OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

655 Research Parkway, Suite 200 Oklahoma City

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE Thursday, March 22, 2023

- 1. ANNOUNCEMENT OF FILING OF MEETING NOTICE AND POSTING OF THE AGENDA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETING ACT. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education held a special meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at the State Regents offices at 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Notice of the meeting had been filed with the Secretary of State on Wednesday, March 15, 2023. A copy of the agenda for the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Open Meeting Act.
- 2. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chair Michael C. Turpen called the meeting to order and presided. Present for the meeting were State Regents Jack Sherry, Dustin Hilliary, Jody Parker, Ann Holloway, Dennis Casey, Jeff Hickman, Courtney Warmington, Steven Taylor and Michael C. Turpen.
 - 3. STATE SYSTEM INSTITUTIONS. University of Oklahoma (OU) President Joe Harroz provided an update on the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (OUHSC) and OUTulsa. He explained the OUHSC has three primary objectives, including patient care, research, and instruction. He further noted that after a recent restructuring under OU Health, all three missions are on track to succeed and meet the healthcare workforce needs of the state. President Harroz also emphasized that higher education in Tulsa has faced multiple historical challenges, but explained that OU has taken steps to address these challenges in a manner that will benefit the community. To this end, OU has established the new Polytechnic Institute that will focus on addressing the challenges facing Tulsa in high-demand, advanced, and applied technology fields through innovative programs. The Polytechnic Institute will primarily concentrate on years 3 and 4 of education, offering bachelor's degree completion programs, as well as master's and doctoral level programs in critical STEM fields.
- 4. **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.** Todd Pauley, Director of Government Relations for Boeing, and Josh Elleburg, Project Engineer and Chief of Staff to Boeing's Oklahoma City Site Director of Engineering, discussed The Boeing Company's public/private partnership with higher education. He explained that Boeing is a strong supporter of tuition assistance for their employees.
- 5. STRATEGIC PLAN: BLUEPRINT 2030. Chancellor Garrett addressed the pressing nursing challenges facing Oklahoma and higher education's response to them. As part of the strategic planning process, it was noted that more coordination among state system institutions was necessary to address the need for additional nursing graduates. This was due in part to concerns that some qualified students may be denied admission due to capacity constraints. Chancellor Garrett identified multiple challenges contributing to the capacity issues, including relatively low salaries for nursing faculty compared to practicing nurses and limited clinical placement opportunities. In support of Strategy 1G, the Oklahoma Statewide Nursing Pathways Advisory Group was created. Dr. Robert Placido, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, provided an update on the nursing pipeline nationwide. Dr. Stephanie Beauchamp, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, emphasized the importance of forming defined pathways,

partnerships, and addressing administrative barriers to address these challenges in nursing education statewide. She noted the complexities related to the challenges in the statewide nursing programs, including capacity, qualified students, burnout, faculty shortage, and salaries.

(Regents Hilliary and Regent Warmington left the meeting at approximately 2 p.m.)

- 6. **CHATGPT.** Mr. Ricky Steele, Associate Vice Chancellor for IT and Research Information Systems, provided an update on the new articficial intelligence program ChatGPT. This technology was developed by OpenAI and is designed to process and understand information from the user and to generate a response, pulling related information from databases across the web. Dr. Robert Placido, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, explained that this system is a disruption to the way we think about the intrinsic value of the knowledge worker. The prediction is that 80% of jobs will be impacted and 20% will be disrupted. Dr. Placido gave a demonstration of ChatGPT's abilities.
- 7. **BUDGET REPORT AND REVENUE UPDATE.** The budget report and revenue update were presented by Mr. Mark Tygret, Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance. He informed the Regents that the general revenue fund is 21% above last year's June estimate. Additionally, he provided an update on the ARPA funds allocated to the State System institutions. Regent Hickman suggested that the Legislature should revisit funding of the "bond bank" for use by the institutions for high-cost maintenance and emergency repairs.
- 8. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.** Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations Dr. Jarrett Jobe provided an update on legislative activity at the mid-way point of the session.
- 9. **PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**. Mr. Matt Stangl, General Counsel for the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, indicated that an executive session was not needed.
- 10. **"BEST OF HIGHER EDUCATION."** Regents received the March 2023 update on institutional activities via e-mail.
- 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:

Michael C. Turpen, Chair

Dennis Casey, Secretary