

Idaho Falls Higher Education Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2004
Bennion Student Union Multipurpose Room - University Place – Idaho Falls

Attendees: Jim McFadden (Chair), Jerry Brady, Max Checketts, Robb Chiles, Shlene Cox, Jennifer Fisher, Marge Foster, Mary Lou Gougar, John Hansen, Kipp Hicks, Ann Howell, Libby Howell, Steve Larsen, Linda Milam, Susan Morris, John Murdoch, Cal Ozaki, Mark Paulsen, President Bill Robertson, Anne Sneed, Carol Spain, Bob Stiger, President Tim White, Jerry Wixom, Mark Young

Welcome and Approval of the, Meeting Minutes: Jim welcomed everyone and requested a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. *Linda Milam moved the minutes of August 11, 2004, be approved. John Hansen seconded. Motion carried.*

Institutional Reports: University of Idaho - President Tim White announced that Provost Brian Pitcher accepted an appointment as Chancellor for the Washington State University Spokane campus. Provost Pitcher had served the UI well for 8 years and he will be missed. An Interim Provost will be appointed while there is a national search. Part of the selection criteria will be visiting Idaho Falls and understand the UI's commitment to Idaho Falls and this part of the state and the National Lab. The University Vision and Resources Task Force completed its report and 651 comments have been received. Those will be considered as decisions are formulated in the next couple of months. The UI is delighted with the selection of Battelle and foresees a long term productive partnership. He discussed how research and innovation positively impacts economic development. Mark Young asked how the Council might advocate for the Center. President White expressed the importance of the Council being heard on issues that affect the higher education partnership in this area. Individual contact and effort is effective with the legislators. Jim McFadden relayed thanks to President White for Brian Pitcher for his interest and commitment to the Center and Council.

Idaho State University – Jennifer Fisher relayed greetings from President Bowen. Enrollment at ISU is at an all time high. Of the 2500 at Idaho Falls, 80% take all their classes here. They need more distance education rooms and other classroom space. Growth is constrained by funding. ISU has received 500 applications this year for 50 pharmacy seats. The UI Foundation and ISU reached agreement on the sale of the Idaho Falls property and the Tingey Administration Building to ISU for 5.5 million. A supplemental agreement to the 1998 agreement has been completed and makes a commitment to the continuing partnership and a seamless transition in the educational process. The FY 05 budget from all sources grew by 12% to more than \$240 million last year. 30% came from state appropriated money. The remainder comes from other sources, i.e. student fees, grants and contracts, etc. Jennifer presented a video featuring the new Performing Arts Center, the Accelerator Center and the Rendezvous Center. Jim McFadden acknowledged the resignation of Jonathan Lawson as Vice President for Academic Affairs and expressed appreciation for his association and work with the Council

Eastern Idaho Technical College – President Bill Robertson described EITC's Outreach programs. They will have their first graduation for the non traditional nursing program students in Salmon and Arco. The program originated at the Teton Valley Hospital in Driggs and they will begin another there this January. Rural hospitals have a difficult time attracting nurses and this program works with them to identify place bound residents, provide them with education and provide the hospitals with a trained staff. EITC is beginning the self study process in preparation for the 10 year accreditation by the Northwest Association of Colleges and Universities in 2007. It is a healthy process that engages the entire campus. Enrollment is stable. Money will be tight in the legislative session. He described the capacity building funding being requested by the State Department of Education for Professional Technical Education. He encouraged support of the Council for this initiative. They will request student fees increases at the April SBOE meeting at EITC. Sharing of facilities with EITC, ISU and UI were discussed. The progress on the Health Sciences Building is waiting for word from EDA in Seattle and Washington, D.C.

