OKLAHOMA STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Improving our future by degrees

Agenda

May 31, 2024

NOTE

This document contains recommendations and reports to the State Regents regarding items on the May 31, 2024 special meeting agenda. For additional information, please call 405-225-9116 or to get this document electronically go to **www.okhighered.org** State System.

Materials and recommendations contained in this agenda are tentative and unofficial prior to State Regents' approval or acceptance on May 31, 2024.

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

A G E N D A

Friday, May 31, 2024 at 9 a.m.
655 Research Parkway, Suite 200
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Chair Jack Sherry, Presiding

1. **Announce filing of meeting notice and posting of the agenda in accordance with the Open Meeting Act.**

2. **Call to order.** Roll call and announcement of quorum.

3. **Minutes of Previous Meetings.** Approval of minutes from the previous meetings.

4. **Comments from the Chair.** A brief comment on current activities. (No Action, No Discussion.)

5. **Comments from the Chancellor.** A brief comment on current activities. (No Action, No Discussion.)

6. **State Regent.** Administration of Oath of Office. Page 1.

AWARDS

7. **Chancellor Hans Brisch Scholarship Program Awards.** Presentation of selections for Chancellor's Scholars for the 2024 academic year. Page 3. (Supplement)

8. **Council for Online Learning Excellence Awards.** Ratification and recognition of awards to honor outstanding faculty, staff, institutions, teams, or groups for their work in advancing online learning in Oklahoma. Page 5.

FISCAL

9. **E&G Budget.** Approval of allocation of state appropriated funds to institutions and programs for FY2025 and Acceptance of FY2025 Budget Principles and Guidelines. Page 9.

9.1 **Grant.** Conditional acceptance of FAFSA Student Support Strategy Grant. Page 10.1.

10. **Tuition.**

   a.   Approval of FY2025 Tuition and Mandatory Fee Principles and Guidelines. Page 11.

ACADEMIC

17. **State Authorization.** Approval of requests to renew authorization to operate in Oklahoma. Page 83.

EXECUTIVE

18. **Policy.** Approval of State Regents' Policy 5.19 *Amanda Winge Study Abroad Scholarship*. Page 87.

19. **Commendations.** Recognition of State Regents' staff for service and recognitions on state and national projects. Page 91.

CONSENT DOCKET

20. **Consent Docket.** Approval/ratification of the following routine requests which are consistent with State Regents' policies and procedures or previous actions.

    a. State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement. Ratification of institutional requests for annual renewal of participation in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement. Page 93.

    b. Operations.

        (1) Ratification of purchases exceeding $25,000. Page 95.

        (2) Personnel. Ratification of personnel appointments. Page 97.

REPORTS

21. **Reports.**

    a. Programs. Acknowledge receipt of the Current Status Report on program requests. Page 101.

    b. Annual Reports.

        (1) Acknowledge receipt of the Faculty Advisory Council Annual Report. Page 103.

        (2) Acknowledge receipt of the Chiropractic Education Scholarship Program Year-End Report. Page 107.

        (3) Acknowledge receipt of the William P. Willis Scholarship Year-End Report. Page 109.

        (4) Acknowledge receipt of the Policy Exception Quarterly Report. Page 111.

22.	**Report of the Committees.** (No Action, No Discussion.)

      a.	Academic Affairs and Student Services Committee.

      b.	Budget and Audit Committee.

      c.	Strategic Planning, Personnel Committee and Technology Committee.

      d.	Investment Committee.

23.	**Proposed Executive Session.** Page 113.

      a.	Possible discussion and vote to enter into executive session pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(4) for confidential communications between the board and its attorney(s) concerning: (1) Black Emergency Response Team, et al. v. Drummond, et al., Case No. 5:21-cv-01022-G in the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma; (2) Wisdom Ministries, Inc. v. Garrett, et al., Case No. 23-5098, United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit (appealed from 4:22-cv-00477-CVE-CDL in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma); and (3) EEOC Charge # 564-2023-01525, if the board, with the advice of its attorney, determines that disclosure will seriously impair the ability of the board to process the claim or conduct a pending investigation, litigation, or proceeding in the public interest.

      b.	Enter into executive session.

      c.	Exit executive session and vote to re-enter open session.

      d.	Possible discussion and vote on items discussed in executive session.

24.	**Announcement of Next Regular Meeting – The next regular meetings are scheduled to be held on Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. and Thursday, June 27, 2024 at 9 a.m. at the State Regents Office in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.**

25.	**Adjourn.**

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education are committed to ensuring that persons with disabilities are able to access the State Regents' public meetings. If you will need specialized assistance for an upcoming State Regents' meeting, please e-mail your request to accessibility@osrhe.edu or call 405.225.9116 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. We will make every reasonable effort to accommodate your needs.

AGENDA ITEM #6:

       State Regent.

       This is an oral presentation

AGENDA ITEM #7:

Chancellor Hans Brisch Scholarship Program Awards.

SUBJECT: Presentation of selections for Chancellor's Scholars for the 2024 academic year.

