

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Research Park, Oklahoma City

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE Wednesday, December 3, 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 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 3, 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 Toney Stricklin, Ron White, Jay Helm, Jody Parker, Ann Holloway, Ike Glass, Mike Turpen and John Massey. Regent Turpen called the meeting to order and presided.
3. **EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Regent Holloway made a motion, seconded by Regent Parker, to go into executive session for discussion of the performance review of the Chancellor and confidential communications between a public body and its attorneys concerning pending investigations, claims, or actions. Voting for the motion were Regents White, Helm, Parker, Holloway, Glass, Turpen, Massey and Stricklin. Voting against the motion were none.

Following executive session discussions, Regents returned to open session.

4. **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.

The Regents asked several questions mostly related to the decrease in the hedge fund investments and Ms. Johnson and Mr. Anderson made a recommendation to invest \$10 million in a new investment manager, American Securities Partners VII.

5. **COMPLETE COLLEGE AMERICA.** Chancellor Glen Johnson stated that all institutions have been asked to give a brief presentation on their 2014-2015 Institutional Degree Completion plans at the spring 2015 Committee-of-the-Whole meetings. The institutions presenting at the December meeting were: the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City Community College, Carl Albert State College, Redlands Community College and the University of Central Oklahoma.
 - a. The University of Oklahoma (OU). Dr. Kyle Harper, Interim Senior Vice President and Provost, gave a brief presentation on OU's degree completion plans. Dr. Harper started by stating that there has been a steady increase in enrollment at OU over the past several years and one of their priorities is to increase the first year freshman retention rate. Regent Turpen asked how OU is improving in that area and Dr. Harper stated that they are trying to understand why freshman withdrawal or drop out and what are their social and academic risk factors. OU also created a graduate office with graduate coaches assigned to each student as well as helping students financially before a student leaves the university due to finances. OU has also founded a partnership with Redlands Community College for student remediation and a reverse transfer agreement with Rose State College and Oklahoma City Community College.

- b. Oklahoma City Community College (OCCC). President Paul Sechrist gave a brief presentation on OCCC's Complete College America (CCA) initiatives. President Sechrist stated that OCCC has completely renovated their math program, creating a wraparound support system for students, opening new math labs and offering child care for students. He also stated that OCCC has three major goals: 1) increase certificate graduates by 50 percent, 2) close the academic achievement gap in ethnic groups, and 3) double the annual scholarship giving amount.
 - c. Carl Albert State College (CASC). President Garry Ivey gave a brief presentation on CASC's CCA initiatives. President Ivey stated that CASC serves high schools from 5-6 different counties in southeastern Oklahoma. CASC has an enrollment management office, a full-time director, assistants and recruiters that work with students to help them complete their degree. Approximately 65-70 percent of entering freshmen have a least one remedial deficiency. CASC also has a summer bridge program, an 8-week short term program and success pathways for adult learners to aid in degree completion.
 - d. Redlands Community College (RCC). President Jack Bryant gave a brief presentation on RCC's CCA initiatives. President Bryant stated that there are 2,654 students enrolled for fall 2014 and there are 732 first time freshman. RCC has a developmental math program in association with OU and they also have a testing, tutoring and writing center to assist students. RCC has 33 endowed scholarships worth \$7.9 million and partnerships with El Reno Public Schools, Canadian Valley Technology Center and the City of El Reno in support of degree completion.
 - e. University of Central Oklahoma (UCO). President Don Betz gave a brief presentation on UCO's CCA initiatives. President Betz started by stating that UCO is a metropolitan university and has met all of their CCA degree completion goals. UCO is also a member of the Central Oklahoma Regional Education Network (CORE) with Oklahoma City Public Schools and OCCC. CORE is a data sharing partnership to promote student success and minimize remediation. President Betz also stated that UCO's concurrent enrollment continues to increase and UCO has received several GEAR UP grants to assist with degree completion.
6. **COMPLETE COLLEGE AMERICA.** Mr. Tony Hutchison, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Planning and Analysis and Workforce and Economic Development, and President Emeritus Tom McKeon gave a brief update on the CCA Annual Convening of the Alliance of States. Mr. Hutchison stated that it was a two-day meeting with Ms. Hollye Hunt, Associate Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations, President Emeritus Tom McKeon, Senator John Ford and Senator Clark Jolley attending the meeting as well. Mr. Hutchison stated that the meeting went well and a few of the key points from the meeting is that more remediation reform is needed on a system wide level and that data is key to this initiative.

Ms. Hunt stated that Senator Jolley enjoyed the conference and the information presented.

President Emeritus McKeon stated that Oklahoma is doing well in CCA and has come far in the first five years of the initiative. Oklahoma stands out in performance funding, the Reach Higher program and a real focus on remediation. However, there are some areas of improvement including closing the attainment gap for underrepresented populations, utilizing meta-majors for those students who have no clear pathway, and perhaps allowing students to only take math courses relevant to their major. President McKeon finished by stating that it is time for Oklahoma to revisit their CCA plan and jumpstart where we are in the process.