Brigham Young University Idaho – Max Checketts reported BYU-I had an enrollment of 11, 555 this fall. Their resource cap is 11,600. There are 4,300 from Idaho, 1,200 from Utah, 1,100 from California, and 900 from Washington. The three most populated majors are General Studies, Business, and Elementary Education. Their track system is working well. They received their accreditation from Northwestern in June. This fall they went through the education accreditation from the state and it is positive. They are offering 60 Bachelor degrees and 16 Associate degrees. They will start moving into the Thomas E. Ricks Building within the next

week. They are looking at ways to expand the Snow Building, the Hart Building, and the Manwaring Student Center. They have a significant commitment to internships which has grown from 233 in Fall of 2001 to 646 in Fall of 2004. Internship placements include Naval Intelligence, Proctor and Gamble and other major firms. Due to the track system, they can provide interns on a year round basis. The majority are still in Idaho. Teaching placements include eastern Idaho and 3 distance sites (Tacoma, WA; Clark Co, NV; and Gilbert/Mesa/Phoenix, AZ). Faculty work 45 weeks that encompasses two blocks and they have one off. There doesn't seem to be a significant pipeline for one institution over another in terms of graduate school. They have visited Idaho schools to see what is offered and they would like to keep Idaho students in Idaho. Other schools are recruiting in the medical sector including Case Western in Ohio. While many students can get a Bachelors degree and go to work, that may not be accurate in engineering and many BYU-I engineering students transfer after two years. They are trying to create pipelines to universities within the state. Utah State is constantly interested. BYU-I is focusing on Mechanical Engineering. They aren't afraid to send the students to better institutions after two years. Higher education institutions can't be all things to all people.

Committee Reports: The Advocacy Committee met. Their mission is to collaborate with the existing committee structure to work with legislature to create an understanding of what is here in Idaho Falls and what is at risk without appropriate funding. That was the intent of the Legislative Candidate Forum this fall. In addition, it has been suggested to expand this information to the public at large. Issues are access to higher education and funding. If either are limited, the economy is harmed. Higher education is a public investment. It is a message that will have to be told on a continuing basis. The next meeting will be December 10 at 3:00 p.m. in TAB 350.

Jim McFadden said the Business and Community Education Needs Committee met and reviewed demographic information on the CC Benefits program. It can be used to identify future job needs. The Diversity subcommittee will have two events this year to introduce diverse junior high students and families to the Center and higher education opportunities. Financial support is needed again this year. UI and ISU wrote and received a grant for \$500.

Public Relations Committee has focused on identification and selection of new members. New members to date are Dr. John Murdock, Scott Woolstenhulme, Anne Voilequé, Harold Davis, Randy Morris, and Nikie Greene. She also described the Professional Technical Education program with the high schools.

Battelle Energy Alliance: Jim McFadden welcomed Battelle and introduced Dr. Adrian Roberts. The merge of Argonne National Laboratory-West and the INEL presents a unique opportunity and challenge. The new Idaho National Laboratory is a tremendous opportunity for the national universities team and the Idaho universities in terms of research and education. Nuclear expertise is needed in energy, homeland security, and medicine. The DOE vision for this Lab was laid out in the RFP. They want it to be the preeminent nuclear research development and deployment lab in 10 years. It will also be a national center in security and a multi program national lab. To achieve the DOE vision, there are 6 critical attributes: 1)Build programs; 2)National homeland security, energy and environment; 3)Science Base; 4)Education (CAES); 5)Extensive Collaboration; 6)Infrastructure. This can be achieved in the next 10 years with collaboration from all the entities and especially the Idaho universities. They would like a \$900 million operation within 10 years. Workforce training needs of the cleanup will be different than the INL where they want to create the next generation of scientists. Based on Oakridge, there could be 5,000-6,000 staff in the next 10 years. The next generation of nuclear power will be built here. There will be four complexes. One will be the Center for Advanced Energy Studies which will provide the university linkage.

World Nuclear University: Jim McFadden introduced Dr. Mary Lou Gougar. The WNU will be hosted by DOE. It will be a 6 week program on global issues related to nuclear science and technology. Participants will be at the Master's level or young professionals. It will be a stellar quality event.

Institute for Nuclear Science and Engineering: Dr. Gougar discussed the INSE as a conduit to the Lab for the Idaho universities' expertise. They are in the process of hammering out the details but there would be focus areas for each university.

The next Advisory Council meeting will be April 20, 2005.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes prepared by Carol Spain, Management Assistant, University of Idaho at Idaho Falls.