A meeting of the Educational Policy and Institutional Resources Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College was held on Friday, October 21, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. in the Livak Ballroom, 417-419 Dudley H. Davis Center.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Donna Sweaney, Co-Vice Chair Bill Botzow, Christopher Bray, Kyle DeVivo, David Potter, Dale Rocheleau, Bill Ruprecht, and Jeanette White

TRUSTEES ABSENT: Co-Vice Chair Jeffrey Davis, Frank Cioffi, and John Hilton

OTHER TRUSTEES PRESENT: Board of Trustees Chair Robert Cioffi, and Interim President John Bramley, ex-officio

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Faculty Representative Cathy Paris; Staff Representatives Lesley Boucher and Amanda McIntire; Alumni Representative Krissy Pisanelli; Student Representatives Gavin Caster and Tyler Wilkinson-Ray; and Graduate Student Representatives Jude Paul Dizon and Ashley Gunn

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT: Faculty Representatives Richard Galbraith and Stephanie Kaza; and Alumni Representative Ted Madden

PERSONS ALSO PARTICIPATING: Jane Knodell, Senior Vice President and Provost; Douglas Lantagne, Dean of Extension; Patricia Prelock, Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences; Charles “Will” Webb, Multi-Media and Instructional Technology Specialist, Center for Teaching and Learning; Cynthia Forehand, Associate Dean of the Graduate College; Cynthia Belliveau, Dean of Continuing Education; Bob Vaughan, Director of Capital Planning and Management; Wanda Heading-Grant, Chief Diversity Officer; Chris Lucier, Vice President for Enrollment Management; and Doug Lantagne, Dean of Extension

Chair Donna Sweaney called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Chair Sweaney welcomed new Student Representatives Gavin Caster and Tyler Wilkinson-Ray and Graduate Student Representatives Jude Paul Dizon and Ashley Gunn.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded and voted to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2011 meeting.

Provost’s Report

Provost Jane Knodell introduced Gayle Nunley, the new Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Internationalization. Provost Knodell then gave a brief overview of the current Provost’s Office academic initiatives and the actions brought forth to the Committee. She reported on the
FY12 Academic Investments in which $800,000 in investments has been committed in the following areas: the Trandisciplinary Research Initiative (TRI), Internationalization, Student Success & Satisfaction, and General Education. Provost Knodell also reported on recent faculty recruitments that advanced our goals related to diversity & internationalization and supported TRI and which were extremely successful and attracted highly-qualified candidates. Last year, 26 tenure-track faculty members were recruited and this year, 27 tenure-track faculty positions will be filled of which 21 are in alignment with the TRI Spires of Excellence. One new position was created for the express purpose of meeting a pressing need in research in the area of human genetics which was identified by the Neuroscience, Behavior and Health Steering Committee.

Provost Knodell also reported on the Sustainable Transportation Certification Program that educates, labels and awards certificates within the passenger transportation section. The program’s mission is to build awareness of and promote the use of transportation options. In response to a question concerning the existence of a transportation certification program at UVM, Dean of Extension Doug Lantagne clarified that this program is focused on mass transit and is the next version.

**Distance Learning/On-line Professional Graduate Education**

Provost Knodell reported on the current work of distance education which is one of the revenue enhancement opportunities within the Strategic Initiatives Project. UVM has some experience with distance education. One example is the pilot, small-scale distance masters degree in Speech Language Pathology designed to address the extreme shortage of Speech Language Pathologists in the State of Vermont. Patricia Prelock, Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, demonstrated the distance learning tools employed by the SLP program. Dean Prelock emphasized the importance of collaboration between faculty and staff.

Cynthia Forehand, Associate Dean of the Graduate College, reported on the role of the Graduate College and the Faculty Senate in oversight of distance education programs, and Cynthia Belliveau, Dean of Continuing Education, gave a report on working with an external vendor to support distance education. She reported that she is now working with a vendor to help jumpstart growth of a several existing Continuing Education programs that have potential to appeal to national and international populations. After discussion, the committee approved a motion to acknowledge, and thereby endorse, the development of distance learning at UVM.

