resources.

Regent Zenger asked Dr. Petersen to what degree the decrease in enrollment, and in awards and degrees granted, mirrored the population trends. What are the projections for the next five years? Dr. Petersen responded that there were multiple causes for the decline in enrollment – population declines in the area, changes in policy regarding concurrent enrollment and ATE programs, especially mining training. For some time there was projected negative enrollment in the school-age population of southeast Utah. Commissioner Sederburg said the figures he had read projected a 10 percent drop over the next ten years. Those figures were not immediately available.

Regent Morgan said he concurred with the previous comments. If population and enrollment decline
is one of the problems, recruitment and expansion of four-year degree programs may not be the only solutions to be considered. What about “right-sizing” CEU to fit its regional mission rather than increasing its statewide recruitment? The governance structure described in Dr. Petersen’s report seemed fairly complex. Regent Morgan said he was concerned about the complexity and whether it would enable or allow for the hard decisions that may have to be made in “right-sizing” CEU to fit the projected enrollment.

Dr. Petersen said there were many opportunities to increase enrollment at CEU. The college has always had an effective ATE/career training program. The ATCs have exacerbated the impact of an enrollment decline. With the elimination of the Southeast Applied Technology College and the ATE programs being returned to CEU, it could regain some of its lost enrollment in spite of the decline in the population. Dr. Petersen said one important factor in reaching his recommendation was that the opportunity to have baccalaureate training in the areas aligned to the economy of the area have not been developed adequately. This could be a great opportunity for CEU and USU, by working together to overcome that lack and to increase enrollment at the baccalaureate level, to target areas that are beneficial for the area. Southeast Utah has more than a community college need.

Regarding the governance structure, Dr. Petersen said the type of organizational arrangement being proposed is quite common in higher education. Many states have moved in that direction. With the level of USU’s familiarity with the area, with its regional campuses and the relationships already developed, this arrangement could work well and would not be difficult to implement.

Regent Jordan said he was sympathetic with the problems this created on a campus, but the Legislature expects the Regents to come forward with some kind of action. It is reasonably clear that the answer is still elusive. Regent Jordan moved that: (1) the Regents receive Dr. Petersen’s report with appreciation for the work involved. (2) Chair Pitcher appoint a task force of five Regents to make recommendations for Board action at the July Board meeting. The Task Force should review the Petersen report and other information including case studies, solicit public opinion, and work with CEU, USU and other institutions in formulating the recommendations for Board and Legislative action. Finally, the Task force is to be staffed by the Commissioner’s Office. Vice Chair Beesley seconded the motion.

Regent Karras said the group needs a crystal-clear statement of the problem. There is currently no clear link between the problem and the solution. What issue would this arrangement have on USU’s financial situation? Regent Karras said he was very supportive of USU’s role in areas such as Roosevelt.

Commissioner Sederburg said a critical element would be to engage USU in the conversation if that institution is going to be involved in the future of CEU in an enhanced role. He recognized the challenges at CEU. College officials have made a Herculean effort in very difficult times and have already fixed many of the problems of the past. The question now is the future of CEU. He listed the following options: (1) Stay the course. (2) Create a statewide network of community colleges. (3) Infuse money into the CEU budget. (4) Find a stronger partner with expertise, knowledge and a fresh perspective.

Regent Holbrook moved to amend the previous motion to instruct the task force to involve the community as much as possible with public hearings and community involvement. She asked that it
be made clear that this is still a process and is not a “done deal.” Regent Jordan accepted those amendments to his motion.

President King said the GOPB estimated that from 2009 to 2015 Carbon County was expected to increase in population by 10-15 percent. The San Juan County population is expected to decline. This is based on the current population of ages 5-17.

Regent Garff suggested that Regent Zenger or Regent Morgan be appointed to the task force because of their role with the strategic planning process. Regent Davis said the impact of the new legislation regarding UCAT should also be considered. Regent Marquardt suggested that the focus be on increasing retention rates in the area, not on recruiting students from other parts of the state. Adult learners also comprise part of the community college mission.

Vote was taken on the amended motion, which was adopted unanimously.

President Bioteau said she appreciated recognition of the importance of the comprehensive community college role in the state and the pride with which President Albrecht described the community college role in the mission of a land-grant university.

Adjournment

Regent Holbrook moved the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

Joyce Cottrell CPS, Executive Secretary