

**STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD TO
THE OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION**

MINUTES

Sunday, February 22, 2009

The regular meeting of the Student Advisory Board (SAB) to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education was held on Sunday, February 22, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. in the Library Conference Room of the Presbyterian Health Foundation Research Park at 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK 73104.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by the Chair. Islam Abdul-Moneim, Rae Lynn Elsworth, Nicholas Harrison, Adam Lovell, Rosie Lynch, Evan Schwenk, and Alexandra Wilkes were in attendance. A quorum was deemed to be present. Chair Rosie Lynch recognized a guest, Tonya Wilson. Kermit McMurry, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, and Debbie Terlip, Student Relations Liaison, both with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, were also in attendance.

The minutes from the January, 2009 Student Advisory Board meeting were reviewed, amended, and approved. Debbie Terlip briefly reviewed the events of Higher Education Day at the State Capitol, which took place February 10, 2009, and noted the student participation. Nicholas Harrison mentioned some issues specific to the University of Oklahoma. The SAB briefly discussed the legislative update and federal legislation relating to Pell Grants and the stimulus funding, as it may affect higher education. Debbie Terlip offered to contact State Regents staff to visit with the SAB on these issues. (The March meeting of the SAB was subsequently cancelled.)

Rosie and Nicholas reviewed their presentation of their proposed issues for recommendation to the State Regents Council on Student Affairs at its February meeting. With regard to other issues members are researching, Rosie Lynch said she was looking at the Amethyst Initiative, a proposal to allow 18-year olds to drink alcohol on campus. Adam Lovell said he was looking at issues concerning safety and security on campus, particularly with regard to supporting the work of the Campus Life and Safety and Security (CLASS) Task Force and issues involving threat assessment teams. Alexandra Wilkes said she was interested in recycling and other green campus issues. Debbie Terlip mentioned the work done on the University of Central Oklahoma campus and offered to find her a contact there. Islam Abdul-Moneim expressed interest in student – alcohol issues, and the effectiveness of policies banning alcohol on campus. Evan Schwenk said he was researching state support of the Academic Scholars program, which grants scholarships to high academic achieving students. Both Rosie and Nicholas also expressed an interest in issues involving textbook costs. Debbie Terlip suggested the members bring their recommendations to the March meeting (which was subsequently cancelled), in order to have time to discuss them and ask questions prior to the voting scheduled for the April meeting. The members asked Debbie to send them last year's SAB report, so they could view the format.

The members then considered the agenda item on their campus visits. Evan Schwenk gave a report of his visit to the Langston University campus. He said the students had significant issues unique to this campus. They were dissatisfied with the lack of a supporting community and services that were common to most campuses, with no gas stations, restaurants, stores, housing etc. nearby. There was no real student union, and students were even unable to buy laundry detergent nearby. The lack of this supporting structure meant that most students had no other choice than to reside in the dorms, with the result that the institution was acquiring a reputation as a party school. They decried the lack of a variety of activities, and noted some recent experience with student violence, which the institution was attempting to address through a more rigorous screening process in admissions. Evan said he also hoped to visit Oklahoma City University.

Adam Lovell next reported that he had visited Oklahoma Panhandle State University, and gave a brief overview of his visit there. Rae Lynn Elsworth noted that she planned to visit Rogers State University. Alexandra Wilkes said she planned to visit St. Gregory's. Islam said he would visit Murray State College. Nicholas said he may visit Cameron University.

The SAB brought up the upcoming Oklahoma Student Government Association Spring Congress at Oklahoma City University, and Rosie mentioned the legislation some SAB members had. In closing, Evan mentioned that he would not be able to attend the March meeting due to scheduled travel to Washington D.C. for the Big 12 institutions.

The Chair announced that the next meeting of the Student Advisory Board would be at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 29, 2009. At the next meeting the Student Advisory Board would bring basic summaries of their proposals so that the Student Advisory Board could begin formulating its recommendations. (Note: The March meeting was subsequently cancelled).

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3 p.m.