

**MEETING OF THE COUNCIL ON STUDENT AFFAIRS**  
**Regents' Conference Room**  
**655 Research Parkway, Suite 200**

**Dr. Douglas Hallenbeck, Vice Chair, Presiding**  
**Via Zoom Video**  
**April 8, 2021**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**MINUTES**

**1. Welcome and Introductions** – Douglas Hallenbeck

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

**2. Approval of March 14, 2021 Minutes** – Douglas Hallenbeck

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

**INFORMATION OF INTEREST TO THE COUNCIL**

**3. The Important Work of Keeping Guns off Campus** – Andy Pelosi, Director, Campaign to Keep Guns off Campus

Andy advised the council that The Campaign to Keep Guns off Campus was founded in 2008 and works with colleges and universities across the country to oppose legislative policies that would force loaded, concealed guns on campuses. There are 420 colleges and universities in 42 states in this coalition. Since 2008, at least 40 states have introduced guns on campus bills. He said the college age years can be amongst the most volatile in a person's life for abusing alcohol and drugs, attempting suicide and experiencing mental health problems. It is more likely that these life situations can result in a serious injury or death if guns are present on campus. Andy spoke about Oklahoma being the sixth highest rate in 2019 in firearm suicide in the country. He also mentioned Oklahoma campus crime is very low according to Clery Act data from 2001-2018.

Oklahoma Senate Bill 733 permits any person with a valid handgun license to carry a firearm into or upon any public college, public university or public technology center school property, or building in which the person is authorized to be. No entity may deny a person with a valid handgun license who is duly authorized to be in or at the facility unless evidence is shown that the licensee has previously been involved in a violent incident. Universities may deny persons without a valid handgun license from carrying a concealed firearm into any event venue where a ticket is purchased of monetary value. The measure provides immunity to civil liability arising from any accidental or self-defense act involving a firearm to universities and technology centers. The provisions of the measure do not apply to private entities.

Andy also mentioned their sister website Armed Campuses <https://www.armedcampuses.org/> as another resource for parents, students, policymakers and the press. This website shows states where concealed guns on campus are permitted by law.

**4. Legislative Update** – LeeAnna McNally, Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

LeeAnna gave brief update of current higher education legislation.

Douglas Hallenbeck (OSU) asked who determines if a course is not relevant to a student's degree under SJR15? LeeAnna said it is unclear, but Senator Standridge is open to suggestions from higher education. She mentioned further discussion about specifics related to these courses will need to take place before the next legislative session.

Doug also asked if COSA should prepare a resolution against guns on campus. LeeAnna said it might be best to wait until next session.

Zeak Naifeh (CU) asked if a list of bills that may be brought up in the next session could be compiled so COSA could start preparing responses prior to the legislative session starting. LeeAnna will check with Debbie Blanke.

## **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

**5. COSA Opposition to Changing Current Law Pertaining to Weapons on Higher Education and Technology Center Campuses Resolution** – Douglas Hallenbeck

Doug advised the council that creating a resolution will be put on hold until the next legislative session at the advice of LeeAnna McNally. COSA may revisit this in September.

**6. New Guidance on Title IX Policy** – Douglas Hallenbeck

Doug asked the council for speaker suggestions on Title IX policy new guidance under the Biden administration. Liz McCraw (SEOSU) suggested Mike Davis from SEOSU. Debbie Myrick (OSRHE) reminded the council there is not a May meeting and that Ina Agnew (OSUIT) has asked Brandy Hancock from OSU to present at the June meeting on this subject. Doug and Liz both said Mike and Brandy may want to work together to offer more insight from different student populations.

**7. Affinity Groups with Leadership Academy Facilitators** – Lindsay Echols

Lindsay reached out via email to past Leadership Academy alumni to inquire of their interest in participating as a facilitator in the new Affinity Groups. She said she received a significant amount of email replies indicating some alumni were no longer employed at their institution. Lindsay will update the list and try to locate any alumni that may be employed at a different institution. Lindsay asked for the council to let her know of any staff member they might recommend for this group.

## **8. Roundtable on Mental Health Issues – Liz McCraw**

Liz reminded the council of the roundtable meeting occurring at the conclusion of today's COSA meeting. This meeting will be to discuss how to support both staff and students with the transition back to campus life.

## **9. State Regents' Update – Debbie Blanke**

- The Presidents Council created a Google Doc for COVID updates. The link will be emailed to the council.
- The budget outlook is still positive, a flat budget with some one-time funds for special projects.
- The State Regents meeting is scheduled for April 15, 2021.
- Regent White will leave the board in May. Debbie Blanke asked the council to submit the Literacy Survey she emailed to the council as soon as possible.

## **10. Announcements – Douglas Hallenbeck**

- Amy Ayres (OCU) inquired if institutions will require COVID vaccinations in the fall. Doug Hallenbeck (OSU) said they are 98% certain vaccinations will not be required. He mentioned current vaccination policies in the state and religious and/or moral reasons. Christopher Lynch (UCO) said he is fairly confident they will not require vaccinations. Liz McCraw (SEOSU) said she does not anticipate requiring vaccinations. They plan to set aside some floors in the residence halls for students to opt in if they want to live with other fully vaccinated students. Jerrett Phillips (CU) said at this point they are not requiring vaccinations. Joshua Busby (LU) said they have a vaccination pod scheduled and are encouraging students to consider getting vaccinated but not requiring it.
- Kristen Partridge (OU) will chair the 2021 Student Leadership Retreat Planning Committee. Liz McCraw (SEOSU), Lance Newbold (RSC) and Jerrett Phillips (CU) volunteered to serve on the planning committee. Additional volunteers are requested.
- No May COSA meeting.
- Future meeting topic - How do we utilize analytics? Please let Debbie Blanke know if you have a speaker in mind for this topic.
- Doug asked the council to review the work plan.
- Zeak Naifeh (CU) asked if there is a tentative date for the OSRHE building to reopen. Debbie Blanke reminded the council that the landlord has not indicated when the building will reopen to the public. She said we should plan for virtual and in-person meeting options and that the capacity of our conference rooms will be reduced to allow social distancing. She mentioned institutions in close proximity to OSRHE could host as an option to meet in person. A motion was made for the council to meet in person at the June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting with Zoom as an option as well. The motion was seconded and passed. Rose State College, University of Central Oklahoma and University of Oklahoma were volunteered as hosting sites for this meeting. OSRHE staff will make these arrangements.

## **11. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

### **Upcoming Events of Interest to the Council**

- The Office of College and Career Readiness Webinars every third Thursday of each month starting January 21, 2021 and ending June 17, 2021.  
<https://www.okedge.com/educators/professional-development/>
- April 16, 2021 - Reach Higher virtual reception
- November 1, 2021 - 2021 Campus Safety & Security Summit, Reed Center, Midwest City