RECOMMENDATION:

> **It is recommended that the State Regents approve the individuals listed below as Chancellor Hans Brisch Scholarship Program honorees for 2024 and ratify payment of the scholarship award.**

BACKGROUND:

The Chancellor's Scholarship Program was established by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education in 1990 with privately raised funds. Most of the approximate $200,000 fund balance was raised in honor of Chancellor Hans Brisch, either on the occasion of his 50th birthday or on the occasion of his 2003 retirement. Chancellor Brisch died in February 2006 at which time the Oklahoma State Regents renamed the program the Chancellor Hans Brisch Scholarship Program as a living legacy to his dedication to the students of Oklahoma. Chancellor Allison Garrett continues the tradition of the program which honors not only Chancellor Brisch but the office of Chancellor and all individuals who hold that office.

POLICY:

The Chancellor Hans Brisch Scholarship Program policy requires the Scholars to be selected primarily on the basis of (1) outstanding leadership and (2) demonstrated commitment to the enhancement of the community. Community commitment is demonstrated through the student's involvement in the initiation of a high school and/or community program or project that resulted in an improvement of the learning environment of the school or the social betterment of the community. Candidates for the Chancellor's Scholars awards must be entering college freshmen with high academic achievement.

Individuals chosen as Chancellor Hans Brisch Scholars bring a vibrant, energetic presence to Oklahoma campuses, adding to the intellectual environment. The Chancellor Hans Brisch Scholarship Program judges evaluated nominees for this year's award and identified the top candidate. It is recommended that the State Regents approve 2024 Chancellor's Scholars recipients as follows:

- Gracey E. Coffelt, Locust Grove High School
- Aaron David Mauk, Coalgate High School
- Samuel Keaston Gonzalez, Walters High School

Supplement

AGENDA ITEM #8:

> **Council for Online Learning Excellence Awards.**

SUBJECT: Ratification and recognition of awards to honor outstanding faculty, staff, institutions, teams, or groups for their work in advancing online learning in Oklahoma.

RECOMMENDATION:

> **Recognition of awards to honor outstanding faculty, staff, institutions, teams, or groups for their work in advancing online learning in Oklahoma.**

BACKGROUND:

In 2012, the State Regents created the Online Education Task Force, which was tasked with reviewing the delivery of online education throughout the State System to determine the extent to which the delivery of online education was accessible, efficient and effective. After a period of information gathering and analysis, the Online Education Task Force formed the Council for Online Learning Excellence (COLE) in 2016. COLE is comprised of faculty, staff, and administrators representing each tier of Oklahoma's public and private colleges and universities, as well as other entities connected to online learning technologies. The mission of COLE is to improve online and hybrid learning experiences in Oklahoma through a framework that grows knowledge networks and advances collaborative initiatives that enhance student, faculty and institutional success in the state of Oklahoma. COLE works to accomplish this mission through its four guiding principles: capacity through collaboration, mission empowerment, teaching and learning focus, and thought leadership.

As part of the effort to improve online learning in Oklahoma, COLE's members recognize the excellent work of faculty, staff, and administrators at Oklahoma's colleges and universities. In 2017, the Oklahoma Online Excellence Awards were established to formally recognize those individuals and teams that have done excellent work in online or hybrid learning. Nominations are submitted by peers and judged by a committee of COLE members. Nominees are scored using a standard rubric based on the metrics of leadership, innovation, collaboration, and results.

POLICY ISSUES:

No policy issues are related to this item.

ANALYSIS:

The recipient of the **Oklahoma Online Excellence Award for Open Education Impact** is the **Rose State College Writing Committee.**

The Rose State College Writing Committee, formed a decade ago, has significantly reformed its composition courses to better meet the needs of its students. The committee, led by Professor Kristen Kirkman and staffed by volunteer English professors, embarked on an extensive research project that

culminated in the development of new measurable objectives for the composition program, which were then incorporated into updated syllabi. These efforts led to the creation of blueprint courses and open source textbooks, now fully integrated into the college's learning management system, enhancing both accessibility and financial feasibility for students. Additionally, the committee addressed the challenge of online final exams by developing a new format that maintains academic integrity without additional costs. This transformation has not only improved course content and accessibility but also streamlined the assessment process, thereby impacting over 4,750 students in the upcoming academic terms and enhancing the online teaching capabilities of over 30 professors.

The recipient of the **Oklahoma Online Excellence Award for Accessibility** is the **University of Central Oklahoma Digital Accessibility Coalition** led by **Mr. Darren Denham.**

The University of Central Oklahoma (UCO) has developed a robust framework for online learning, evolving from a collaborative vision between the provost and pioneering faculty to a structured system supported by the Center for eLearning and Connected Environments (CeCE) since 2006. As of 2024, the center now underpins eight graduate and nine undergraduate online programs, encompassing over 1,400 courses and nearly 1,000 certified faculty members, accounting for almost a third of UCO's total enrollment. In response to the increasing need for inclusive digital access, UCO established the Digital Accessibility Coalition (DAC) in 2019. DAC, an innovative and collaborative initiative led by Darren Denham, aims to enhance digital accessibility across the university through a micro-credential system that deepens understanding and application of accessibility principles, benefiting students, faculty, and the broader institutional framework.

