

Campus Safety and Security Task Force

MINUTES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017, 1:30 p.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Chancellor Glen D. Johnson welcomed members Janet Cunningham, Northwestern Oklahoma State University; Jeff Harp, University of Central Oklahoma; Steve Turner, Northeastern State University; Ron Ramming, Connors State College; Lisa Teel, University of Oklahoma; Lee Bird, Oklahoma State University; Randy Graves, Carl Albert State College; Bill Knowles, Seminole State College; Chris Tipton and Steve Swinford, Oklahoma City Community College; Katricia Pierson, East Central University; Richard Andrews, Rose State College; Cheryl Evans, Northern Oklahoma College; John DeBoard, Cameron University; Bruce DeMuth, Pioneer Technology Center; Kim Edd Carter, Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security; Albert Ashwood, Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management; Jessica Hawkins, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; Kendra Brown, Southwestern Oklahoma State University; Paul Roberts, Oklahoma Baptist University; Roger Webb, task force consultant; and Debbie Blanke, Todd Pauley (via phone), Sarah Kimball, Angela Caddell, Liana Bortoto and Sharon Bourbeau, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

APPROVAL OF FEB. 8 MEETING MINUTES: Chancellor Johnson asked task force members to review the minutes of the Feb. 8, 2017 meeting. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Johnson asked Todd Pauley to give a legislative update. Pauley told members that there were originally 49 gun-related bills filed, and by the first legislative deadline, the number of active bills was down to 16, then narrowed to eight. He noted several bills that were a higher priority, including measures that would broaden punitive pre-emptions to grant legal expenses to a person who challenges a firearm ordinance, allow open carry for military personnel, and allow guns in vehicles – loaded or not loaded, concealed or not concealed. Pauley said the Department of Public Safety and the Oklahoma Highway Patrol were particularly concerned that the bill allowing guns in vehicles would prohibit law enforcement from disarming a person carrying a firearm. He added that bill monitoring and discussions with legislators regarding higher education's stance on weapons on campus would continue.

FIREARMS ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES: RESEARCH EVIDENCE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS, BLOOMBERG SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, JOHNS HOPKINS: Johnson asked Angela Caddell to share information with members about the Johns Hopkins study. Members were provided a copy of the report findings, and Caddell thanked Jeff Harp for bringing the study to her attention. She asked members to pay particular attention to the section regarding implications of guns on campus for campus security and law enforcement. She also mentioned the report had been placed on the resource repository page of the task force website and that she would send a copy to task force members.

CAMPUS EMERGENCY MANAGER CONSORTIUM UPDATE: Johnson asked Lisa Teel to provide an update on the work of the Emergency Managers Consortium. Teel reminded members that the consortium was formed to facilitate development of relationships between campus personnel and city and county emergency managers to enhance campus emergency preparedness and response. She introduced Sarah Kimball, who told members that she would be working through the Oklahoma Emergency Management Association to continue to build those relationships between higher education institutions and local law enforcement. Teel mentioned that six universities participated in a recent training at the University of Oklahoma focused on security at sport and special events.

2017 TASK FORCE RESOLUTION – WEAPONS ON CAMPUS: Johnson asked Caddell to provide an update on the status of the joint resolution with the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education in support of maintaining current law regarding weapons on campus. Caddell told members she had updated the resolution narrative to include recent campus incidents, and the joint resolution was signed by Johnson and Dr. Marcie Mack, Career Tech state director. A copy was provided to members, and Johnson urged them to share it widely.

WORKGROUP REPORTS: Johnson asked for workgroup reports.

Campus Best Practices (Lee Bird, Chair): Bird told members that the workgroup had maintained information about federal regulations and reporting requirements as part of the task force online resource repository. She also noted the workgroup was looking into developing a speaker directory, as sometimes campuses are unable to afford to send employees off-site for training, but may be able to bring speakers to their campuses to provide training more affordably.

Issue Monitoring, Advocacy and Research (Larry Rice, Chair): Caddell gave the update in Rice's absence. She reported that the workgroup continued to stand ready to mobilize advocacy when support was needed to address legislation pertaining to campus safety and security.

Training and Plan Development (Albert Ashwood, Chair): Ashwood noted that the workgroup had been focused on updating the campus training calendar. He told members that he would continue to work with campuses to ensure courses were designed to meet specific needs. Ashwood told members that the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management would host the State Earthquake Program Managers' National Conference during the last week of April in Oklahoma City. He also shared information about education options available through the Naval Post Graduate School, which provide a mechanism for students to earn a master's degree in homeland security paid for by the federal government.

Caddell notified members that the FBI provided five copies of "The Coming Storm" training video, and that the DVDs were available for check-out through the State Regents' lending library.

OPEN DISCUSSION: Johnson asked Roger Webb to share his thoughts as task force consultant. Webb thanked Ashwood and OEM for sharing the agency's resources and services. He reminded the task force to be weather-aware and urged members to encourage campus newspapers to publish safety tips for severe weather. Webb also noted the need for better online security of personal information among tech-savvy students, and encouraged the task force to consider cybersecurity training options to help campus staff educate students. He encouraged members to be aware of athletic hazing and the reluctance of students to report related incidents.

Teel announced that she had received an invitation from the FBI to a cybersecurity conference in Oklahoma City on April 28 hosted by Oklahoma State University, which would feature national and local experts on cybersecurity. Caddell agreed to send out the information to members.

WRAP UP AND COMMENTS: Johnson announced the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, June 7 at 1:30 p.m.

Caddell followed-up on a prior request from members to engage a speaker to address ways campuses can successfully navigate issues related to student activism. She explained that legal counsel indicated that due to the wide variation in campus circumstances and experiences, any information that could be shared with a group would be so general, it would not be useful. Caddell and Johnson recommended that members discuss these concerns directly with their campus legal counsel.

Steve Turner mentioned that April was Sexual Assault Awareness Month. He also warned task force members to be mindful of phishing emails that appear innocent; his campus recently experienced a malware attack under the guise of a student inquiring about a part-time job.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.