

**MINUTES**  
**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**  
**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**September 4, 2014**

The Academic Affairs Committee of the University of Southern Indiana Board of Trustees met on Thursday, September 4, 2014, in the University Center on campus. Present were Committee Chair Ira G. Boots and Trustees Ronald D. Romain '73 and Ted C. Ziemer, Jr. Also in attendance were President Linda L. M. Bennett and Provost Ronald S. Rochon.

Committee Chair Boots called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and turned the meeting over to Provost Rochon for an introduction of the report.

**1. REPORT ON THE UNIVERSITY'S LILLY ENDOWMENT FUNDED GRANT – INITIATIVE TO PROMOTE OPPORTUNITY THROUGH EDUCATION COLLABORATIONS – ROUND III**

Dr. Mark Bernhard, associate provost for Outreach and Engagement, and Dr. Scott Gordon, dean of the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education provided an overview of the University's Lilly Endowment Grant in a presentation entitled, "Collaborating for Career Readiness, Relevant Competencies, and Capitalizing on Entrepreneurial Opportunities."

Dean Gordon began the discussion by updating the committee on the past Lilly Endowment Grant opportunities. In 2002, the University of Southern Indiana was approved to offer a four-year degree in engineering. The University was then awarded \$1,000,000 for the grant period 2003-2008 for *Round I – Initiative to Promote Opportunity through Educational Collaborations: Enhancing Economic Development through Expanded Cooperative Education Opportunities in Engineering*. During *Round II – Educating for Success in an Innovation Economy*, the University received \$500,000 for the grant period 2008-2013. This grant was used to combine co-operatives for business and engineering students and to start the Technology Commercialization Academy. Most recently, the University was awarded \$3,000,000 for the grant period 2014-2019 for *Round III – Collaborating for Career Readiness, Relevant Competencies, and Capitalizing on Entrepreneurial Opportunities*.

Through the Lilly Endowment grant awards given from *Round III – Collaboration for Career Readiness, Relevant Competencies, and Capitalizing on Entrepreneurial Opportunities*, the Lilly Endowment would like the universities and colleges to foster meaningful career opportunities for Indiana's college graduates. During an introductory meeting regarding the grant proposals, the Lilly Endowment shared the information below with colleges and universities vying for the grant monies:

- Indiana ranks second for attracting out of state students to college;
- One-third of Indiana's college graduates leave Indiana;
- Indiana ranks 42<sup>nd</sup> in educational attainment of its workforce; and
- 11 percent of Indiana's workforce has a Bachelor of Science degree or higher.

With these thoughts in mind, the grant monies received by the University of Southern Indiana will be applied to six different initiatives.

Undergraduate Career Readiness Program

The Strong Interest Inventory will be administered to all first year students through UNIV 101: First Year Experience. This course is a CORE 39 requirement. A career readiness advisor and a career readiness graduate assistant have been hired to provide assistance with this program.

Career readiness benchmarks are being developed for freshman through graduation. The benchmarks will note important milestones and activities identified for all undergraduate students. In addition, formalized opportunities will be offered for students to engage in the career readiness process such as career planning courses for juniors and seniors and credit coursework within each of the four colleges.

#### Co-operative Education/Internships

The goal for the co-operative education/internships is to provide 30 students with Lilly Endowment-funded internships and co-operatives for the 2014-2015 year. Currently, 21 students participated as of August, which is 70 percent of the goal with less than 50 percent of the calendar year used. In addition, employers have received \$67,050 for internship funding.

Other achievements from this program for 2014-2015 include the development of the comprehensive employer application and reimbursement process and the formation of the Co-operative/Internship Advisory Committee charged to review and approve all employer participation requests.

#### Technology Commercialization Academy

The Technology Commercialization Academy is made up of teams of University students challenged to develop new and compelling commercial potentials in order to take collaborated technology to commercial market. Three Technology Commercialization Academies have taken place and the University has received funding for three more. To date, 44 University students have completed the program with three ideas transferred to business, one student startup company, and one provisional patent.

#### Eagle Innovation Accelerator

Through the Eagle Innovation Acceleration initiative a technology commercialization manager position will be funded. In addition, some benchmarking and framework development will be created.

#### Certificate Programs

Four certificate programs are being developed for the 2014-2015 academic year: Project Management Certification Prep Level I; Leadership Skills for the New Leader; Business 101 – Basic Business Skills Certificate; and Social Positioning.

Other certificate programs that are currently being offered through Outreach and Engagement are:

- Certificate in Leader Excellence – 24 hours;
- USI Certificate in Project Management – 36 hours;
- Certificate in Maintenance Management – 20 hours;
- Certificate in Facility Management – 20 hours;
- Certificate in Business Computer Competency – Level I – 23 hours;
- Certificate in Business Computer Competency – Level II – 27 hours;
- Project Management for the Everyday Professional – 12 hours; and
- Certificate in Meeting Facilitation – 20 hours.

#### I-69 Innovation Corridor

Funding for the I-69 Innovation Corridor will be used to invest in building a robust student pipeline with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics), CEO (Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities), and PLTW (Project Lead The Way); and building community engagement with potential student immersion opportunities.

Through this initiative the University will have a presence with Crane and WestGate Certified Technology Park and with the I-69 Congressional Caucus.

The Lilly Endowment is impressed with the University of Southern Indiana. In fact, the University was highlighted in the Lilly Endowment's Annual Report. President Bennett commented that close to 80 percent of USI graduates this year will have had some type of experiential learning.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.