**TEXAS WOMAN’S UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS**

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**November 7, 2019**

**Board of Regents Conference Room**

**6700 Fannin St.**

**Houston, TX 77030**

**Roll Call:**

Present Committee Members:

Regents Shepard (Chair), Coleman, Gallardo, Jester (Ex-Officio), and D’Abrosca (Non-Voting)

Present Administrators:

Dr. Carine M. Feyten, Chancellor and President; Ms. Katherine Antwi Green, General Counsel, Secretary to the Board, and Associate Vice President of Compliance; Mr. Jason Tomlinson, Vice President of Finance and Administration, Dr. Monica Mendez-Grant, Vice President for Student Life; Dr. Carolyn Kapinus, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Randall Langston, Vice President for Enrollment Services; Dr. Kimberly Russell, Vice President of University Advancement

1. **Call to Order:**

With a quorum being present, Regent **Shepard**, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee called the meeting of the Committee to order at **3:25 p.m.**

Regent **Shepard** reminded everyone that the meeting is being streamed live and asked that everyone speak loudly and clearly as they make comments during the meeting.

1. **Consider Approval of the Minutes of the Academic Affairs Committee Meeting of August 8, 2019**

**Motion to Approve Minutes**: Regent **Coleman**, motioned and Regent **Gallardo**, seconded. The motion passed with a vote of **3-0-0.**

The minutes of the Academic Affairs Committee Meeting of **August 8, 2019** were approved as submitted.

1. **Agenda**

**Motion to Take up Agenda Items**: Regent **Coleman**, motioned and Regent **Gallardo**, seconded. The motion passed with a vote of **3-0-0.**

**Item A. Report on Student Success Initiatives**

Dr. Carolyn Kapinus, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, introduced Dr. Joshua Adams, Assistant Provost for Student Success, who provided a report on an overview of TWU’s Student Success Initiatives including highlights and examples of recent work from across the institution.

Dr. Adams noted to the Board that it is important to focus on student success to ensure that the University is in compliance with national and state policies, ensure a return on education for students, and because of a moral and ethical obligations to students. He talked about efforts to increase students’ marketable skills, promising practices in the areas of certain student resources including: the Psychology Resource Center, Biology Lab scheduling, Housing and Residence Life, and internship and experiential learning for students.

Dr. Adams closed his presentation with notes on the University’s Strategic Retention Council, which has been working to develop actionable tactics, recommend actions and solutions, assisting in the development of integrated student success plans, and focusing on student transitions.

**Item B. Report on Campus Outreach in Houston**

Dr. Carolyn Kapinus, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, introduced Mr. Ron Hovis, Executive Director for Campus Outreach, who provided a report on the overview of the work he is doing to assess, clarify, and understand the current practices and needs of the people and programs on TWU’s campuses in Houston and Dallas.

Mr. Hovis spoke on his recent charge t o assess, clarify and understand current practices, needs of people and programs, determine actions to better leverage TWU’s presence and identify opportunities to enhance TWU’s presence in Houston and Texas Medical Center area. He noted that he would be looking at financial aspects, enrollment opportunities, campus operations and threats to those opportunities, as well as options to increase outreach.

**Item C. Report on THECB Grant Highlights - School of Physical Therapy and College of Health Sciences**

Dr. Carolyn Kapinus, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, introduced Dr. Wayne Brewer and Dr. Jennifer Ellison, faculty and researchers in the School of Physical Therapy, who provided a report on an overview of two Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants received by the School of Physical Therapy in Houston.

Dr. Brewer provided a report on his grant-funded research work called Selecting Under-Represented Cohorts and Creating Enhancement Skills and scholastic Achievements in Physical Therapy. The goals of his work were to improve outreach and recruitment at designated Texas Universities serving higher numbers of under-represented minority students, develop an aggressive and guided admission, matriculation, and orientation plan, develop an aggressive and guided retention plan during the first two years of the funding period, and increase exposure to minority health clinical and research opportunities.

Dr. Ellison provided the Board with an overview of her grant-funded research work called Multi-Disciplinary Collaboration in Underserved Clinical Sites for the Enhancement and Promotion of Quality Healthcare in Physical Therapy. The goals of Dr. Ellison’ work were to establish 10 new clinical partnerships in the identified underserved minority (USM) areas, increase student enrollment from USM regions of Texas at TWU-Houston DPT program, increase inter-professional education (IPE) interactions, increase interest in academic pursuits of clinicians in USM areas.

**Item D. Faculty Highlight - Dr. Pinky Budhrani-Shani, College of Nursing**

Dr. Carolyn Kapinus, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, introduced Dr. Pinky Budhrani-Shani, faculty in the College of Nursing, who provided a report on her work including a three-year clinical trial funded by the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health in the amount of $534, 842. The purpose of this grant was to conduct a mixed-methods, pilot randomized controlled trial to inform the feasibility and design of a definitive trial by randomizing 54 cancer caregivers to one of three conditions: (1) community-based Qigong training, (2) internet-based Qigong training, or (3) a self-care control group. Qigong is a type of exercise similar to tai chi. The primary outcome was feasibility and secondary outcomes included quality of life, fatigue, sleep disturbance, distress, burden, and physical function.

**Item E. Faculty Highlight - Dr. Derek Miketinas, Department of Nutrition and Food Science**

Dr. Carolyn Kapinus, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, introduced Dr. Derek Miketinas, faculty in the Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences, who provided a report on his work, specifically research that includes analyzing nationally representative data to explore diet-disease relationships to generate useful information for public health initiatives and generating research hypotheses. He has active collaborations with Pennington Biomedical Research Center and University Medical Center in New Orleans. These collaborations include research studies on dietary interventions for cancer, identifying predictors of weight-loss, and assessing military service members’ diet quality.

1. **Recess Academic Affairs Committee Meeting into Executive Closed Session**

Regent **Shepard** announced that the Committee would recess into Executive Closed Session for the purposes of Deliberations Regarding Personnel Matters Relating to Appointment, Employment Evaluation, Assignment, Discipline, or Dismissal of Officers or Employees and Consultation with Attorney Regarding Legal Matters and/or Contemplated Litigation or Settlement Offers pursuant to Sections 551.074 and 551.071, respectively, of the Texas Government Code at **4:24** **p.m.**

1. **Reconvene to Open Session and Take Any Possible Action Regarding Matters Discussed in Executive Closed Session**

At the conclusion of the Executive Closed Session, Regent **Shepard** reconvened the meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee into open session, a quorum being present at **4:48** **p.m.** Two items from the Executive Closed Session required action by the Board. The Committee voted to move both items to the Consent Agenda at the Full Board Meeting with the following votes.

**Motion to Move Approval of Item A.1. to Consent Agenda: Regent Coleman motioned and Regent Gallardo seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0-0.**

**Motion to Move Approval of Item A.2. to Consent Agenda: Regent Coleman motioned and Regent Gallardo seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0-0.**

1. **Adjourn**

With no further business coming before the Academic Affairs Committee, Regent **Shepard** adjourned the Academic Affairs Committee meeting at **4:49 p.m.**