

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION 2022 - 2023



Front row, left to right: Jack Sherry, Assistant Secretary; Steven W. Taylor, Vice Chair; Michael C. Turpen, Chair; Allison D. Garrett, Chancellor; Dennis Casey, Secretary.

Back row, left to right: Ann Holloway, Dustin J. Hilliary, Joseph L. Parker, Jr., Courtney Warmington and Jeffrey W. Hickman



REGENTS EDUCATION PROGRAM ANNUAL CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 14, 2022
PHF CONFERENCE CENTER





**Chairman
Michael C. Turpen**

Michael C. Turpen was appointed as an Oklahoma State Regent by Governor Brad Henry in May 2009, and reappointed by Governor Mary Fallin for a second nine-year term ending in May 2027.

Regent Turpen was born in Tulsa, educated in Tulsa Public Schools and graduated from The University of Tulsa, earning a bachelor of science degree and a juris doctor degree. In 1982, Regent Turpen was elected Attorney General for the State of Oklahoma. He served as Muskogee County District Attorney from 1977 to 1982. Regent Turpen is a partner in the law firm of Riggs, Abney, Neal, Turpen, Orbison & Lewis in Oklahoma City.

While no longer serving in public office, Regent Turpen remains politically active. He appears weekly on Oklahoma City NBC affiliate KFOR's award-winning public affairs show, "Flashpoint".

Regent Turpen is a nationally sought after public speaker, having keynoted conferences of the National Association of Attorneys General, the Fourth Federal Judicial Circuit and the National Family and Juvenile Judges' Association.

In 2017, Regent and Mrs. Turpen received the Jasmine Moran Award for Outstanding Community Service. In 2010, he was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, the highest honor an Oklahoman can receive from the state.



**Chancellor
Allison D. Garrett**

Chancellor Allison D. Garrett is the chief executive officer for the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education. Garrett leads a state system comprised of 25 state colleges and universities, 11 constituent agencies, one university center, and independent colleges and universities coordinated with the state system. She took office as chancellor of the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education on Nov. 8, 2021. She is the first woman to hold the position of chancellor.

Chancellor Garrett has a wealth of experience in both higher education and the corporate sector. Prior to her role as chancellor, she served in senior leadership roles at universities in three states, including as president, executive vice president and senior vice president for academic affairs.

Chancellor Garrett also worked for more than a decade at the Walmart Inc. corporate offices, holding the positions of vice president and general counsel for the corporate division and vice president of benefits compliance and planning. Upon graduation from law school, she went into private practice before taking a position with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

A native of Neosho, MO, Chancellor Garrett holds a bachelor's degree in English from Oklahoma Christian University, a juris doctorate from The University of Tulsa College of Law and a Master of Laws in securities regulation from Georgetown University.



Dr. William E. "Brit" Kirwan

Dr. William E. "Brit" Kirwan is chancellor emeritus of the University System of Maryland (USM). He is a nationally recognized authority on critical issues facing higher education. He served as chancellor of USM, president of Ohio State University and president of the University of Maryland, College Park. Dr. Kirwan is past chair of the American Council for Higher Education, the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities, and the National Research Council Board on Higher Education and Workforce. He received his bachelor's degree in mathematics from the University of Kentucky and his master's and doctoral degrees in mathematics from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, in 1962 and 1964 respectively.

The Honorable Charles McCall

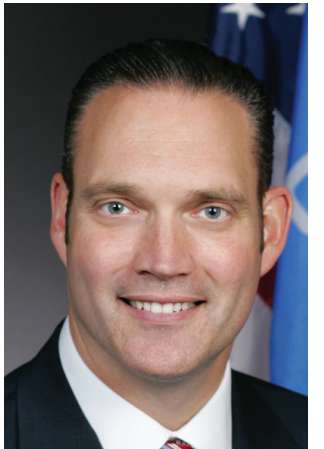
The Honorable Charles McCall is Oklahoma's longest-serving Republican Speaker of the House of Representatives. Speaker McCall represents House District 22 and was elected speaker in 2016. Speaker McCall has always balanced public service with his private sector role as CEO and Board Chairman of AmeriState Bank in Atoka, a fourth-generation family bank. Prior to his election to the House of Representatives, Speaker McCall served as mayor of Atoka after previous tenures as chairman of the Atoka City Industrial Development Authority, chairman of the Lake Atoka Reservation Association and vice chairman of the McGee Creek Authority. McCall holds a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Oklahoma and completed the Graduate School of Banking at the University of Colorado in Boulder.