The recipient of the **Oklahoma Online Excellence Award for Teaching** is **Dr. Susmita Hazra, Assistant Professor, Cameron University.**

Dr. Susmita Hazra, a distinguished online STEM educator at Cameron University, has over eight years of experience in creating engaging, high enrollment online courses. Known for her innovative approach in course design, Dr. Hazra integrates active learning through multimedia tools, varied assessments, and community-building activities like think-pair-share and peer evaluations. She continually refines her courses based on student feedback and assessments, emphasizing effective communication and high engagement. A Quality Matters certified peer reviewer, Dr. Hazra has enhanced numerous courses across the US through meticulous reviews and has shared her strategies at various educational symposia, earning recognition as an influencer. Her commitment to accessibility is evident in her ongoing efforts to improve mobile responsiveness and inclusivity for learners with disabilities. Dr. Hazra's approach to modern learning includes using technology to facilitate micro-learning and innovative assignments, such as using stargazing apps in astronomy, which cater to the needs of contemporary students, enabling learning even during brief daily intervals.

The recipient of the **Oklahoma Online Excellence Award for Individual Leadership** is **Dr. Melissa Brevetti, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.**

Dr. Melissa Brevetti has been a pioneer in integrating technology with education, having introduced SMART Boards to her students early in her career and significantly increased online learning engagement ever since. As a former professor of education, she contributed to a 300 percent increase of graduation rates in her graduate-level program through well-designed online and hybrid courses which emphasized the use of educational technology tools. Serving as an American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) online reviewer and authoring influential papers, she has led substantial growth in State Regents' grants and professional development programs across Oklahoma universities. Dr. Brevetti's work extends to evaluating major educational grants and developing programs aimed at supporting vulnerable communities, particularly those affected by adverse childhood experiences. Furthermore, she has played a

pivotal role in transforming the Oklahoma Reading Conference and advocating for paid student teaching, impacting thousands of pre-service teachers. As the President-Elect of Oklahoma Women in Higher Education, she focuses on enhancing online mentorship and partnerships, while her scholarship and publications continue to influence educational practices nationwide.

The recipient of the **Oklahoma Online Excellence Award for Team Leadership** is the **CACE (Carl Albert, Connors, and Eastern) Educational Partnership**.

The CACE Educational Partnership consortium, comprising Eastern Oklahoma State College, Connors State College, and Carl Albert State College, has successfully expanded educational access for rural students in Southeastern Oklahoma. This collaboration has enabled the sharing of resources, including courses and faculty, significantly enhancing academic opportunities and addressing workforce needs in alignment with Blueprint 2030's goals for elevating Oklahoma higher education. To date, the consortium has shared about 40 courses, directly impacting 637 students and saving approximately $80,000 annually. By implementing innovative solutions such as hybrid courses and utilizing diverse communication platforms like social media and virtual meetings, CACE has effectively overcome geographic and logistical challenges, starting with a joint Spanish course. This partnership continues to thrive, focusing on providing vital educational opportunities in critical areas like STEM, thereby empowering students to succeed in an interconnected world.

The recipient of the **Oklahoma Online Excellence Award for Innovation** is the **Oklahoma State University College of Arts and Sciences Outreach Team.**

The Oklahoma State University College of Arts and Sciences (OSU CAS) Outreach Team, in partnership with the National Groundwater Association (NGWA), has developed "Awesome Aquifer 360" (AA360) for K-12 students and "NGWA University" (NGWAU) for adults, two unique initiatives in the U.S. to address the impending job shortage in the groundwater industry. The AA360 program, integrating physical science kits and an online portal with virtual tools, aims to ignite interest in geoscience careers among K-12 students, and has reached over 13,000 students across 42 states and beyond. The NGWAU, hosted on OSU's online learning platform, offers professional training through courses designed to meet industry standards and includes interactive elements and assessments that have enhanced learning for over 400 individuals to date. This educational content, created in collaboration with groundwater industry experts and instructional designers, adheres to the highest standards and is being extended to include Spanish translations, underscoring the program's comprehensive approach to fostering industry-ready professionals.

AGENDA ITEM #9:

> **E&G Budget.**

SUBJECT: Approval of allocation of state appropriated funds to institutions and programs for FY2025 and Acceptance of FY2025 Budget Principles and Guidelines.

AGENDA ITEM #9.1:

Grant.

SUBJECT: Conditional acceptance of FAFSA Student Support Strategy Grant.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the State Regents accept the FAFSA Student Support Strategy Grant in the amount of $100,000.

BACKGROUND:

The 2024-25 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application cycle has brought substantial changes to the student financial aid application process, including a new application form, new eligibility criteria, new terminology, and new requirements for parents and other contributors. As such, the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) believes that students and families need additional support, advice and encouragement to complete the FAFSA form and enroll in college. USDE, in partnership with Educational Credit Management Corporation (ECMC), has implemented the FAFSA Student Support Strategy grant program to increase the number of students who complete a 2024-25 FAFSA and enroll in college, particularly first-time students.

POLICY ISSUES:

This item is consistent with State Regents' policy and actions.

ANALYSIS:

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the Oklahoma College Assistance Program (OCAP) anticipate receiving a FAFSA Student Support Strategy grant in the amount of $100,000. The projects associated with this grant proposal will be fully funded through the grant program.

Under the terms of this grant agreement, OCAP, in partnership with Communications and Scholarship Administration, will conduct a two-prong outreach approach. OCAP staff will work with Communications to engage a marketing firm to run a digital FAFSA completion campaign utilizing social media and video ads targeted to recent high school graduates and influential adults such as parents, teachers, coaches, and counselors. OCAP staff will work with Scholarship Administration to distribute sub-grants to state system schools to empower their ability to host local FAFSA completion events that directly serve students and parents.

