

January 6, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Regents
FROM: William A. Sederburg
SUBJECT: Roles and Authority Task Force Update

Issue

To update the Regents on the status of the Roles and Authority Task Force as well as to seek input from the members of the Board of Regents regarding their suggestions on how to improve and clarify the working relationship between the Regents, the institutions' Boards of Trustees, the Commissioner and his office, and the institutional Presidents.

Background

Institutional Boards of Trustees were asked to submit by the end of the 2009 calendar year any feedback pertaining to the Roles and Authority Task Force "charge," which is outlined in the attached document. All trustee feedback has been received. The task force is seeking any input from members of the Board of Regents so it can be included in the task force's report as suggested improvements for the Board of Regents to consider. Feedback can be given directly to the Commissioner or a member of the task force, who are identified in the attached document.

The task force's final report to the Regents will be submitted as part of the April 1, 2010 agenda packet.

Commissioner's Recommendation

This item is for information only.

WAS/CKM /JAC
Attachments

William A. Sederburg, Commissioner



State Board of Regents Roles and Authority Quality Improvement Initiative

Charge

Under the direction of the Board of Regents, the Commissioner of Higher Education has launched a quality improvement (QI) initiative led by the “Roles and Authority Task Force” to improve and clarify the working relationship between the State Board of Regents (SBR), the institutions’ Boards of Trustees (BOT), the Commissioner (the Office of Higher Education for Higher Education—OCHE), and the Presidents (the institutions). Specifically, the Task Force (TF) will answer the question: **What authority, role, and function currently held or performed by the SBR ought to be retained by the SBR or delegated to the BOTs, Commissioner, and Presidents to:**

1. improve the strategic focus and function of the SBR in fulfilling its statutory obligations and statewide role as stewards of higher education,
2. empower the BOTs and Presidents to be innovative and successful in meeting the needs of their constituents and institutional missions,
3. refine the scope of the OCHE services and functions in support of the Utah System of Higher Education (USHE) and its network of institutions and resources,
4. improve system efficiencies, and
5. eliminate unnecessary functional duplications?

Timeline (checked items have been completed)

- ✓ February 2009 – OCHE staff develop the “Roles and Authority Matrix” to provide a quick overview of current policy and practices pertaining to the working relationship between the SBR, BOTs, Commissioner, and Presidents.
- ✓ April 2009 – Members to serve on the Roles and Authority Task Force (TF) were identified and invited to serve. They are:
 - Cameron Martin, OCHE (Chair)
 - Greg Stauffer, OCHE
 - Lucille Stoddard, OCHE
 - Teddi Safman, OCHE
 - Gary Wixom, OCHE
 - Fred Hunsaker, USU
 - John Francis, UU
 - Ed Barbanell, UU
 - Val Peterson, UVU
 - Norm Tarbox, WSU
 - Joe Peterson, SLCC
- ✓ May 29, 2009 – SBR approved the establishment of the TF and its charge (listed above). Additionally, the SBR approved initial TF recommendations to:

- a. amend Regents' policies R203, "Presidential Searches," and R208, "Resource and Review Teams" to clarify and strengthen the role of the Trustees in the presidential search, hiring, and evaluation processes, and
 - b. delegate the budget and operations oversight of the University Health Care System to the University of Utah's BOT concurring the oversight between the University of Utah Hospitals and Clinics Board and the University's BOT was adequate and the additional reporting obligation to the SBR was an unnecessary duplication function.
- ✓ SBR committees (Programs, Finance & Facilities, and Strategic Planning & Communication) have been tasked to assess Regents' policies, procedures and practices that pertain to each committee's stewardship and recommend necessary changes, if any, in fulfillment of the TF Charge.
 - ✓ September 2009 – Council of Presidents (COP) review of "Roles and Authority Matrix" and were given through the end of the 2009 calendar year to gather feedback from their respective executive staff and Boards of Trustees.
 - ✓ October/November 2009 – continue Task Force discovery.
 - ✓ January 2009-February 2010 – SBR/BOT review of initial TF findings and recommendations.
 - March 2010 – TF report writing.
 - April 1, 2010 – TF report as SBR action item.
 - May-August 2010 – share SBR approved report with BOTs.
 - August 2011 – OCHE host first annual training presentation.

Deliverables

1. A report to the Board of Regents for action outlining the Task Force's findings and recommendations, which will include a training program and quick reference guide.
2. To share the SBR approved report and training program with each USHE institution's President and BOT.
3. To share the SBR approved report with Governor Herbert and other legislative leaders.
4. A training program and quick reference guide that clarifies the roles, authority, functions of the SBR, BOT, Commissioner (OCHE), and the Presidents (the institutions) within the USHE. The training program is to be initially shared with each institution's BOT by the OCHE. Thereafter, OCHE will host an annual training session with specific attention given to new members to the SBR, BOT, the Commissioner's staff, and Presidents' cabinets.