

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Research Park, Oklahoma City

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE Wednesday, January 27, 2016

1. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF FILING OF MEETING NOTICE AND POSTING OF THE AGENDA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETING ACT.** The Committee-of-the-Whole met at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 27, 2016, in the Regents Conference Room at the State Regents' offices in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Notice of the meeting was filed with the Secretary of State on November 20, 2015 and amended on January 20, 2016. A copy of the agenda had been posted as required by the Open Meeting Act.
2. **CALL TO ORDER.** Participating in the meeting were Regents Toney Stricklin, Jody Parker, Ann Holloway, Ike Glass, Mike Turpen, and John Massey. Regent Jimmy Harrell joined the meeting at 11:04 a.m. and Regent Helm joined at 11:10 a.m. Regent Stricklin called the meeting to order and presided.
3. **MERCER-HAMMOND.** Ms. Beth Johnson and Mr. Dick Anderson from Mercer-Hammond were present to facilitate a discussion regarding the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's (OSRHE) current investments. Ms. Johnson and Mr. Anderson discussed the current market environment, China's current stock market, debt concerns, current investment returns and recommendations.

They made a recommendation to invest \$6.5 million in Cooper Rock, \$6.5 million in Thompson, Siegal & Walmsley International Small Cap, \$4 million in The Column Group, \$6 million in K3 Private Investors Fund and \$5 million in Rockpointe Real Estate.

4. **TULSA COMMUNITY COLLEGE.** President Leigh Goodson gave a brief update on the EXCErate pilot project at Tulsa Community College (TCC). President Goodson began by stating that the intent of the EXCErate pilot project was to determine if students would be more successful in concurrent enrollment courses if there were different requirements. TCC requested seven exceptions to OSRHE policy to conduct the pilot including broadening admission standards, adding a probationary semester, changing the maximum workload and adding an alternate admissions test.

The pilot is offered in public, private and home schools, TCC's four main campuses, area high schools and off campus sites. Since the project began they have enrolled 1,941 students in 74 school districts, plus 94 home study families and the program is embedded in Tulsa and Union high schools. The African American enrollment increased 256 percent and Hispanic enrollment increased 154 percent. Additionally, President Goodson stated that the pilot project has a three-pronged approach to student success: 1) tutoring, 2) coaching and 3) mentoring.

President Goodson detailed the preliminary findings of the pilot project since its inception in 2010:

- Broadened admissions: Data indicates that lowering the high school GPA to 3.0 and the ACT to 19 for juniors has little impact on student success.
- Probationary semester: Without embedded student support, students do not recover academically during the one-semester probation and it jeopardizes future financial aid eligibility.
- Combined workload: Extracurricular activities in combined workload hours do not greatly impact academic success.

- High school teachers as college instructors: Findings are limited due to the availability of Higher Learning Commission qualified high school teachers.
- Developmental courses: The pilot did not offer developmental courses; students enrolled in college courses only where they had proficiency.
- Sophomore semester pilot: the sophomore semester pilot was offered to a limited number of 10th grade students and the success rates were even more closely tied to high school GPA for these students compared to juniors and seniors.
- Alternative tests for admissions: The PLAN test was used sparingly and by juniors who did not have an available free ACT.

President Goodson stated that TCC will submit a formal report to the State Regents by March 15, 2016 and will recommend moving forward with the successful exceptions.

Mr. Tony Hutchison, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Planning and Analysis and Workforce and Economic Development, stated that this pilot project is a perfect example of what Complete College America represents and is a great foundation for other institutions and states to work from.

Dr. Blake Sonobe, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, stated that this is a tremendous opportunity to find out what works well through trial and error. Dr. Sonobe commended TCC for their innovation and hard work.

5. **EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Regent Massey made a motion, seconded by Regent Helm, to go into executive session for confidential communications between a public body and its attorneys concerning pending investigations, claims, or actions. Voting for the motion were Regents Helm, Parker, Holloway, Glass, Harrel, Turpen, Massey and Stricklin. Voting against the motion were none.