AGENDA ITEM #10-a:

Tuition.

SUBJECT: Approval of FY2025 Tuition and Mandatory Fee Principles and Guidelines.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the State Regents approve FY25 Tuition and Fee Approval Guidelines for dissemination to state system presidents and governing boards.

BACKGROUND:

State Regents annually approve budget principles and guidelines for institutions to use in preparing their annual budgets. State Regents approved a similar document related to the preparation of each institution's tuition and fee request in accordance with 70 O. S. Section 3218.14, which conferred additional responsibility on institutional leadership and governing boards. The FY25 Tuition and Fee Approval Guidelines serve to define those responsibilities and to outline Regents' expectations concerning the process.

POLICY ISSUES:

The proposed FY25 Tuition and Fee Guidelines are consistent with Regents' responsibilities and the State Regents' tuition policy.

ANALYSIS:

The guidelines address six issues related to tuition and fees: 1) the responsibilities of various parties in the establishment of tuition and fees; 2) the State Regents' publication of peer information for planning purposes; 3) institutional compliance with legislative peer limits, 4) State Regents' communication of pertinent information to students; 5) documentation required of institutions; and 6) use of revenue from dedicated fees. These core issues which the guidelines address remain unchanged from the previous year. The guidelines require documentation of institutions and governing boards to justify tuition and mandatory fee increases. Institutional requests for new fees and for increases to existing fees are scrutinized closely to ensure the revenue from these dedicated fees are required to meet specific costs and are not being requested in lieu of a tuition increase. These guidelines provide guidance in an effort to ensure access to higher education and to minimize the financial burden on students and their families.

It is recommended that the State Regents approve the following *FY25 Tuition and Fee Approval Guidelines* for dissemination to state system presidents and governing boards.

TUITION AND FEE APPROVAL GUIDELINES
Fiscal Year 2025

Responsibility to Establish Tuition and Fees. The Oklahoma Constitution, statutes, and State Regents for Higher Education policy confer responsibility for the establishment of tuition and fees at institutions in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education at four levels: 1) Presidents of institutions analyze the need for resources to ensure the quality and availability of higher education offerings, balanced by students' needs and ability to pay, and propose tuition and fees to their respective governing board; 2) Governing boards review presidents' proposals and make a recommendation to the State Regents for Higher Education; 3) the State Regents for Higher Education review governing boards' recommendations, approve tuition and fees within legislatively prescribed statutory limits, and report to the Legislature annually their actions; and 4) the Legislature reviews State Regents for Higher Education actions.

Publication of Peer Information for Planning Purposes. Pursuant to 70 O. S. Section 3218.8, tuition and mandatory fees at public higher education institutions in Oklahoma will be compared to tuition and mandatory fees at peer (i.e., like-type) institutions in other states. State Regents will annually monitor and publish tuition and mandatory fees at peer institutions. Published in a timely fashion, the information will show the level of tuition and mandatory fees at each institution in Oklahoma compared to the legislative peer limit and the maximum possible dollar and percentage increase for the next academic year.

Compliance with Legislative Peer Limits. The Oklahoma Constitution authorizes the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to establish tuition and mandatory fees within limits prescribed by the Legislature. At the research institutions, resident undergraduate tuition and mandatory fees must be at levels less than the average resident tuition and mandatory fee rates charged at public institutions in the Big Twelve Conference. At the regional and community colleges, resident undergraduate tuition and mandatory fee rates must be at levels less than the average tuition and mandatory fee rates charged at like-type institutions in surrounding and other states. Nonresident undergraduate tuition and mandatory fee rates must be at levels less than 105 percent of the average nonresident tuition and mandatory fee rates charged at their respective peer institutions. For graduate and professional programs, resident and nonresident tuition and mandatory fee rates shall remain less than the average tuition and mandatory fee rates at like-type graduate and professional programs.

Establishment of Guaranteed Tuition Rates. House Bill 2103 passed during the 2007 legislative session authorized the State Regents to establish a guaranteed tuition rate program for first-time, full-time resident students beginning with the FY2008-09 academic year. Students will have the option to participate in the guaranteed tuition rate or the non-guaranteed tuition rate at the time of first enrollment and will be guaranteed this rate for four years, or the normal time-to-completion of the program as determined by the institution. Each institution shall provide students with the annual non-guaranteed tuition rate charged and the percentage increase that it would have to increase to equal or exceed the guaranteed tuition rate for the succeeding four years. The guaranteed rate shall not exceed 115 percent of the non-guaranteed tuition rate charged to students at the same institution.

Communication Between State Regents and Students. Staff of the State Regents for Higher Education will assist in the preparation and dissemination of guidelines for students and student groups to inform themselves about the process and issues and to provide input both at the campus level and to the State Regents for Higher Education. The State Regents for Higher Education will hold a public hearing on proposed changes in tuition and fees at least 20 days prior to the date the change becomes effective. For changes effective for the 2024 fall semester, the hearing took place at the State Regents for Higher Education meeting in Durant, Oklahoma on Thursday, April 25, 2024. The State Regents for Higher

Education will maintain and publish a record of testimony by students and other participants who appeared at this public hearing.

