SAB and FAC Resolution EMPLOYMENT TAX PROPOSAL

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Higher Education system continues to develop high quality students who are nationally sought after by companies within the Technology and Bio-Research industries; and,

WHEREAS, the Bio-Research and Technology industries are mobile and can not be trapped by resources and large capital commitments such as in manufacturing; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Brad Henry initiated the Economic Development Generating Excellence (EDGE) project that targets the Technology and Bio-Research industries as a growth industry to turn Oklahoma into the "Research Capital of the Plains;" and,

WHEREAS, there is a constant trend for Oklahoma graduates to seek employment within these industries outside of the state; and,

WHEREAS, the starting salary for an Oklahoma graduate within these industries is about one and a half times the average for all majors making them far and away the highest paying jobs; and,

WHEREAS, the Student Advisory Board has developed a tax incentive program for the stimulus of industry as well as the retention of Oklahoma graduates within the state.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED by the Student Advisory Board and the Faculty Advisory Council to the Oklahoma State Board of Regents for Higher Education:

THAT, the Governor, State Legislature, State Regents, Chancellor, and the Department of Commerce pursue the development and the implementation of a corporate tax incentive for the placement of Oklahoma graduates in the Technology and Bio- Research industries.

THAT, this incentive be used to attract these industries to the state working hand in hand with the EDGE program.

THAT, the incentive should be revenue neutral to the state and not overlap the incentives that exist under the "Quality Jobs Act."

THAT, the incentive should be for Oklahoma Higher Education graduates within the last twelve months earning a minimum of \$2500 gross pay per month in order to encourage high paying, high quality jobs.

Jessica Woollard, Chairman Student Advisory Board Frank Lawler, Chairman Faculty Advisory Council

Verified by the President of OSGA, 2004-2005

Clay Pope