Our university continues to move closer to an affiliation with the University of Phoenix (UOP). The university recently received two important decisions that bring us closer to completing this transaction:

- The district court ruled that the University of Idaho Board of Regents did not violate open meeting laws leading up to a public vote, setting in motion the purchase of UOP by Four Three Education Inc.

  In a Jan. 30 decision, District Judge Jason Scott dismissed the case brought by Idaho Attorney General Raul Labrador, finding that the university’s Board of Regents fully complied with Idaho’s open meeting laws.

- NWCCU, U of I’s accreditor, agreed with our stance that this affiliation is not a substantive change and requires no approval or further action by the commission, which helps clear the way toward completing the transaction. In a written statement, NWCCU said this transaction “does not constitute a change in governance, legal status, form of control, or institutional mission of the University of Idaho.”
This decision is consistent with our structure of the transaction, which maintains each institution as a separate entity affiliated through the nonprofit Four Three Education, Inc.

Both decisions are welcome and the result of many people's diligent work.

Meanwhile, the two working groups have begun identifying areas where U of I and UOP can build synergies. The Academic Programs and Pathways working group, co-chaired by Andrew Fields and Ben Hunter, is working on a white paper to guide their work. The Student Services group, chaired by Blaine Eckles, Dean Kahler and Dan Ewart, is assessing where we can work together around areas of student success. We look forward to developing those areas where this affiliation can benefit Idaho's citizens.

Go Vandals!

Scott Green
President

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