Guidelines to Institutions and Governing Boards. Each institutional request for tuition and mandatory fees should be accompanied by documentation on the following items:

1) Communication of the tuition and mandatory fee request to student government organizations, other student groups, and students at large;

2) Efforts to increase need-based financial aid proportionately to tuition and fee increases;

3) Analysis of the expected effect of tuition and mandatory fee increases on the ability of students to meet the cost of attendance;

4) Analysis of the expected effect of tuition and mandatory fee increases on enrollment;

5) Detailed justification for all tuition and mandatory fee increases; and

6) Dedication to cost-effectiveness in institutional operations.

Use of Revenue from Dedicated Fees. Institutions that charge students academic services fees, i.e. special fees for library materials and services, classroom and laboratory materials, technology, etc., must ensure that 1) the revenues are spent for the approved purpose of the fee and 2) that these fees must not exceed the cost of providing the service. Likewise, to the extent possible, traditional E&G support for the above and similar purposes should not be diminished as a result of student fee revenue. Requests for new fees or increases to existing fees will be thoroughly reviewed to ensure 1) that the fees are required to meet specific costs and 2) that they are not requested to obscure, in essence, a tuition increase. According to existing policy, institutions submit requests related to academic services fees to the State Regents for Higher Education by February 1 of the year prior to the effective date of the fee request.

AGENDA ITEM #10-b:

Tuition.

SUBJECT: Approval of an exception to policy for University of Central Oklahoma to waive fees for concurrently enrolled students.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the State Regents approve an exception to policy to waive specific fees at the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO) for online and in-person delivery of concurrent enrollment classes beginning with the Fall 2024 semester.

BACKGROUND:

The University of Central Oklahoma requested to waive four (4) mandatory and eighteen (18) selected academic service fees for all concurrently enrollment students. The institution feels that these fees are not applicable to this specific segment of their student population.

POLICY ISSUES:

State Regents' policy (4.18.6 – D) states, "Fees may neither be assessed nor waived unless authorized by general policy or by specific authorization of the State Regents.". The University of Central Oklahoma is currently requesting an ongoing exception in order to waive the fees for concurrently enrolled students and remain in compliance with policy.

ANALYSIS:

The University of Central Oklahoma (UCO) plans enhancements to concurrent enrollment classes by adding online delivery options for Fall 2024. The Budget and Fiscal Affairs Policy and Procedures Manual provides that institutions may waive certain fees for courses offered in an online format. Delivery of these courses will expand high-quality, easily accessible course offerings to students enrolled in UCO's concurrent programs. Increased enrollment by Oklahoma high school juniors and seniors will improve their time to an undergraduate degree and reduce their college costs. UCO estimates the budgetary cost of these waivers to be $75,000 at current concurrent levels.

Mandatory fees in the requested waiver include:

    Technology Fee $14.22/CH
    Student Activity Fee $6.62/CH
    Athletics Activity Fee $8.88/CH
    Facility Fee $11.55/CH

Academic service fees included in the requested waiver include:

Name of Fee	Type of Fee	Per CH Fee Rate
Facility/Equipment College of Business	Facility/Equipment Utilization Fee	$17.25
Facility/Equipment College of Education and Professional Studies	Facility/Equipment Utilization Fee	$17.17
Facility/Equipment College of Fine Arts and Design	Facility/Equipment Utilization Fee	$32.00
Facility/Equipment College of Liberal Arts	Facility/Equipment Utilization Fee	$13.75
Facility/Equipment College of Math and Science	Facility/Equipment Utilization Fee	$22.29
Facility/Equipment Forensic Science Institute	Facility/Equipment Utilization Fee	$20.64
Transformative Learning - College of Business	Other Special Fees	$4.49
Transformative Learning - College of Education and Professional Studies	Other Special Fees	$4.50
Transformative Learning - College of Fine Arts and Design	Other Special Fees	$4.62
Transformative Learning - College of Liberal Arts	Other Special Fees	$4.44
Transformative Learning - College of Math and Science	Other Special Fees	$4.51
Transformative Learning - Forensic Science Institute	Other Special Fees	$4.51
Assessment - College of Business	Other Special Fees	$1.15
Assessment - College of Education and Professional Studies	Other Special Fees	$1.16
Assessment - College of Fine Arts and Design	Other Special Fees	$1.22
Assessment - College of Liberal Arts	Other Special Fees	$1.13
Assessment - College of Math and Science	Other Special Fees	$1.17
Assessment - College of Forensic Science Institute	Other Special Fees	$1.17

AGENDA ITEM #11-a:

       Contracts and Purchases.

SUBJECT: Approval of contracts exceeding $100,000 for FY2024.

RECOMMENDATION:

> **It is recommended that the State Regents approve FY2024 purchases for amounts exceeding $100,000.**

BACKGROUND:

Agency purchases are presented for State Regents' action. They relate to previous board action and the approved agency budgets.

POLICY ISSUES:

The recommended action is consistent with the State Regents' purchasing policy which requires State Regents' approval of purchases exceeding $100,000.

ANALYSIS:

The items below exceed $100,000 and require State Regents' approval prior to issuing a purchase order.

Purchases Over $100,000

Core

1) Vendor to be determined in an amount not to exceed $132,000 for the design and execution of a new economic impact study for the Oklahoma state system of higher education. The study will consider the direct, indirect, and induced effects of the Oklahoma state system of higher education on the state's economy and detail higher education's contributions to workforce development. The vendor will be selected from an RFP process. (Fund from 210-Core)

AGENDA ITEM #11-b:

> **Contracts and Purchases.**

SUBJECT: Approval of contracts exceeding $100,000 for FY2025.

