

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
655 Research Parkway, Oklahoma City

MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE
Thursday, December 9, 2021

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 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 9, 2021 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 22, 2021. 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 Jack Sherry, Courtney Warmington, Jody Parker, Ann Holloway, Dennis Casey, Jeff Hickman, and Steven Taylor. Regent Hickman called the meeting to order. Regent Turpen joined the meeting in progress.
3. **HIGHER EDUCATION DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD.** Chancellor Allison D. Garrett and the State Regents presented Representative Jon Echols, House Majority Floor Leader, with the Higher Education Distinguished Service Award for his support during the 2021 legislative session and thanked him for his service. Representative Echols provided remarks.
4. **STATE SYSTEM INSTITUTIONS.** Northwestern Oklahoma State University President Janet Cunningham and Regent Connie Reilly, Chair of the Regional University System of Oklahoma Board of Regents. Chair Reilly began by providing brief background on the organization and make-up of the Regional University System of Oklahoma Board of Regents, their committees and rotation of serving on the committees, and the layout of their meetings. President Cunningham began by stating that she was grateful for the opportunity to present in front of the State Regents. She provided a brief history of Northwestern Oklahoma State University (NWOSU), discussing community support, and mentioning some of NWOSU's most notable programs such as nursing, agriculture and agriculture education, and teacher education. President Cunningham also highlighted two important partnerships that NWOSU has with local entities and concluded her remarks by mentioning current challenges that the institution faces such as enrollment and deferred maintenance.

Carl Albert State College President Jay Falkner began his remarks by discussing the history and growth of Carl Albert State College (CASC). President Falkner stated that they have had to take hard looks at some of their activities and what programs and activities are assets and what would be most affective, cutting away programs that are not aiding in the development of the institution or the state. He highlighted the faculty sharing program that CASC started with Eastern Oklahoma State College and Connors State College and a collaboration with Northeastern State University for graduate assistantships.

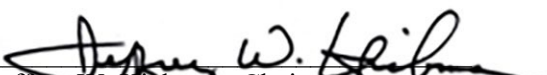
5. **FINANCIAL LITERACY.** Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Dr. Debbie Blanke and Associate Vice Chancellor for Communication Ms. Angela Caddell provided an update on the financial literacy programs at institutions. Dr. Blanke stated that the Council on Student Affairs (COSA) conducted a survey in 2009 and created an initial report addressing how students are informed on financial literacy and that several institutions. She stated that COSA conducted another survey last spring and a couple of institutions had presented to the Board of

Regents individually on what they were doing in regard to financial literacy, but that this new report highlights what each campus is doing. Dr. Blanke stated that over the last two years, over 20,000 students had participated in some form of financial literacy, with the goal of making sure that students are informed consumers. She mentioned that several institutions utilize Oklahoma Money Matters. Ms. Caddell discussed the Oklahoma Money Matters (OKMM) program, noting that it is offered under the auspices of the Oklahoma College Assistance Program. She stated that OKMM uses targeted outreach and strategic partnerships to work with a wide-body of service providers. Ms. Caddell stated that through OKMM, they provide workshops, publications and tools to strengthen budgeting skills, student loan management skills, and general consumer decision-making skills, noting that many of these workshops are part of freshmen orientation. Ms. Caddell highlighted the Ready Set Repay website and the tools and messaging that are provided to students.

