

COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Friday, March 12, 2010

DECISION ITEM C: Policy on Regional Campus Roles and Missions

Staff Recommendation That the Commission approve the *Policy on Regional Campus Roles and Missions*, dated March 2, 2010.

Background The Commission for Higher Education is authorized to define the educational missions of public colleges and universities in Indiana. With feedback from affected institutions, the Commission has developed a set of defining characteristics and expectations for the Regional Campuses of Indiana University and Purdue University.

Over the last ten years, the role of Regional Campuses has changed significantly, due in particular to the emergence and growth of Ivy Tech as a comprehensive community college and increasing admissions requirements at the University flagship campuses. Regional Campuses will play an increasingly important role in serving Hoosiers with high quality, low-cost baccalaureate degree programs.

Supporting Document *Policy on Regional Campus Roles and Missions, March 2, 2010*



Policy on Regional Campus Roles and Missions

March 2, 2010

Preamble

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education regards the Regional Campuses of Indiana University and Purdue University as valuable contributors to the state's system of higher education. This policy document builds upon two historic documents from 1994 and 2001 that outlined the defining characteristics of Regional Campuses, but require updating due to significant changes in Indiana's system of higher education in recent years.

For the purposes of this policy, Regional Campuses shall be defined as:

- *Indiana University-East*
- *Indiana University-Kokomo*
- *Indiana University-Northwest*
- *Indiana University-South Bend*
- *Indiana University-Southeast*
- *Purdue University-Calumet*
- *Indiana University-Purdue University-Ft. Wayne*
- *Purdue University-North Central*

Between the late 1960s and late 1980s, the Regional Campuses, in addition to being regional four-year branches of Indiana University and Purdue University, effectively played the role of community colleges, offering associate's degrees and serving as the state's access institutions. In 1987, however, the Commission for Higher Education approved the first four Associate of Science (AS)/transfer oriented degree programs at the Indiana Vocational Technical College (now Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana). With increasing admissions standards at the Indiana University and Purdue University flagship campuses, and exploding enrollment at the community college level, Regional Campuses will play an increasingly important role in serving Hoosiers with high quality, low-cost baccalaureate degree programs, filling a vital niche in Indiana's system of higher education.

The Regional Campuses differ significantly from one to another. Recognizing the unique characteristics of each Regional Campus, the principles outlined on the pages that follow are designed as overarching directions that reflect a more efficient and effective role for Regional Campuses in Indiana's system of higher education.

The missions of Indiana's Regional Campuses should reflect the following defining characteristics:

- 1) **Profile:** Indiana's eight Regional Campuses primarily serve commuting students, though student housing is offered on a limited basis at most of the Regional Campuses. Students include both recent high school graduates and adults. While a large proportion of the regional campus student population enrolls on a part-time basis, full-time enrollment is growing.
- 2) **Primary Educational Responsibility:** Baccalaureate degree programs. Associate degree programs may be offered on an exceptional basis. Regional Campuses accept transfer credits

from the Core Transfer Library, earned at 2-year and 4-year institutions, and credits from Regional Campuses are transferable to 2-year and 4-year institutions.

- 3) **Graduate Programs:** Regional Campuses may offer selected masters programs to meet state and regional needs. Regional Campuses do not offer doctorate programs.
- 4) **Primary Geographic Responsibility:**
 - a. IU-East – East Central Indiana/Western Ohio
 - b. IU-Kokomo – Central/North Central Indiana
 - c. IU Northwest – Northwest Indiana/Greater Chicago Area
 - d. IU South Bend – North Central Indiana
 - e. IU Southeast – Southeast Indiana/Greater Louisville (KY) Area
 - f. Purdue Calumet – Northwest Indiana/Greater Chicago Area
 - g. IPFW – Northeast Indiana/Greater Ft. Wayne Area
 - h. Purdue North Central – North Central Indiana
- 5) **Governance:** The eight Regional Campuses are governed by two institutions. Five are Regional Campuses of Indiana University, and three are Regional Campuses of Purdue University. Indiana University-Purdue University-Ft. Wayne combines academic units from both IU and Purdue, but is governed by Purdue University. The Boards of Trustees of Indiana University and Purdue University, and central university administration located at those institutions' main campuses, determine the utilization of resources at the Regional Campuses. Chancellors appointed by institutional Presidents and Trustees manage the Campuses. The central university administrations of Indiana University and Purdue University are encouraged to develop accountability measures for the Regional Campuses.
- 6) **Admissions Policy:** Qualifying documents are required (high school record, rank, GPA, etc.) but a large majority of students are admitted. Selective admissions criteria may be used for certain academic programs. Beginning in 2011, recent high school graduates will be required to have a Core 40 high school diploma for admission to a Regional Campus.
- 7) **Developmental/Remedial Education:** Regional Campuses should eliminate the offering of classroom-based remediation (coursework that does not count toward any degree), shifting this responsibility to the community colleges. This does not preclude the offering of tutoring, mentoring and other programs to help students overcome skill deficiencies.
- 8) **Research Focus:** Scholarly activity related to faculty teaching responsibilities, research related to local and regional needs.
- 9) **Student Residences:** Limited to 10% of enrollment. While it is understood that on-campus housing is positively correlated with improved retention and completion, the development of residences at the Regional Campuses should not interfere with the primary role of serving commuter students.

Expectations of Regional Campuses Within Indiana's System of Higher Education

- **Degree Completion:** Regional Campuses should significantly improve completion rates to ensure that students' investments and the state's investment are worthwhile and result in high quality academic credentials.
- **Affordability:** As access institutions, Regional Campuses should place affordability at the forefront of decisions around resource allocation.
- **Synergy with Indiana's 2-Year Sector:** The success of Regional Campuses will depend on collaborative work with the 2-year sector. Successful collaborations will have the following characteristics:
 - 2-year sector is delivering all remediation
 - Regional Campuses have eliminated all associate degrees that are duplicative with associate degrees offered by 2-year campuses in that region.

- Regional Campuses have transfer scholarships in place and available for 2-year students and/or graduates, and seamless transfer opportunities, including passport programs and dual enrollment opportunities
 - 2-year institutions and Regional Campuses have established mechanisms which provide ongoing, systematic and regular dialogue which in turn provides opportunities to better differentiate institutional missions, integrate services, improve completion/graduation performance, and increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the campuses.
- **Synergy with Main Campuses and Other Regional Campuses:** Due to limited resources and the need for improved efficiency, it is both necessary and desired that Regional Campuses and their respective flagship campuses work in close collaboration, particularly in the delivery of academic programs and campus administration. It is also necessary that Regional Campuses work closely together to deliver education to the greatest number of students in the most efficient way, which may include sharing of faculty, facilities, and administration.
- **Meeting the Needs of the Economy:** Regional Campuses should continue to put local economies at the forefront of their success agenda.