RECOMMENDATION:

> **It is recommended that the State Regents approve FY2025 purchases for amounts that are in excess of $100,000.**

BACKGROUND:

Agency purchases are presented for State Regents' action. They relate to previous board action and the approved agency budgets.

POLICY ISSUES:

The recommended action is consistent with the State Regents' purchasing policy which requires State Regents' approval of purchases in excess of $100,000.

ANALYSIS:

A number of agency purchases for equipment maintenance, network circuits, lease of office space, memberships, professional services, and postage must be in place on July 1st of each year due to vendor requirements for renewal or payments that must be made in July. Several of these purchases are in excess of $100,000 and require State Regents' approval prior to issuing a purchase order.

Purchases Over $100,000

Core
1) Ellucian in the amount of $176,879.59 for FY25 maintenance and support for the Banner software system. Banner is the agency accounting and human resource systems. (Funded from 210-Core).

2) The University of Missouri, Great Plains Network, in the amount of $181,445.00 for FY25 annual membership fees that provide Internet2 connectivity. The Great Plains Network is a consortium of universities in the Midwest, partnering to connect its members to the National Research and Education infrastructure, including Internet2, and facilitate the use of advanced cyberinfrastructure across the network. OneNet is a member of the Great Plains Network and leverages the consortium to benefit Oklahoma research institutions by reducing internet-related costs. (Funded from 210-Core).

OneNet
3) American Telephone and Telegraph Corporation for $3,403,700.00 for FY25 circuits to provide services to OneNet subscribers. These costs are current OneNet subscribers, which OneNet invoices

annually or monthly to recover these circuit cost obligations. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

4) Cox Communications for $1,191,700.00 for FY25 circuits to provide services to OneNet subscribers. These costs are current OneNet subscribers, which OneNet invoices annually or monthly to recover these circuit cost obligations. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

5) Cross Cable Television, LLC, for $169,127.00 for FY25 circuits to provide services to OneNet subscribers. These costs are current OneNet subscribers, which OneNet invoices annually or monthly to recover these circuit cost obligations. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

6) Dobson Technologies Transport for $2,257,100.00 for FY25 circuits to provide services to OneNet subscribers. These costs are current OneNet subscribers, which OneNet invoices annually or monthly to recover these circuit cost obligations. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

7) Hilliary Erate & Universal Services LLC, for $219,000.00 for FY25 circuits to provide services to OneNet subscribers. These costs are current OneNet subscribers, which OneNet invoices annually or monthly to recover these circuit cost obligations. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

8) Indian Nations Fiber Optics for $321,350.00 for FY25 circuits to provide services to OneNet subscribers. These costs are current OneNet subscribers, which OneNet invoices annually or monthly to recover these circuit cost obligations. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

9) KPowernet dba KAMO for $177,824.00 for FY25 circuits to provide service to OneNet subscribers. These costs are current OneNet subscribers, which OneNet invoices annually or monthly to recover these circuit cost obligations. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

10) MBO Networks, LLC for $553,100.00 for FY25 circuits to provide services to OneNet subscribers. These costs are current OneNet subscribers, which OneNet invoices annually or monthly to recover these circuit cost obligations. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

11) Pine Telephone Company for $399,700.00 for FY25 circuits to provide service to OneNet subscribers. These costs are related to services for current OneNet subscribers, which OneNet invoices annually or monthly to recover these circuit cost obligations. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

12) Pioneer Long Distance Inc. for $680,050.00 for FY25 circuits to provide services to OneNet subscribers. These costs are current OneNet subscribers, which OneNet invoices annually or monthly to recover these circuit cost obligations. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

13) Panhandle Telephone Cooperative for $212,521.00 for FY25 circuits to provide services to OneNet subscribers. These costs are current OneNet subscribers, which OneNet invoices annually or monthly to recover these circuit cost obligations. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

14) Windstream Oklahoma, LLC for $336,870.00 for FY25 circuits to provide services to OneNet subscribers. These costs are current OneNet subscribers, which OneNet invoices annually or monthly to recover these circuit cost obligations. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

15) Cox Oklahoma Telecom LLC, for $676,000.00 for FY25 circuits to provide services to OneNet subscribers. These costs are current OneNet subscribers, which OneNet invoices annually or monthly to recover these circuit cost obligations. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

16) BTC Broadband for $120,700.00 for FY25 circuits to provide services to OneNet subscribers. These costs are current OneNet subscribers, which OneNet invoices annually or monthly to recover these circuit cost obligations. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

17) Vyve/BCI Broadband for $158,700.00 for FY25 circuits to provide services to OneNet subscribers. These costs are current OneNet subscribers, which OneNet invoices annually or monthly to recover these circuit cost obligations. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

18) Norlem Technology Consulting for $414,380.00 for FY25 Palo Alto firewall license renewal, providing additional security measurements that protect OneNet and OSRHE staff from cyber threats. Norlem provides network traffic monitoring for security against suspicious and malicious activity on the network. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

19) Blackboard for $500,000.00 for FY25 service. Blackboard Learn Saas is an online learning service in which four schools participate: Northeastern State University, Carl Albert State College, Murray State College, and Redlands Community College. Cost recovered from OneNet user fees. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