**Report by the Faculty Senate Curricular Affairs Committee Chair**

Cathy Paris, Faculty Senate Curricular Affairs Committee Chair, gave a brief report highlighting that the Committee and the Faculty Senate have approved a proposal to change the name of the Department of Romance Languages to the Department of Romance Languages and Linguistics.

**Action Items**

Bob Vaughan, Director of Capital Planning and Management, gave a brief overview of a proposal to renovate the Mason/Simpson/Hamilton Residence Complex as one of the last major complexes (with two or more halls) to be renovated on the current Residential Life plan to address deferred maintenance issues. The project consists of the replacement of several deferred
maintenance items in the complex as well as addressing many code deficient issues. It is estimated that the project will cost approximately $4.0 million, based on the similar scope of work accomplished in Phase I.

Chair Sweaney presented the following resolution for approval and offered an opportunity for discussion:

**Mason/Simpson/Hamilton Renovation – Phase II Resolution**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees Educational Policy and Institutional Resources Committee has carefully reviewed the program, scope, and preliminary estimate of $4,000,000 for the proposed Mason/Simpson/Hamilton Renovation – Phase II and finds it an institutional priority, consistent with the Strategic Capital Plan, and worthy of further review;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Educational Policy and Institutional Resources Committee hereby endorses the project and remits it to the Budget, Finance, and Investment Committee for financial review and approval.

A motion was made, seconded and it was unanimously voted to approve the resolution for recommendation to the full Board.

Next, Vice President Chris Lucier provided a brief background on the US-Sino Pathway Program (USPP). Vice President Lucier explained that the primary goal of internationalization is to continue to find ways to enhance diversity of the University’s student body. The secondary goal is the need for market development both here and in the international market, and lastly, how to maximize UVM’s enrollment revenue to make sure the University has revenues to invest strategically. The recommendation to the Trustees is to approve an extension of the contract with Northeastern University and Kaplan-China and approve the contract with Northeastern and Kaplan-Singapore for one year.

Chair Sweaney presented the following resolution for approval and offered an opportunity for discussion:

**Resolution Authorizing One-Year Renewal of U.S. Sino Pathways Program at the University of Vermont and Authorizing Contract with Northeastern University and Kaplan Higher Education Academy PTE, Ltd.**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the President and/or Vice President for Enrollment Management to enter into a renewal of the existing contract with Northeastern University and Shanghai Kai Bo Education Investment Management Co., Ltd, for the purpose of continuing for a one year period the multi-component pathways program for students from the Peoples Republic of China (PRC) to begin studies in the PRC and complete them at the University of Vermont;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the President and/or Vice President for Enrollment Management to enter into a contract with
Northeastern University and Kaplan Higher Education Academy PTE, Ltd., for the purpose of establishing a multi-component pathways program for students from Singapore and the Asia Pacific region ("Territory") to begin studies in the Territory and complete them at the University of Vermont.

A motion was made, seconded and it was unanimously voted to approve the resolution for recommendation to the full Board.

**Faculty, Staff and Student Learning & Work Environment Campus Climate Survey Update**

Chief Diversity Officer Wanda Heading-Grant gave a brief report on the status of the Campus Climate Survey. She reported that in April 2011, the University conducted a survey of faculty, staff and students to assess the campus climate. The survey was designed to gather information and help identify areas that may need to be addressed to enable UVM to flourish as a welcoming and inclusive university for all individuals. The survey was administered by the Center for Rural Studies. They are working on the preliminary findings and plan to have all of the data analyzed by November 2011. Chief Diversity Officer Heading-Grant will then work with the President and Provost to engage the campus community over the coming months and bring survey results and recommendations to the February Board meeting.

**Academic Technology Plan Status Update**

This item will be reported on at the EPIR Committee meeting in February.

**Other Business**

With regard to distance learning, Trustee Jeanette White asked if there is a different tuition rate for in-state and out-of-state students. She also asked if the University has a policy concerning tuition and how students of illegal dairy workers would be treated. Provost Knodell agreed to look into this issue and report back to the Committee.

Provost Knodell informed the Trustees that the Strategic Initiatives Project will comprise a large part of the February agenda.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Sweaney, Chair