

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL ON STUDENT AFFAIRS
Regents' Conference Room
655 Research Parkway

Joshua Busby, Chair, Presiding
November 10, 2022
10:00 a.m.

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introductions – Joshua Busby

The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m.

2. Approval of October 13, 2022 Minutes – Joshua Busby

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes were approved as written.

INFORMATION OF INTEREST TO THE COUNCIL

3. Legislative Update – Joel Dean, Government Relations and Workforce Development Coordinator, OSRHE

Joel said the balance has not really changed in the Oklahoma legislature. The Republicans picked up one seat in the House after the election last Tuesday. He said there are 16 freshman House members and eight freshmen Senate members this year. Chancellor Garrett and Dr. Jarrett Jobe have met with a few of them already and will meet the remaining incoming freshmen soon. The following legislative tours have been scheduled:

January 10, 2023 – Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Weatherford

January 12, 2023 – Pete's Place, Krebs

January 17, 2023 – OSU Oklahoma City

January 20, 2023 – Northeastern State University, Muskogee Campus

January 23, 2023 – Tulsa Community College, Tulsa

February 3, 2023 – University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond

Joel said a good deal of federal higher education legislation has stalled in one chamber or the other and that more will be known as soon as runoffs for the House and Senate are decided. He also mentioned bill filing will open for the Oklahoma legislature with language requests due mid-December and bills will be due mid-January.

4. Oklahoma Inclusive Post-Secondary Education Alliance – Julie Lackey, Director, Oklahoma Inclusive Post-Secondary Education Alliance

Julie explained the Oklahoma Inclusive Post-Secondary Education Alliance (OKIPSE) is a partnership with the Oklahoma Rehabilitation Services, State Department of Education, Special Education Services and Sooner SUCCESS to support inclusive post-secondary education programs in Oklahoma for adult students with intellectual or developmental disabilities. She said outcome and quality of life is directly related to these students being able to participate in post-secondary education. All students should have the opportunity to achieve higher education and

participate fully in campus life. Julie mentioned that national statistics show about 35% of students on an Individualized Education Program (IEP) that have intellectual developmental disability, graduate high school and go directly into the workforce are able to have any employment. Data collected over the last 15 years now shows 64% and above of students that complete an inclusive post-secondary education program are able to be employed competitively and earn a wage that pays their bills and gives a career-type job to help them progress in life.

Julie mentioned the four institutions participating in OKIPSE Alliance are Northeastern State University RiverHawks Scholars Program, Oklahoma University Sooner Works, Oklahoma State University Opportunity Orange Scholars and University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma's Neill-Wint Center for Neurodiversity. Students with intellectual developmental disabilities who complete their program at NSU, OU or OSU graduate with a certificate. They are not earning a college degree. USAO's program is for degree-seeking students on the autism spectrum. All of the programs help provide support in pillars of independence, social engagement, academics and career development.

Julie said the OKIPSE Alliance would like to expand to other universities, technology centers and community colleges as well, and the goal is braided funding to support students to include Comprehensive Transition Program designation, Department of Rehabilitation Services/Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Human Services/Department of Developmental Services, private and public scholarships and private pay. The Alliance helps with recruitment. She mentioned they will hold the 2023 Summit for the OKIPSE programs and three Texas comprehensive transition programs will be invited to the summit to share information. Julie also mentioned the Transition and Postsecondary Programs for Students with Intellectual Disability (TPSID) grant through the United States Department of Education will be available in 2025.

Julie said OKIPSE is seeking accreditation, which has been a process for over 10 years. The final report has been presented, and pilot sites are piloting the accreditation process. A partnership with Central Oklahoma's Workforce Innovation Board will begin soon. Students will be supported in off-campus employment while they are in the program and also one year after they graduate college.

Bryce Fair (OSRHE) asked if these are residential programs. Julie said they are all residential. Bryce asked about expanding the program to institutions as a commuter program. She said they are currently looking into this with Oklahoma City Community College and Tulsa Technology Center.