20) Internet2 for $106,000.00 for OneNet's FY25 membership in the InCommon Federation and SSL Certificates. The InCommon Federation is the US Education & Research Identity Federation, which provides a common framework for trusted shared management of access to online resources, single sign-on convenience, privacy protection, and access control to protected resources. These provisions allow simpler and more secure collaboration with higher education research institutions and meet the long-term goals of K-12. Cost recovered through OneNet user fees. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

21) University of Arkansas (AREON) for $167,379.00 for FY25 circuits to provide services to OneNet subscribers. These costs are current OneNet subscribers, which OneNet invoices annually or monthly to recover these circuit cost obligations. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

22) Zoom Video Communication for $500,000.00 for FY25 licenses. Zoom enables OneNet and OneNet subscribers to utilize advanced videoconferencing systems for distance learning and remote conferencing support throughout the state. Cost recovered through OneNet user fees. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

23) The University of Indiana in the amount of $510,000.00 for FY25 network monitoring services provided by the Global Research Network Operating Center (GRNOC). Cost recovered through OneNet user fees. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

24) Coursera in the amount of $740,501.00 for FY25 Coursera for Campus licenses to allow students to acquire micro-credentials necessary to take on additional roles in their chosen profession or degree. By acquiring micro-credentials, students and institutions will gain critical knowledge and marketable skills that provide the foundation for new career opportunities. Through this system-wide purchase, 15 participating institutions can purchase Coursera licenses at the discounted rate of $75 per license compared to the regular price of $399 per license. The cost associated with this purchase will be subsidized by $300,000 in funding from the State Regents, allocated on May 28, 2021, for meeting micro-credentials and rapid re-employment strategies and initiatives. The remaining cost will be reimbursed to OneNet from participating institutions. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

25) Copper River in the amount of $530,000.00 for FY25 maintenance renewal to support ADVA network equipment integrated into the OneNet network. Cost recovered through OneNet user fees. (Funded

from 718-OneNet).

26) Vendor undetermined in the amount of $750,000.00 for FY25 Juniper maintenance renewal to support Juniper network equipment integrated into the OneNet network. Cost recovered through OneNet user fees. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

27) University of Arkansas (AREON) for $150,000.00 for FY25 MUSIX-IX Cross Connects to provide service to OneNet subscribers. These costs are current OneNet subscribers, which OneNet invoices annually or monthly to recover these circuit cost obligations. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

28) Telco Supply Co., in the amount of $175,000.00 for fiber construction in Miami, Oklahoma, to connect Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College's main campus to the agricultural studies campus funded by the Oklahoma Friction Free Network (OFFN8) grant award from the National Science Foundation. (Funded 718-OneNet)

29) The University of Indiana, in the amount of $341,136.00 for FY25. Service provides 24x7 engineering support to repair failures on services to OneNet subscribers. Network monitoring services are provided by the Global Research Network Operating Center (GRNOC). Cost recovered through OneNet user fees. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

OCAP
30) XAP LLC in the amount of $295,194.00 to exercise the option to renew our agreement with XAP LLC Corporation for the operation and maintenance of the Student Portal, also referred to as OKcollegestart.org. (Funded from 701-OCAP).

31) Educational Credit Management Corporation in the amount of $1,407,022.00 for use of an integrated software system and services for administering student loans, including providing federally required FFELP default aversion claims and collections services performed on behalf of OCAP. (Funded from 701-OCAP).

OCAN
32) Dobson Technologies Transport and Telcom in the amount of $150,000.00 for FY25 OneNet fiber optic relocation due to highway construction. Cost recovered through user fees. (Funded from 720-OCAN).

Multiple Funds
33) University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (OUHSC) in the amount of $874,428.96 for FY25 lease of office space located at 655 Research Parkway Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. (Funded from 210-Core, 701-OCAP and 718-OneNet).

AGENDA ITEM #12:

Investments.

SUBJECT: Approval of investment managers.

This item will be available at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #13-a (1):

New Programs.

SUBJECT: The University of Oklahoma. Approval to offer the Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the State Regents approve the University of Oklahoma's request to offer the Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence, via traditional and electronic delivery, with the stipulation that continuation of the program will depend upon meeting the criteria established by the institution and approved by the State Regents, as described below.

- **Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence.** Continuation beyond Fall 2029 will depend upon meeting the following criteria:
    Majors enrolled: a minimum of 50 students in Fall 2028; and
    Graduates: a minimum of 40 students in 2028-2029.

BACKGROUND:

Academic Plan

Institutional Academic Plans are submitted annually to the State Regents, with acknowledgment of receipt, not endorsement. The University of Oklahoma's (OU) 2023-2024 Academic Plan is available at: https://okhighered.org/admin-fac/academic-forms/.

APRA Implementation
In August 1991, the State Regents launched the Academic Planning/Resource Allocation (APRA) initiative, which was based on the principle that institutional officials would prioritize their programs and activities, and then fund higher priority activities at levels that ensured quality. Since implementation, the APRA has served as a framework for institutions to shift resources from low priority, low producing, and duplicate academic programs to higher priority programs that address state and local workforce needs.

As a result of the APRA process, a net of 93 academic programs have been eliminated. After 30 years of documenting institutions' successful efforts to prioritize programs through APRA, along with recommendations from the Task Force on the Future of Higher Education to expand collaboration and limit program duplication, the Net Reduction table has been reset, beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year, to monitor the next 30 years of progress on this initiative.

