

State Regents Seek Legislative Funding to ‘Put Families First’ With Tuition Freeze Proposal Statements from Oklahoma College and University Presidents

From University of Oklahoma President David Boren:

“Adoption by the state legislature of the State Regents for Higher Education’s request would give us a great opportunity to help students and their families by avoiding any increases in tuition and fees next year. Every day I see how many families have to struggle in Oklahoma to afford a college education. I cannot think of a more worthwhile investment in our future than an adequate legislative appropriation to give our students a break from tuition increases. Of course, we could not afford to operate our institutions without the sufficient increase in state appropriations suggested by the Regents. I earnestly hope that our state leaders will seize this opportunity to make a historic investment in our future.”

From Oklahoma State University President Burns Hargis

“This plan provides certainty in uncertain economic times for students and their families. Higher education is more critical to our state’s future than ever before and it must remain affordable. This is a fair and reasonable proposal that addresses basic budgetary needs and ensures an all-important degree remains a great value at Oklahoma’s universities and colleges. OSU applauds the state regents for their leadership.”

From Redlands Community College President Larry F. Devane

“Oklahoma has a number of career shortage areas, such as health care. This proposal will allow more students to have access to higher education programs and institutions in the state. Furthermore, this will make college a reality for students who have felt they don’t have the financial means to obtain their college education.”