Lindsay Echols (OSRHE) asked Julie to share how the application process has grown. Julie said NSU RiverHawks Scholar Program received eight applications and began with five students in 2018. She said some programs receive over 60 applications and will accept six to 10 students. Julie said nationally 10-12 applications are received for each opening. Jerrid Freeman (NSU) said one interesting element of the program is how it has impacted many NSU students on campus. Jerrid said students have opened their eyes to the RiverHawks Scholars. Students are much more engaged than he originally thought and feels this is an added bonus of the program. Julie ended her presentation with photo of three NSU RiverHawks Scholars who completed the program in 2022.

5. Budget Update – Mark Tygret, Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance, OSRHE

Mark gave a quick update of the state revenue situation. He said there have been all kinds of financial challenges over the last many years. He mentioned the first quarter revenue is up about 30 percent above the estimate. He also said the reserve is well over \$3 billion. Mark said the original budget request was \$873,405,911. A supplemental request of \$7,500,000 was approved to fund the National Guard Scholarship and other scholarships. The FY 2023 base appropriation (as adjusted) amount approved was \$880,905,911.

Mark also gave an overview of each section of the FY 2024 budget need for the total amount of \$985,997.882, which is 11.9% above FY 2023.

6. Campus Hunger-Free Act Pilot Program – Lindsay Echols, Executive Director of Campus Compact and Director of Student Affairs and Diversity, OSRHE

Lindsay said the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Campus Hunger-Free Act pilot program is in the process of being finalized. She said there is still time for institutions to participate in this pilot program. Lindsay gave a brief overview of the requirements. She said the Regents received \$200 thousand of which \$40 thousand must be utilized for staffing, leaving \$160 thousand for matching grant funds. She is hoping these funds will be awarded at the beginning of 2023.

7. Oklahoma Campus Compact Restructuring – Lindsay Echols, Executive Director of Campus Compact and Director of Student Affairs and Diversity, OSRHE

Lindsay advised the council that the national entity of Campus Compact is restructuring. There will now be nine state and regional affiliates. All state and affiliate offices will be eliminated within two years. Lindsay said the only national initiative Oklahoma utilizes is Newman Civic Fellows. A consortium is currently working on creating a service-learning, civic-engaged entity specifically for Oklahoma. Lindsay announced Mariaa Shevchenko, a Tulsa Community College student, has been named the 2022-23 Newman Civic Fellow and will receive a \$500 stipend from OSRHE.

Lindsay explained that approximately 12% of Campus Compact dues stay in Oklahoma. The remainder goes to the national office. She said the restructuring will be more beneficial to Oklahoma students. Lindsay said the voter registration drive was not held this year and the main reason was minimal participation in students actually voting. She asked the council to let her know if they are interested in being a part of the restructuring strategic plan.

8. COSA Programing for Staff/Students – Lindsay Echols, Executive Director of Campus Compact and Director of Student Affairs and Diversity, OSRHE

Lindsay said she has received great feedback from the Student Leadership Retreat. She asked the council to tell her their ideas for future SLR, Leadership Academy, etc. Joshua Busby (LU) said he would like to combine the Leadership Academy (LA) with the Mentoring Initiative (MI) and hold this every year. He said this will allow COSA members to continue to be engaged every year. He also mentioned employee turnover at Langston and said one LA fellow from his

institution did not complete the program due to moving to Texas. Joshua also mentioned starting a student program as a way of building the Student Affairs field and the council as a whole. Lindsay said she had a couple of students that attended the SLR ask what they can do now to help them go into the Student Affairs field. She mentioned creating a Leadership Academy for undergraduate students. This would be a way for students to see all the branches of the Student Affairs field. Stephanie Beauchamp (OSHRE) said there may be an interest for a Leadership Academy for Academic Affairs and would be happy to serve on a planning committee. Calleb Mosburg (NWOSU) agreed that combining the LA and MI would be a great idea. He also mentioned having an advanced leadership program for students. Calleb said NWOSU elects faculty members each year to serve in a semi-formal leadership role to develop them for further leadership opportunities. Calleb would also be happy to serve on a planning committee. Doug Hallenbeck (OSU) said he likes having a separate program for undergraduate students as a way to increase the Student Affairs field. Tyler Owens (OSGA President) said, as an undergraduate student, that leadership in higher education is of interest and recently changed majors to Organizational Leadership. Tyler said this type of program would bode a lot of success. Adam Johnson (SWOSU) said some professionals did not go into Student Affairs fully intentional in terms of the path they chose. He said it would be nice to inject some intentionality and strategic focus in terms of “growing our own” and exposing students to these pathways.

