

STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD
to the
OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Meeting Minutes

Sunday, January 29, 2012, 1:00 PM
University of Central Oklahoma, Nigh University Center

Call to Order

Chairman Sichterman called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM with a quorum.

Announcement of Quorum

Ms. Terlip confirmed that the meeting had been posted and filed with the Secretary of State pursuant to the Oklahoma State Statutes.

Cary, Gomez, Saluke, Schneider, and Sichterman were present. Cook and Tracy were absent.

A quorum was present to proceed.

Guests Present

Ms. Hollye Hunt, Associate Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations, OSRHE
Dr. Luis Montes, Faculty Advisory Council, OSRHE

Legislative Update for the 2012 Legislative Session, Ms. Hollye Hunt

Higher Education Day will be on February 21, 2012, at the Oklahoma State Capitol. A formal program in the House chambers is scheduled for 2:00 – 3:00 PM.

The State Regents office is currently reading through all of the bills being filed. Updates will be forwarded to members.

Ms. Hunt indicated that there have been lots of new bills filed, in regards to higher education.

- Tuition setting authority
 - HB 2593 (Rep. Holland)
 - SB 1062 (Sen. Wilson)
 - SJR 79 (Sen. Sykes)
- RUSO
 - SJR 76 (Sen. Fields) – Removes the State Superintendent for Public Instruction from the RUSO Board. Each appointed member should reside in the county of a RUSO school
- CIO

- HB 2940 (Rep. Derby) – Transfers CIO and OneNet under the State Chief Information Officer
- OK Promise – There is not significant legislation that will alter the program.
- University Center – HB 2443 (Rep. DeWitt) & SB 1111 (Sen. Fields) – creates a board of nine trustees for the University Center in Ponca City
- Ardmore Higher Education Center – HB 2843 (Rep. Ownbey) & SB 1444 (Sen. Simpson) – Authorizes the Ardmore Higher Ed Center to become a branch campus of Southeastern Oklahoma State University
- OSU-Tulsa & Langston – duplication of classes
- Shell bills for OU Board of Regents
- Tenure
 - HB 2598 (Rep. Holland) – Eliminates tenure, multi-year contracts and continuing contracts
- Reporting
 - HB 3040 (Rep. Osborn) – requiring reporting of universities and college
 - SB 1819 (Sen. Halligan) – Students need information regarding degree plan and job availability.
 - Extensive information
 - Provide info to legislature, employment possibilities
 - Mr. Cary – Dealt with foreign students in degree plans and didn't think they really had a comprehensive grasp of what they need at Rose State
 - Academic Advising
 - Three SAB members thought that many students probably don't really have a good idea of the potential debt at enrollment
 - Information is out there, but its lost in the mass of information
 - Ms. Hunt will discuss with college presidents
- Presidential Vacancies
 - SB 1526 (Sen. Wilson) – directs the State Regents to create rules for universities and colleges to establish a uniform process to fill presidential vacancies

Currently, there are no concealed-carry-on-campus bills. Major themes going into Higher Education Day should include appropriations as the highest priority, the tenure bill, concealed carry, and tuition setting authority.

Members of the Board discussed which schools will be sending delegations to Higher Education Day at the State Capitol.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Mr. Schneider moved to table the minutes of the previous meeting to be considered next month. Mr. Saluke seconded.

Update from the Faculty Advisory Council, Dr. Luis Montes.

Dr. Montes, currently chairs the FAC and is the past president of the UCO faculty senate. He mentioned that it is customary for the FAC to meet with the SAB to discuss issues of common

interest. He discussed the survey distributed to faculty in the Oklahoma Higher State System of Higher Education. The results of the survey helped develop the Faculty Advisory Council's Work Plan. The following topics will be on the Faculty Advisory Council's work plan for the calendar year:

- Common Core curriculum (supported by Governor Fallin and Secretary of Education Hudecki) and college readiness of students
- Preparation of transfer students
- Promoting voice of higher education in the legislature
- Technology centers
- Distance and online education
- Recruitment and retention of faculty
- Health insurance issues and retirement benefits & their effect on faculty recruitment
- Tuition and tuition setting authority, with the FAC traditionally opposing shifting authority to the state legislature
- Limit retakes of classes
- Adjunct faculty
- Faculty evaluation

Ms. Gomez commented on a problem that she has encountered in which professors are teaching old methods and are not conforming to newer, more effective methods. She believes older professors may benefit from refreshers to keep them current in their field of study. Academic freedom to instruct is a barrier to improving instruction standards.

The Board discussed the possibility of Provosts or Academic Vice Presidents taking the charge on this issue. These academic leaders should emphasize teaching outcomes to the faculty.

Update on Oklahoma Student Government Association

Vice President Matt Sitton informed the Board about Spring Congress set to take place at Oklahoma City University. During their meeting, the OSGA Board of Directors was planning for the conference and conducting some housekeeping activities.

Update on COSA planning for 2012 Student Leadership Retreat

The tentative dates for the Retreat are October 4-5. Locations for the Retreat include Embassy Suites, Norman; Sheraton Reed Center, Midwest City; and Crowne Plaza, Oklahoma City. This year's theme will be civil engagement.

Discussion of Campus Visits and Research Topics

Mr. Saluke visited Western Oklahoma College. He indicated that one of the campus' main issues is returning veterans. He presented the current issues in higher education to student leaders, and he spoke briefly with leaders about unique campus issues. However, leaders indicated that there are not very many issues.

Mr. Cary has scheduled a meeting with the UCO Student Body President.

Ms. Gomez rescheduled her visit to Oklahoma Baptist University.

Chairman Sichterman updated the Board on the tobacco issues on the University of Oklahoma campus. A proposal including a total tobacco ban with two designated smoking areas was forwarded to the Board of Regents for the University of Oklahoma.

Chairman Sichterman asked the SAB members to begin thinking about ideas for recommendations to the State Regents. Members mentioned that they are thinking about the following areas: tuition setting authority, tenure, faculty development, state education standards, and veterans' affairs.

New Business

There was no new business.

Determination of Agenda for Next Meeting & Adjournment

The Council on Student Affairs will be meeting on February 9, at the State Regents' office. The next SAB meeting will be on Sunday, February 26, 2012, at the Nigh University Center on the University of Central Oklahoma campus. The Board adjourned at 2:53 PM.