7. **STUDENT DEBT.** Ms. Mary Heid, Executive Director of the Oklahoma College Assistance Program, gave a brief update on student debt. Ms. Heid stated that Oklahoma is the fifth lowest state in the nation in regard to student debt and that the three-year cohort state rate has dropped from 18.4 in 2010 to 15.7 in 2011. Additionally, she stated that the largest group of student loan defaulters is those who have a certificate or no degree at all.
8. **BUDGET REPORT AND REVENUE UPDATE.** Ms. Amanda Paliotta, Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance, Information Technology, Telecommunications, and OneNet stated that OSRHE staff are currently preparing for the December 18, 2014 meeting of the Oklahoma Board of Equalization. At that meeting, the Oklahoma Tax Commission will have prepared an updated revenue projection for the remaining fiscal year and there is some speculation on how gross production and oil prices will impact the current fiscal year and next year.
9. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.**
 - a. Review of the Legislative Forum. Ms. Hunt stated the Fall Legislative Forum was held on November 19, 2014 and was well attended. Attorney General Scott Pruitt gave a brief presentation and there were several other presentations and panel speakers.
 - b. Update on 2014 Election. Ms. Hunt also gave a brief update on the Democratic and Republican count in the Oklahoma Legislature following the November elections. She also stated that she would be meeting with new members in the coming weeks before the start of the legislative session.
 - c. Update on Interim Study on Earmarks (Oklahoma's Promise). Ms. Hunt stated that the Interim Study on Earmarks was held on November 12, 2014 and there was some conversation regarding off-the-top funding for Oklahoma's Promise. Ms. Hunt stated that one interesting note from the meeting is that the Oklahoma's Promise program is not one of the top ten agencies receiving the most earmarks and OSRHE was not asked to speak at the study.
 - d. House and Senate Committee Assignments. Ms. Hunt stated that the House and Senate Committee assignments should be released in the next few weeks.
10. **TASKFORCE REPORTS.**
 - a. **Online Education Task Force.** Dr. Blake Sonobe gave a brief update on the work of the State Regents Online Education Task Force. Dr. Sonobe stated that at the next meeting, Mr. Ken Parker, Chief Executive Officer of NextThought, will give a presentation regarding Oklahoma's next steps in digital education.
 - b. **State Regents Campus Safety and Security Task Force.** Ms. Angela Caddell, Associate Vice Chancellor for Communications, gave a brief update on the work of the State Regents Campus Safety and Security Task Force.

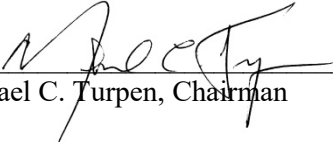
Ms. Caddell stated that the task force recently hosted the statewide Campus Safety and Security Summit on October 29, 2014 at the Reed Conference Center in Midwest City. There were over 300 attendees, with several national speakers and an active shooter exercise. Ms. Caddell stated that the conference was well received.
11. **"BEST OF HIGHER EDUCATION" REPORT.** Regents received the December 2014 update on institutional activities.

12. UPCOMING EVENTS. Chancellor Johnson discussed several upcoming events this fall:

- a. December 12, 2014— Legislative Tour Event — 11:30 a.m. at OSU-OKC in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
- b. December 15, 2014 — Legislative Tour Event — 11:00 a.m. at Redlands Community College in El Reno, Oklahoma.
- c. December 16, 2014 — Legislative Tour Event — 11:00 a.m. at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, Oklahoma.
- d. December 19, 2014 — Staff Holiday Party — 11:30 a.m. in the PHF Conference Center in Oklahoma City.
- e. January 9, 2015 — Legislative Tour Event — 11:30 a.m. at Northern Oklahoma College in Tonkawa, Oklahoma.
- f. January 12, 2015 — Legislative Tour Event — 11:30 a.m. at Tulsa Community College in Tulsa, Oklahoma.
- g. January 20, 2015— Legislative Tour Event — 11:30 a.m. at Northeastern State University in Muskogee, Oklahoma.
- h. January 21, 2015— Legislative Tour Event—11:30 a.m. for Southeastern Oklahoma at Pete’s Place in Krebs.
- i. January 28, 2015— State Regents Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting— 10:30 a.m. in the State Regents Conference Room in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
- j. January 29, 2015— State Regents Regular Meeting —9:00 a.m. in the State Regents Conference Room in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
- k. January 29, 2015— Online Education Task Force — 11:30 a.m. in the State Regents Conference Room in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

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

ATTEST:



Michael C. Turpen, Chairman



Toney Stricklin, Secretary