

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
Research Park, Oklahoma City

MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE
Thursday, May 29, 2014

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 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 29, 2014, 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 December 11, 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 Ron White, Jay Helm, Jody Parker, Ann Holloway, Ike Glass, Jimmy Harrel, Mike Turpen and John Massey. Regent Harrel called the meeting to order and presided.
3. **EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Mr. Robert Anthony, General Counsel for the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, advised Regents that there was not a need to go into executive session.
4. **BUDGET UPDATE.** Chancellor Glen Johnson noted that it was a very successful legislative session, with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) receiving a flat budget with no cuts. Chancellor Johnson thanked the State Regents and OSRHE staff for the roles they played this legislative session.

Ms. Amanda Paliotta, Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance, Information Technology, Telecommunications, and OneNet, provided Regents with an overview of the higher education appropriation for FY2015. Ms. Paliotta stated that even though we were given a flat budget, it is definitely a victory and that the institutions will start drafting their budgets for submission by June 13, 2014. OSRHE staff will then start formulating the final educational and general budgets that will be recommended for approval at the June State Regents meeting.

Ms. Paliotta provided Regents with a proposed schedule of institutional allocations for FY2015. She noted one change regarding the OSRHE's longstanding commitment to Langston University (LU) to give \$2 million each year to build their endowment to \$30 million. This year, LU only needed \$880,000 to reach the \$30 million goal. OSRHE staff recommended that the difference remaining of the yearly \$2 million allocation be moved to help fund concurrent enrollment. Ms. Paliotta stated that concurrent enrollment is one of the most successful programs in the state system in terms of the growing number of students, courses taken and moving the needle on our graduation rate. Regent Helm asked how many concurrent students stay in Oklahoma to attend college. Chancellor Johnson stated that approximately 85 percent of concurrent students from an Oklahoma high school continue on to an Oklahoma college or university.

Ms. Paliotta also reviewed potential uses for the FY2014 cash reserves, which total approximately \$2 million. OSRHE staff recommended using the reserves for the following:

- Concurrent Enrollment Tuition Waiver Program: \$1,039,857
- Oklahoma Tuition Aid Grant and Oklahoma Tuition Equalization Grant: \$400,000
- Quartz Mountain Arts and Conference Center: \$250,000
- University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma Mission Enhancement: \$200,000
- National Guard Tuition Waiver Reimbursements: \$150,000

Chancellor Johnson stated that this budget allows the agency to address all of the priority areas and continue all programs without restricting progress.

5. **OKLAHOMA COLLEGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.** Chancellor Johnson stated that one of the unintended consequences of the federal budget agreement was a reduction of fees paid to guarantee agencies, such as the Oklahoma College Assistance Program (OCAP), with regard to rehabilitation of student loans. This significantly reduced the amount of fees and interest OCAP could collect and would reduce staff and services. Mr. Rick Edington, Executive Director of the Oklahoma College Assistance Program, gave a brief update on the status of OCAP. Mr. Edington stated that the current compromise being proposed to Congress is that the guarantee agency would keep 8.5 percent of principal and up to 16 percent of collection costs as compared to before the cut at 18.5 percent of principal, 100 percent of accrued interest and up to 18.5 percent of collection costs. The National Council on Higher Education Resources is working with Congress to try to find a potential legislative vehicle to attach this proposal to.

Mr. Edington stated that of the 52 staff positions being impacted by this cut:

- 13 positions were already vacant;
- One person obtained a job within the agency;
- Four people obtained a job outside of the agency;
- Seven people are retiring; and
- 25 are currently looking for other employment.

Mr. Edington stated that he would keep the Regents informed of any new developments.

6. **ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNING BOARDS.** Chancellor Johnson stated that he was recently appointed to the Association of Governing Boards (AGB) of Universities and Colleges Council of Presidents. Chancellor Johnson stated that this is a great opportunity for the State Regents to be more involved with the AGB.
7. **SOUTHERN REGIONAL EDUCATION BOARD.** Mr. Tony Hutchison, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Planning and Analysis and Workforce and Economic Development presented highlights from the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) State Data Exchange 2012-2013 Indicators Report. Mr. Hutchison stated that Oklahoma is involved in a number of projects with the SREB and one of them is a data exchange with the other participating SREB states. Some highlights from the report include:
- Oklahoma placed 3rd (13.5 percent) among SREB states in the change in degrees and certificates conferred between 2010-2011 and 2011-2012. Mr. Hutchison stated that this is a great result, given that Oklahoma is progressing without any new resources.
 - Oklahoma has the lowest tuition percent change from 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 of any of the SREB states. Oklahoma's tuition change for that time period was 7 percent.
 - For concurrent enrollment, Oklahoma is right in the middle compared with other SREB states. Of Oklahoma high school students, 4.6 percent are taking concurrent courses.