Kristen Partridge said OU is starting an eight-week student affairs leadership class. She asked if other institutions have a leadership classes focused on student affairs at the undergraduate level for course credit. Joshua (LU) mentioned the survey put out a few years ago listing institutions that offer masters programs in education. He said this document would be a great start to know which institutions offer a graduate level program. He mentioned a class Dr. Ed Cunliff offers at the University of Central Oklahoma.

Leslie Cothren (CU) said what she loves about the Regents is the connection vice presidents have with one another. She said the SLR was fabulous in connecting the Student Government Association presidents. She said a simple email list of who everyone is at every institution would be very helpful. She would like to get lower-level, entry-level coordinators engaged.

Joshua asked the council to reach out to Lindsay if they would like to serve on this committee.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

9. State Regents' Update – Bryce Fair, Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Student Affairs, OSRHE

Bryce introduced himself and mentioned Chancellor Garrett announced Dr. Robert Placido will start his role as Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Student Affairs on December 5, 2022.

Bryce emphasized the National Guard Scholarship funding for the fall semester was a little under \$4 million. These funds will be asked for as early as possible in the upcoming legislative session. The original FY 2023 request was \$9 million to cover the full first year and will increase to a \$12 million request for FY 2024. He said participation rates are expected to increase next fall once the information has been disseminated.

Bryce said the Regents approved the \$67 million funding request for Oklahoma's Promise last month. This request will be presented to the Board of Equalization (BOE) on December 29, 2022. He expects approximately 1,000 more students to enroll in the program from the 2023 graduating class. Bryce said there have been three adjustments to the income limit over the last five years. The program now allows income of \$60,000 to \$80,000 depending on the number of dependent children, and the application time period has also been extended through the 11th grade.

Bryce mentioned a unique request will be to ask the BOE to set a framework for institutions to look at their mandatory fees with the possibility of consolidating up to 20 percent of mandatory fees into tuition. This would allow the scholarship to cover more of a student's cost and is possible due to a large reserve fund. The decision will ultimately be made by the State Regents at the June 2023 meeting.

Joshua asked the council if they have financial aid under their responsibilities. The following institutions indicated yes: UCO, SWOSU, WOSC, OSUIT, USAO, CU, RSC and NEO.

10. Announcements – Joshua Busby

Stephanie Beauchamp (OSRHE) reminded the council of the Oklahoma Women in Higher Education conference at UCO on Friday, November 18th. Stephanie mentioned this conference is not just for women. Men are welcome to attend. She said the OWHE Executive Board will host a reception to honor Dr. Debbie Blanke's retirement at the conclusion of the conference in the Heritage Room. Stephanie asked anyone planning to attend to please RSVP so they can get an accurate headcount. Debbie Myrick will email the link to the council.

Tyler (OSGA President) reminded the council that Fall Congress will be held this weekend at University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma in Chickasha and registrations are still being accepted. Tyler also mentioned there are three vacancies on the OSGA state board of directors and asked the council to email president@osga.org if they have students interested in serving.

Joshua told the council the Oklahoma College Student Personnel Association (OCSPA) planning committee met yesterday to discuss reactivating this organization. He said it is not a COSA-specific organization but should be supported by COSA. Joshua mentioned past conferences and cancellations due to the pandemic. Kristen Partridge (OU) said Nicole Doherty at UCO may be able to help as she was active in this organization in the past.

Joshua said the December 8th COSA meeting will possibly be held at OU Health Sciences Center. Kristen Partridge (OU) will confirm the meeting room later today. The council will go to a restaurant for a holiday lunch after the meeting.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Upcoming Events of Interest to the Council

November 14-18, 2022, Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training, Moore Norman Tech Center, South Penn Campus, Oklahoma City

November 18, 2022 – 2022 Oklahoma Women of Higher Education Fall Conference, University of Central Oklahoma, Nigh University Center, Edmond

December 2, 2022 – Cultural Response Convening Hidden Populations - Zoom