6. **ONLINE EDUCATION.** Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Dr. Debbie Blanke and Director of Online Initiatives Brad Griffith provided an update on the Online Consortium of Oklahoma (OCO) and Council for Online Learning Excellence (COLE). Mr. Griffith began by discussing the OCO, noting they have managed to maintain their twenty-five member institutions since the start of the consortium, noting that this does include OSU-IT and OSU-OKC and does not include OSU or OU. He stated that effective 2021, they have exceeded \$11,000 in benefits for each institution that is part of the consortium. He noted that OCO has been a leader in the digital badging pilot for the state system and briefly discussed their review of managed contracts with three proctoring companies. Regarding COLE, Mr. Griffith stated that they have seen a growth from 95 to 115 members that are now on the Council but noted that this growth was natural given the increase in online learning due to the pandemic. He added that they had added two subcommittees to COLE, with one subcommittee dedicated to advanced technologies and how they can be leveraged for the online learning environment, and the other to address student success. Mr. Griffith also provided an update on the recent 2021 OER summit, noting that they look forward to providing more of these summits. Mr. Griffith also discussed a partnership with OneNet regarding a Virtual Reality toolkit and Quality Matters and the benefits of that subscription such as offering licensed workshops. Mr. Griffith concluded by discussing some of the goals of the Online Education Task Force for the spring semester.
7. **BUDGET REPORT AND REVENUE UPDATE.** Interim Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance Sheri Mauck provided State Regents with a budget and revenue update. She began by stating that the report covers the period through October 31, 2021. She stated that for October collections, they were ahead of the estimates by 8 percent. The first four months of the quarter for general revenue are above of the estimates by 13.9 percent, representing \$291.4 million, indicating that advocacy over the next several months is important as it is likely that they will have new money that will be available for allocation. Ms. Mauck added that they had their first budget hearing with the executive branch and that it went very well. She stated that individual income taxes and corporate taxes netted 1.5 percent above the estimate for October, sales tax collections were 20.3 percent above the estimate and gross production for October was 62.6 percent above the estimate. She said through October 31st, institutions have reported spending \$371.6 million of Federal CARES money, 49.9 percent for student grants scholarships and 29.9 percent for reimbursements. Ms. Mauck concluded by stating that the Endowed Chairs Bond did close on November 18, 2021 and that the money is in the bank and that they are working through the Investment Committee on recommendations and that the true interest cost was 2.59 percent. She closed by stating that the Board of Equalization will have a meeting on December 27 which will be the first look at what the FY23 projections will be.

8. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.** Vice Chancellor for Administration Ms. Kylie Smith provided a brief legislative update. She noted that December 10 is the deadline in both the House and Senate to request bill drafting and the deadline for introducing bills is January 20, 2022 and the second regular session of the 58th Oklahoma Legislature convenes on Monday, February 7, 2022. She noted that they have already begun the process of tracking what bills are out regarding teacher education, providing additional assistance for National Guard members, concurrent enrollment, workforce development, and legislation regarding vaccines and weapons on campus. Ms. Smith stated that in regard to the Joint Committee on Pandemic Relief Funding, the Council of Presidents Task Force on this issue had established six subcommittees to develop system-wide proposals in the areas of nursing and allied health, workforce development, teacher education, online education, campus infrastructure, and broadband. She stated that over the next several weeks, OSRHE staff will work with these subcommittees to develop these comprehensive system-wide proposals for submission to the Joint Committee and that they have already made members of the Joint Committee aware that these proposals will be coming.
9. **TASK FORCE REPORTS.**
 - a. **Online Education Task Force.**
 - b. **State Regents Campus Safety and Security Task Force.** Associate Vice Chancellor for Communications Angela Caddell discussed the Campus Safety and Security Summit that was held virtually in November. She stated that overall participation was excellent and that they were able to offer thirteen workshops over two and a half weeks and had attendees not only from public institutions but also from six private institutions and thirteen technology centers. She noted that the summit was CLEET accredited for up to nineteen and a half hours of mandatory continuing education credit for campus law enforcement personnel. She stated that they have issued a survey to participants to get their perspective on the virtual approach and to see what other topics would be helpful. Ms. Caddell concluded by thanking their summit partners and stating that the Task Force's next goal for 2022 is to work with their partners at Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services to schedule another custom offering of the Crisis Intervention Training certification program. She stated that the next Task Force meeting will be in February 2022.
10. **"BEST OF HIGHER EDUCATION."** Regents received the December 2021 update on institutional activities via e-mail on December 9, 2021.
11. **CALENDAR OF EVENTS.** The calendar of events was distributed in written form to the Regents.
12. **ADJOURNMENT.** With no other items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:


Jeffrey W. Wickman, Chair


Steven W. Taylor, Secretary