The Honorable Adam Pugh

The Honorable Adam Pugh represents Senate District 41, covering Edmond and NE Oklahoma City. Senator Pugh currently serves as chairman of the Senate Education Committee and is the chair and founder of the Oklahoma Aerospace and Aviation Caucus. He is CEO of AP Jetworks, an aerospace and defense company. Senator Pugh is a former U.S. Air Force officer, serving nearly eight years as an electronic combat officer. After the Air Force, he went to work for Boeing Aerospace, doing instructional systems design. Before launching AP Jetworks, Senator Pugh was vice president of an engineering and logistics company specializing in military aviation and rotary-wing aircraft support. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh, a master's degree in International Relations & National Security from Troy University, and an MBA from the University of Oklahoma.

The Honorable Roger Thompson

The Honorable Roger Thompson represents Senate District 8, which is comprised of Okmulgee and McIntosh counties as well as portions of Okfuskee and Muskogee counties. Senator Thompson is the chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee and co-chair of the Joint Committee on Pandemic Relief Funding. In addition, Senator Thompson serves as co-chair of the Legislative Office of Fiscal Transparency (LOFT) oversight committee. Senator Thompson graduated from the Preston Road School of Preaching in Texas, then attended Southwestern Bible College and Seminary where he received his master's and a doctorate in theology. Senator Thompson is president of the News Leader Company, Inc., which owns and publishes the Okemah News Leader.



FEATURED SPEAKERS



Niki Batt

Niki Batt is a Deputy Attorney General and director of the Attorney General's Legal Counsel Division. Prior to working for the Oklahoma Office of the Attorney General, Batt spent more than six years practicing law in all phases of insurance defense and medical malpractice defense litigation. Batt is a member of the Oklahoma Bar Association. She is also admitted to the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern, Northern, and Western Districts of Oklahoma, the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. She holds a bachelor's degree from Oklahoma State University. She earned her juris doctorate from the University of Oklahoma College of Law.



Dr. Robert Dauffenbach

Dr. Robert Dauffenbach is professor emeritus of entrepreneurship at the Tom Love Division of Entrepreneurship and Economic Development at the University of Oklahoma. Dr. Dauffenbach earned a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in economics from Wichita State University and his doctorate in economics from the University of Illinois. Dr. Dauffenbach was a professor for 13 years at Oklahoma State University, then served as the director of the Center for Economic and Management Research at the University of Oklahoma. In 2002, he became the associate dean for Research and Graduate Programs at the Michael F. Price College of Business and in 2014 was named the senior associate dean for Economic Development and Impact.



Whitney Herzog Scimeca

Whitney Herzog Scimeca is an assistant attorney general. She provides legal services to nine higher education institutions through a contract with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. Prior to joining the Attorney General's Office, Herzog Scimeca worked as an assistant district attorney for District 23 in the Child Support Services Division. She graduated from Oklahoma State University with a bachelor's degree and a juris doctorate degree from Oklahoma City University School of Law. She is licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania and Oklahoma, as well as the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern, Northern and Western Districts of Oklahoma, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit.



Ashley Kemp

Ashley Kemp currently serves as executive director of the Oklahoma Ethics Commission, unanimously appointed to the position by the Commission after her service as deputy director for the Commission. Kemp came to the Commission following her tenure as general counsel to the Oklahoma House of Representatives. In 2017, Kemp was nominated and appointed to a four-year term on the Steering Committee for Council on Governmental Ethics Laws. Kemp served as legal counsel to the Oklahoma Health Care Authority and the Oklahoma Tax Commission. She earned a juris doctorate degree from the University of Oklahoma College of Law and obtained her bachelor's degree from Northwestern Oklahoma State University.