- Additionally, the report shows that Oklahoma concurrent enrollment student graduation rates are 6-7 percentage points higher than other students in all three tiers: research, regional and community colleges.
- Oklahoma placed 4th among other SREB states for the percentage of undergraduate instruction taught through e-learning in 2012-2013.

8. **REPORT.**

- a. Ms. Angela Caddell, Interim Director of Communications, gave a brief update on the 2013 Annual Report. The report contains an overview of public higher education, the OSRHE public agenda, key initiatives and outlines programs and services in several areas. The report also includes a profile for every public higher education institution in the state and lists some of the most popular fields of study. Ms. Caddell stated that the report also details the cost of tuition and mandatory fees for Oklahoma institutions.
- b. Ms. Caddell also gave a brief overview of the State System Guide. This book outlines the history of the agency, the state system, the role of the Chancellor and the State Regents, and changes in name, mission or institutional status.

9. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.** Ms. Hollye Hunt gave a brief legislative update and started by stating that this legislative session was a great success. She gave a status update on the few bills that would affect the agency:

- SB 2127 – The general appropriations bill was passed and there were no cuts to higher education. The OSRHE received a flat budget.
- HB 3211 – This bill would have required an Oklahoma’s Promise student to enroll in a minimum of 30 credit hours each academic year. Ms. Hunt stated that after speaking with Speaker Jeff Hickman and working through several aspects of the legislation, he decided not to move forward with the bill.
- HJR1026 – This joint resolution would have restricted the state from imposing laws on licensure, registration or special taxation on the acquisition, ownership or possession of arms, ammunition, or the components of arms or ammunition. Ms. Hunt stated that this bill did not move forward; however, she is sure that bills like this will be introduced next year.
- HB 2873 – This bill passed and will require institutions to not take action or enforce a policy that would deny a religious student association any benefit available to any other student association.
- HB 3399 – This bill would repeal the implementation of Common Core if signed by Governor Mary Fallin. Ms. Hunt stated that if it is repealed, the state will revert back to using the Oklahoma Priority Academic Student Skills (PASS) standards for a temporary period until new standards can be drafted and evaluated.

10. **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 on Friday, April 25, 2014, the first annual Quality Summit Conference was held at Rose State College (RSC). This conference was for online education providers and it was very successful. Dr. Sonobe thanked RSC for hosting the conference and said they will definitely hold it again next year.

Dr. Sonobe also stated that the subcommittees are continuing their work on developing the policy and procedures necessary to approve institutions in Oklahoma for the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement.

- 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 is planning a statewide summit for this fall. The conference will be in partnership with the Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism, the City of Midwest City and Rose State College. The target date for the conference is October 29, 2014 and will be held at the Reed Conference Center in Midwest City.

Ms. Caddell also stated that the task force work groups are currently working on projects.

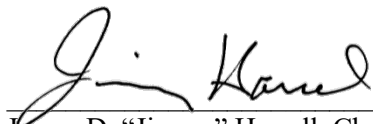
The Campus Best Practices workgroup has finalized the best practice compilations for each of the key security topics: guns on campus, campus threat assessment, drug, alcohol and mental health counseling, cyber security, weather safety, Title IX and Cleary Act reporting compliance, and student travel. The compendium is now available on the OSRHE website.

The Training and Plan Development workgroup has created an assessment tool to help identify training needs on campus with respect to campus safety and security. The survey was distributed and the workgroup has reviewed the results of the survey and have identified several potential training needs: vulnerability assessment, damage assessments following a natural disaster, preparedness training for both staff and students, mass notification systems and crisis communication. The outcomes of the survey will drive campus training needs going forward.

Ms. Caddell also stated that every Friday, an email communication is sent to all OSRHE staff called News Center Extra. These are highlights of local and national articles related to higher education and there is significant staff time involved in this project. However, after evaluating the traffic on the News Center website, it was determined that the page views and the activity levels are consistently low. Ms. Caddell stated that if there are no objections, this service will be discontinued. The State Regents all agreed to discontinue the News Center Extra.

11. **“BEST OF HIGHER EDUCATION” REPORT.** Regents received the May 2014 update on institutional activities.
12. **ADJOURNMENT.** With no other items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:



James D. “Jimmy” Harrell, Chairman



Toney Stricklin, Secretary