

EDUCATIONAL APPROVAL BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, September 9, 2009
10:30 a.m.

University of Phoenix – Brookfield Campus
20075 Watertower Boulevard
Brookfield, WI

Members Present: Christy L. Brown, Michael Cooney, Terry Craney, Joe Heim, and Monica Williams

Members Absent: Jo Oyama-Miller and Rick F. Raemisch

Others Present: David Dies and Blanca James, EAB; Jarvis Racine, ITT Technical Institute - Greenfield; Steve Guell, Lana Khachaturov, and Mark Szolyga, Sanford-Brown College; Briana Houlihan, Glenn Matthews and Dave Steffen, University of Phoenix; Fritz Oppenlander, Upper Iowa University; Mike Rogowski, Whyte Hirschboeck Dudek SC

The chair of the Educational Approval Board (EAB), Michael Cooney, called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m. A motion (Craney, Brown) to approve the June 12, 2009, board meeting minutes was adopted unanimously.

Ms. Williams arrived at 10:45 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

The board stood informal as Dave Steffen, Campus Director, University of Phoenix - Milwaukee Campus, introduced himself and led a tour of the facilities. The tour concluded at 11:39 a.m.

BOARD STATUS REPORT

Mr. Dies highlighted items provided in the board materials based on the EAB's respective strategic goals.

Involvement in Postsecondary Education Policy Decisions

Mr. Dies provided an update on legislation creating an Education Tax Credit for Businesses. He addressed an amendment that has been added to the bill, which is currently available for scheduling in the state Senate.

He also provided an update that changes suggested by the EAB regarding pre-licensing insurance education modifications (Clearinghouse Rule 09-22) proposed by the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (OCI) were incorporated.

Positive Working Relationships and Alliances

Mr. Dies reminded and encouraged board members to attend the EAB's annual approved schools conference, which will be held on November 19, 2009. Terry Ludeman, retired chief economist for the State of Wisconsin, will be the keynote speaker, addressing the state of the economy; and Roger Williams, executive director of the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET) will be the featured morning presenter. The EAB anticipates approximately 125 attendees this year.

Consumer Protection

Mr. Dies reported on recent EAB activity concerning diploma mill legislation. The bill draft that was prepared by the Legislative Reference Bureau closely mirrors the one the EAB had drafted but never introduced last session.

Postsecondary Educational Choices (Public Awareness & Understanding)

The EAB staff has been interviewed on several occasions about particular issues affecting postsecondary education. Copies of articles were provided in materials made available.

Enhance the Role of Board Members

It was noted that the EAB board chair will give the opening welcome remarks at the approved school conference in November.

Operational/Administrative Procedures and Policies

Mr. Dies provided the final figures for FY 09, a summary of the appropriation balance of the student protection fund, and an overview of the EAB's monthly revenues and expenditures. He reported that based on the final figures, the EAB likely will be able to suspend the student protection fee assessment after the 2010 renewal year.

SCHOOL APPROVAL ISSUES

A motion (Brown, Williams) to approve items A through I of the School Activity Report for the period of June 5 through September 3, 2009, was approved unanimously.

It was noted that board members would like to see information and outcomes described in the complaints section of the activity report.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion (Craney, Heim) to adjourn was unanimously approved at 12:25 p.m.