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Regent Steven W. Taylor

Steven W. Taylor was appointed as a State Regent by Governor Kevin Stitt in May 2019, serving a nine-year term ending in 2028. Regent Taylor is a retired Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court and a former mayor of McAlester. Taylor served as the presiding judge in the state trial of the Oklahoma City bombing. Regent Taylor was born in Henryetta, and attended McAlester High School where he served as the student body president and as a member of the speech and debate team. He earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Oklahoma State University in Stillwater and a juris doctor degree from the University of Oklahoma College of Law. While at OSU he was actively involved in student government and the honor society and was a member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity. Regent Taylor served in the U.S. Marine Corps and left with the rank of Major. Governor Brad Henry appointed him to the Oklahoma Supreme Court in September 2004, where he served until his retirement after 33 years of judicial service. During his service he served a term as Chief Justice. In 2009, Justice Taylor was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, the highest honor an Oklahoman can receive from the state.



ABOUT THE REP

American higher education has thrived under the unique concept of lay governance. If that tradition is to continue, qualified men and women must be selected to serve as regents, and they must also be educated to govern in situations of increased complexity and accelerating change.

A series of legislation was passed in Oklahoma during the late 1980s to improve Oklahoma higher education and increase its accountability. That activity was capped by the passage of bills in 1990 calling for a Regents Education Program. The purpose of the program is to educate Oklahoma regents and trustees about the nature of their responsibilities and the seriousness with which they should be undertaken.

Under the laws enacted in Oklahoma (70 O.S. Supp. 1990, Sections 3228 and 3228.1), all regents and trustees appointed to Oklahoma's higher education boards after January 1, 1991, must take 15 clock hours of continuing education, two hours of which must be ethics, within the first two years of their term.

Program costs are borne primarily by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and supplemented by residual grant funds from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation approved for this purpose and registration fees. The budgets of governing boards cover the travel costs of board members, and institutions cover travel costs for their staff.

SESSIONS

- 7:30 a.m. Registration**
- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast**
- 8:15 a.m. Welcome**
The Honorable Steven W. Taylor, Chief Justice, Oklahoma Supreme Court (ret.), and Vice Chair, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
- 8:30 a.m. Why College Matters**
1 credit
Dr. Robert C. Dauffenbach, Professor Emeritus, University of Oklahoma
- 9:15 a.m. Oklahoma Higher Education – Working for Tomorrow’s Workforce**
.5 credit
Chancellor Allison D. Garrett, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
- 9:45 a.m. Consequential Board of Governance: Fundamental Duties and Board Responsibilities**
1 credit
Dr. William E. “Brit” Kirwan, Chancellor Emeritus, University System of Maryland, and Senior Fellow, Association of Governing Boards
- 10:45 a.m. Governance in Challenging Times**
.5 credit
Dr. William E. “Brit” Kirwan, Chancellor Emeritus, University System of Maryland, and Senior Fellow, Association of Governing Boards
- 11:15 a.m. Governing Boards as Advocates: The Guardians Initiative**
5 credit
Dr. William E. “Brit” Kirwan, Chancellor Emeritus, University System of Maryland, and Senior Fellow, Association of Governing Boards

SESSIONS

- 11:45 a.m. Break**
- 12:00 p.m. Luncheon Panel: 2023 Legislative Policy Priorities**
1 credit
Chancellor Allison D. Garrett (Moderator)
The Honorable Charles McCall, Speaker of the House
The Honorable Roger Thompson, Senate Appropriations Committee Chair
The Honorable Adam Pugh, Senate Education Committee Chair
- 1:00 p.m. The Ins and Outs of Oklahoma Ethics Rules**
1 credit
Ms. Ashley Kemp, Executive Director, Oklahoma Ethics Commission
- 2:00 p.m. Open Meetings Act and Open Records Act**
1 credit
Ms. Niki Batt, Deputy Attorney General
- 3:00 p.m. Adjournment**

