

**OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION**  
Research Park, Oklahoma City

MINUTES OF THE  
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE  
Wednesday, December 4, 2013

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 10 a.m. on Wednesday, December 4, 2013, 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 27, 2013. 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, Jay Helm, Jody Parker, Ann Holloway, Ike Glass, Jimmy Harrel and John Massey. Regent Harrel called the meeting to order and presided.
3. **EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Regent Parker made a motion, seconded by Regent Glass, to go into executive session for confidential communications with attorneys concerning pending investigations, claims, or actions, to discuss the employment of the Interim Vice Chancellor for Administration and the annual review of the Chancellor. Voting for the motion were Regents Helm, Parker, Holloway, Glass, Harrel, Massey and Stricklin. Voting against the motion were none.

Following executive session discussions, Regents returned to open session.

4. **BUDGET REPORT.** Ms. Amanda Paliotta, Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance and Vice Chancellor for Information Technology, Telecommunications and OneNet, provided Regents with a brief budget update. Ms. Paliotta distributed several articles about the upcoming year's budget and what priorities may be funded. There is some good news in that Representative Harold Wright thinks higher education is a priority and has endorsed the State Regents budget. However, Governor Fallin is cautious about the budget as the incoming revenue is not meeting expectations. The State Equalization Board meets December 19, 2013 and Ms. Paliotta stated that after that meeting she would have a better idea of what the budget will look like.
5. **OKLAHOMA COLLEGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.** Mr. Rick Edington, Executive Director of the Oklahoma College Assistance Program (OCAP), gave a brief update on the OCAP program. Mr. Edington started by stating that OCAP is a loan guarantee agency and the Oklahoma Student Loan Authority is a state trust that does servicing for up to 50 state and regional banks. Oklahoma student loan players include federal direct student loans, title IV additional servicers and not-for-profit servicers. He also stated that the OCAP portfolio has over \$2 billion in outstanding guarantee volume, with the largest percentage in non-default status and \$400 million in default status. Out of the non-default portfolio, 98% are in loan repayment. Mr. Edington stated that revenue streams are increasing and Oklahoma is now ranked 7<sup>th</sup> among guarantors in the United States. Revenue is used to run OCAP programs and OCAP contributes \$4 million to State Regents initiatives each year. Mr. Edington stated that OCAP supplies education materials on college access, financial literacy, debt management and default prevention and hosts workshops and gateway courses for Federal Family Education Loan Program borrowers.

6. **COMPLETE COLLEGE AMERICA.** Mr. Tony Hutchison, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Planning and Analysis and Workforce and Economic Development, gave a brief update on recent Complete College America (CCA) activities. Several State Regents staff attended the Fall CCA meeting in October 2013 in Salt Lake City. Chancellor Johnson, Dr. Blake Sonobe, Ms. Hollye Hunt, President Janet Cunningham, President Tom McKeon, Superintendent Lindel Fields from the Tri County Technology Center, Representative Harold Wright and Senator John Ford all attended. Mr. Hutchison stated that the meeting focused on the five elements of CCA:
  - a. Performance Funding – Mr. Hutchison stated that this is Oklahoma’s strongest area and has been spoken of as one of the best in the country.
  - b. Corequisite Remediation – This would allow remediation to be built into regular courses, perhaps by adding credit hours to the course so that students would not have to take zero-level courses.
  - c. Full-Time is Fifteen – Mr. Hutchison stated that this type of program would create incentives for students who take 15 credits per semester to graduate on time. Research has shown that more students graduate when they complete 30 or more credits in their first year of college.
  - d. Structured Schedules – This would allow students in the same program of study to take the same courses with the same people and continue through the program together.
  - e. Guided Pathways to Success – Mr. Hutchison stated that with guided pathways, students choose a metamajor where courses can apply toward a number of different specific majors, instead of taking random courses that eventually do not count towards a degree.
7. **REACH HIGHER.** Dr. Debbie Blanke, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, gave a brief update on the Reach Higher program. Dr. Blanke began by stating that Reach Higher is growing and has over 1,000 students currently enrolled for Fall 2013 across the state. The next phase of the program will be to endorse other degree programs and to reach out to business partners to help them understand the value of sending their own students to the program. In an effort to reach out them, State Regents staff have worked to create a video about Reach Higher featuring student testimonials.
8. **SOUTHERN REGIONAL EDUCATION BOARD.** Chancellor Johnson gave a brief update on his recent trip to the Southern Regional Education Board Winter Meeting, stating that some of the highlights from the trip were:
  - a. A spotlight on Oklahoma’s Online Education Task Force;
  - b. The Oklahoma Course Equivalency Project was highlighted as a best practice for seamless course transfer between institutions; and
  - c. Other states were very interested in the Oklahoma’s Promise program and Chancellor Johnson stated that over 19,000 students have received the scholarship since the creation of the program in 1992.
9. **TASKFORCE REPORTS.**
  - a. **Online Education Task Force.** Dr. Blake Sonobe, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, gave a brief update on the work of the Online Education Task Force. Dr. Sonobe stated that the Policy Audit sub-committee and the E-course sub-committee met in November and each presented the work they’ve been doing since the previous meeting. The Policy Audit sub-committee has been working on creating procedures to use when admitting and enrolling students and the E-course sub-committee has been working on a matrix to use in evaluating online courses to ensure that they are high quality courses. Additionally, they are creating a survey to send to institutions to get an accurate snapshot