Following executive session discussions, Regents returned to open session.

6. **BUDGET REPORT AND REVENUE UPDATE.** Ms. Amanda Paliotta, Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance, Information Technology, Telecommunications, and OneNet stated that at the December State Board of Equalization meeting, they estimated a \$900 million shortfall for fiscal year 2017. However, Ms. Paliotta stated that does not factor in the rainy day fund accesses and revolving funds from institutions so the shortfall may be larger than predicted.

Additionally, it was announced that there is a current fiscal year revenue failure in general revenue. Mr. Preston Doerflinger, Oklahoma Secretary of Finance, stated that state agencies will receive an allocation reduction of six percent from January through June 2016.

Ms. Paliotta also stated that the State Regents will receive a report at the January State Regents meeting detailing the impact of the allocation reduction to the institutions and what actions they have taken to absorb the reductions.

7. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.** Ms. Hollye Hunt, Associate Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations, gave a brief legislative update. Ms. Hunt reviewed several pieces of legislation:
 - HB 2556 – This bill would consolidate community college boards into one.
 - SB 910 – This bill would require institutional presidents to have a doctorate from an accredited university.
 - SB 1046 – This bill would require Oklahoma’s Promise students to start at a community college and it would also raise the income limit to \$75,000.

Ms. Hunt stated that there are several bills allowing weapons on campus and she will work with the appropriate legislator on those bills. She finished by stating that the list will grow as the session continues.

8. TASK FORCE REPORTS.

- a. **ONLINE EDUCATION TASK FORCE.** Dr. Blake Sonobe, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, updated the Regents on the status of the Online Education Task Force. Dr. Sonobe stated that the three working committees – the Professional Development Committee, the Technology Committee, and the Affordable Resources Committee – recently met and consolidated their data. They will present their findings to the Online Education Task Force at their meeting on January 28, 2016.
- b. **STATE REGENTS SAFETY AND SECURITY TASK FORCE.** Ms. Angela Caddell, Associate Vice Chancellor for Communications, updated the Regents on the status of the Campus Safety and Security Task Force. Ms. Caddell stated that the planning process for the 2016 Campus Safety and Security Summit has begun. It will be held on Monday, November 7, 2016 at the Reed Center in Midwest City and may have upwards of 400 participants. Content areas for the Summit will focus on specialized services for veterans, issues related to drone technology, strengthening lines of campus communication and protocols, technology innovations and student and faculty training.

Additionally, Ms. Caddell stated that the Campus Best Practices workgroup reviewed several campus safety smart phone apps. Ms. Caddell visited with the Council of Presidents in December 2015 and they are interested in a system-wide contract opportunity. The Council elected to form a small task force to evaluate several different vendor options and make a recommendation.

9. “BEST OF HIGHER EDUCATION” REPORT. Regents received the January 2016 update on institutional activities.

10. CALENDAR OF EVENTS. Chancellor Glen Johnson discussed several upcoming events:

- Tuesday, February 16, 2016 – Higher Education Day at the State Capitol – 2:00 p.m. at the State Capitol in Oklahoma City.
- Wednesday, March 2, 2016 – State Regents Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting – 10:30 a.m. at the State Regents office in Oklahoma City.
- Wednesday, March 2, 2016 – State Regents Dinner – 6:00 p.m. – TBA .
- Thursday, March 3, 2016 – State Regents Meeting – 9:00 a.m. at the State Regents office in Oklahoma City.
- Wednesday, April 20, 2016 – State Regents Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting – 10:30 a.m. at the State Regents office in Oklahoma City.
- Wednesday, April 20, 2016 – State Regents Dinner – 6:00 p.m. – Quail Creek Golf and Country Club.
- Thursday, April 21, 2016 – Tuition Hearing – 9:00 a.m. at the State Regents office in Oklahoma City.

- Thursday, April 21, 2016 – State Regents Meeting – 10:00 a.m. at the State Regents office in Oklahoma City.

11. **ADJOURNMENT.** With no other items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:



Toney Stricklin, Chairman



Ron White, Secretary