

**State of Wisconsin
Higher Educational Aids Board**

**Meeting Minutes
October 9, 2009**

Board Members Present: Mary Jo Green, Elizabeth Tucker, Jeffrey Bartell, Mike Bormett, Maria Flores, Steve Midthun, James Palmer, Teresa Rutherford, and Nicole Fish representing Verna Fowler.

HEAB Staff Present: Connie Hutchison, Sherrie Nelson, Sandy Thomas, Mary Lou Kuzdas, Cassie Weisensel

Others Present: Paul Nelson, WAICU; Kevin Priest, Northland International University; Jeremy Hall, Northland International University; Dennis Rhodes, DOA; Emily Pope, LFB; Tom Heffron, WTCS; Kristofer Frederick, UW System Administration; Rolf Wegenke, WAICU; Maria Bundy, Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation; Debbie McKinney.

Chair Mary Jo Green called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Moved by Jeffrey Bartell, seconded by Jim Palmer to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2009 Board Meeting.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

Wisconsin Jobs Initiative: Legislation introduced which would include an increase in WHEG and TG. Secretary Hutchison has been working with Rep. Mason's office on this.

Fund for Wisconsin Scholars: This is the second year that FFWS has given out grants.

Special Presentation: A presentation was given by Maria Bundy from Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation on financial aid. Liz Tucker, Mary Jo Green and Debbie McKinney also talked about how the formulas are developed for the UW System, WAICU and WTCS.

Break at 11:10am for 10 minutes.

**BOARD REPORT #10-05 NORTHLAND INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS NORTHLAND BIBLE BAPTIST COLLEGE)**

Executive Secretary Connie Hutchison, and Sherrie Nelson, HEAB Administrative Policy Advisor, talked by phone with Fred Sellers and Greg Gerrans from the US Department of Education. The US Department of Education recommended that HEAB allow TRACS accreditation as this organization is recognized by the US DOE for purposes of federal financial aid.

Connie Hutchison recommends that Northland International University be recognized by HEAB for participation in HEAB administered financial aid programs.

Moved by Jim Palmer, seconded by Jeffrey Bartell, to recognize Northland as a higher institution that receives State of Wisconsin financial aid.

The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD REPORT #10-06 WHEG/TG TASK FORCE

Connie updated the board on who the task force members are and some guidelines that the task force will be following.

BOARD REPORT #10-07 STATUS OF 2009-10 APPLICANTS AND PROGRAMS

In 2009-10, WHEG-UW has committed 125.82% (\$69,199,887) of its appropriation with 29,134 awards. This is 1,625 fewer awards and 0.91% less committed than at this time last year. WHEG-WTC has committed 156.28% (\$27,989,198) of its appropriation with 26,593 awards. This is 4,917 fewer awards and 13.98% less committed than at this time last year. WTG has committed 130.42% (\$34,350,534) of its appropriation with 12,234 awards. This is 664 more awards and 20.65% more committed than at this time last year. WHEG-TRIBAL has committed 141.57% (\$621,223) of its appropriation with 373 awards. This is 45 less awards and 5.01% more committed than at this time last year. The number of applicants through September 29, 2009, for the 2009-10 academic year was 287,748. That number last year at this time was 234,993. Applicants in 2008-09 totaled 273,830.

BOARD REPORT #10-08 2008-09 ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT

Every year HEAB is required to report on the status of the Academic Excellence Scholarship to the Joint Finance Committee by August 1st. It was pointed out that not much changes from year to year. Eighty-eight percent of the freshmen awarded the Academic Excellence Scholarship in 2008 accepted the scholarship and used it to attend a Wisconsin post secondary institution. In 2008-09, 769 freshmen enrolled in a Wisconsin post secondary institution. Total AES funds going to freshmen students were \$847,124 with an average award of \$1,102.

BOARD REPORT #10-09 2008-09 ANNUAL MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT PROGRAM REPORT AND SURVEY RESULTS

The 1999-01 Budget Bill required HEAB to begin annual reporting on the effectiveness of the Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant. The last annual report noted that among student recipients surveyed, 88 percent indicated that the grant positively affected their decision to return to or stay in school. 79 percent of the respondents either have earned a degree or certificate or continue to work towards obtaining a degree/certificate. In addition, over 92 percent of the recipients plan on living and working in Wisconsin after graduating. As those numbers are approximately what they were the year before, we continue to believe that this program is very effective.

BOARD REPORT #10-10 STUDENT AID EXPENDITURES FOR 2008-09

The Board discussed the report.

Moved by Liz Tucker, seconded by Jim Palmer, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried and Chair Mary Jo Green adjourned the meeting at 12:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey Bartell, Secretary