of what each institution is doing for online courses and share best practices with other state institutions.

- b. **State Regents Campus Safety and Security Task Force.** Ms Angela Caddell, Interim Director of Communications, gave a brief update on the work of the State Regents Campus Safety and Security Task Force. Ms. Caddell stated that the task force last met in October and has three work groups currently working on projects.

The Campus Best Practices workgroup is working on finalizing best practice compilations for each of the key security issues up for review: guns on campus, campus threat assessment, drug, alcohol and mental health counseling, cyber security, weather safety, Title IX and Cleary Act compliance, and student travel. The compendium for each issue will include a set of original documents, notes, summary and best practices. This information will also be available on the State Regents website in January 2014.

The Issue Monitoring Advocacy and Research workgroup will meet to discuss the composition of the legislature with respect to the State Regents view of no guns on campus.

The Training and Plan Development workgroup met to develop an assessment tool to help identify training needs on campus with respect to campus safety and security. They hope the results of this survey will drive campus training needs going forward.

The task force continues to work with their consultant, Dr. Roger Webb, and their next full meeting will be February 5, 2014.

**10. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.** Chancellor Johnson stated that there were three interim studies focused on higher education.

The first was regarding online learning. Senator Gary Stanislawski was interested in what higher education was doing in regards to online learning and the State Regents, the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University presented on the issue. Chancellor Johnson stated that it was a good opportunity to showcase to the legislature what Oklahoma is doing with online learning.

The second interim study focused on the configuration of the State Regents. Representative T.W. Shannon asked Chancellor Johnson to present a history of how the State Regents and the State System are configured under the constitution and to discuss the governance and governing boards.

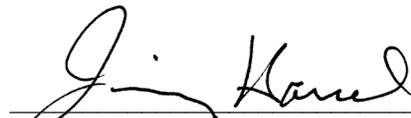
The third interim study focused on affordability. Representative Wright asked Chancellor Johnson to speak about affordability and he seemed to be impressed with the presentation. He also endorsed the State Regents budget for next year.

Ms. Hollye Hunt, Associate Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations, stated she attended the State Chamber meeting which had a legislative panel featuring, Representative Shannon, Representative Joe Dorman, Senator Brian Bingman and Senator Sean Burrage. The panel discussed potential issues in the upcoming legislative session including, common core, judicial reform and energy sector incentives. Ms. Hunt stated she did not think that higher education would be a target in the next session and feels like the State Regents were well represented at the meeting. Ms. Hunt also stated that there were several legislative tours coming up in December

and January. The events have been very well attended by legislators and community leaders, and it serves as a great opportunity to talk about the State Regents message. Ms. Hunt also stated that at the legislative tour at Oklahoma State University on December 10, 2013, they would be honoring Senator Rob Johnson. Senator Johnson, Senator Burrage and Representative Fred Jordan will not be seeking re-election and they have all been very supportive of higher education.

11. **“BEST OF HIGHER EDUCATION” REPORT.** Regents received the November 2013 update on institutional activities.
12. **ADJOURNMENT.** With no other items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

  
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James D. “Jimmy” Harrell, Chairman

  
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Toney Stricklin, Secretary