Since 2021, OU has taken the following program actions in response to APRA:

12	Degree and/or certificate programs deleted
37	Degree and/or certificate programs added

Program Review

OU offers 362 degree and/or certificate programs as follows:

73	Certificates
0	Associate in Arts or Science Degrees
0	Associate in Applied Science Degrees
126	Baccalaureate Degrees
105	Master's Degrees
58	Doctoral Degrees
0	First Professional Degrees

All of these programs were reviewed in the past five years with the exception of those programs with specialty accreditation. Programs with specialty accreditation are aligned with OU's program review schedule as appropriate. Thus, if a professional program received a ten-year accreditation, it would not be reviewed for ten years, which is an approved exception to State Regents' policy.

Program Development Process
OU's faculty developed the proposal, which was reviewed and approved by institutional officials. OU's governing board approved delivery of the Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence program at their March 12, 2024 meeting. OU is currently approved to offer 84 degree and certificate programs through electronic delivery. OU requests authorization to offer this program as outlined below.

POLICY ISSUES:

This action is consistent with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's (OSRHE) Academic Program Approval and the Distance Education and Traditional Off-Campus Courses and Programs policies.

ANALYSIS:

Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence

Program purpose. The proposed Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence (AI) program will empower students to explore cutting-edge technologies such as machine learning, natural language processing, and robotics, preparing them for impactful careers in diverse industries seeking AI expertise.

Program rationale and background. The proposed program will provide students with a deep and comprehensive understanding of AI's principles, tools, and applications. The program is structured to build a strong foundation in mathematics, computer science, and data analysis, essential for designing and implementing effective AI systems. Students will engage in learning advanced topics such as machine learning, deep learning, natural language processing, and computer vision, equipping them with the skills necessary to develop intelligent software solutions for complex, real-world problems. The program's approach combines theoretical knowledge with practical application, ensuring that graduates are well-

versed in the latest AI technologies and methodologies. In addition to technical skills, the proposed program emphasizes the importance of understanding the ethical and societal impacts of AI. This aspect prepares students to approach AI development and deployment responsibly, considering the broader implications of their work. By the end of the program, graduates will not only have the technical expertise required for AI development but also the critical thinking skills to assess and address the ethical challenges in the field. This comprehensive education positions them for diverse and impactful careers in various industries, contributing to the innovative and responsible use of AI in solving some of the world's most pressing challenges.

Employment opportunities. There are over 600 open jobs in the Computer and Information Technology areas in Northeastern Oklahoma alone with 375 job openings in Tulsa specifically. A search done on CareerOneStop (https://www.careeronestop.org/) indicated over 800 annual projected job openings in Oklahoma, although the title of AI has not yet grown to the anticipated full expectation. These are high paying jobs with a starting salary around $88,000. Some of these companies in the Tulsa area include Williams, ONEGas, Nordam, OneOK, Helmerich & Payne, and QuikTrip. Expanding to Oklahoma City, Devon Energy, Paycom, and many others can be added. Leading partners in this endeavor are George Kaiser Family Foundation, Tulsa Innovation Labs, Bank of Oklahoma, and Google. A Bachelor of Science degree in Artificial Intelligence would be particularly beneficial for several critical occupations in Oklahoma, including: 1) Software Developers; 2) Computer Systems Analysts; 3) Information Security Analysts; 4) Data Scientists; 5) Computer and Information Systems Managers; 6) Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists; 7) Project Management Specialists; 8) Network and Computer Systems Administrators; and 9) Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers.

Student demand. The proposed program is expected to meet the enrollment and graduation standards by the established deadline prior to final approval by the State Regents as shown in the following table.

Productivity Category	Criteria	Deadline
Minimum Enrollment of majors in the program	50	Fall 2028
Minimum Graduates from the program	40	2028-2029

Duplication and impact on existing programs. There are currently no Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence programs in Oklahoma. A system wide letter of intent was communicated by email on January 24, 2024. None of the State System institutions notified State Regents' staff of a protest to the proposed program. Due to the lack of programs in AI and expected growth within this field, approval will not constitute unnecessary duplication.

Delivery method and support services. The proposed Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence program will be offered via traditional and electronic delivery. OU utilizes Canvas as its learning management system to deliver program content for online courses. The following features in Canvas facilitate student learning: discussion boards, assignment submission, resources, and direct messaging between instructors and students. Canvas contains a calendar/alerts notification component which provide reminders and prompts to students regarding due dates. The library, classrooms, and equipment may also be utilized by students and are adequate for the proposed program.

Online Pedagogy and Training. Faculty who teach in online environments complete training in both the technical tools as well as pedagogical design. In addition, professional development sessions throughout the year offer faculty supplemental training on the latest online teaching techniques. OU is a member of Quality Matters (QM). QM is a global organization leading quality assurance in online and innovative digital teaching and learning environments through research-supported and practice-based quality

standards, as well as peer review and certification of quality in online education. The State Regents support institutional membership to ensure online programs meet QM standards.

AGENDA ITEM #13-a (2):

New Programs.

SUBJECT: The University of Oklahoma. Approval to offer the Bachelor of Science in Software Development and Integration.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the State Regents approve the University of Oklahoma's request to offer the Bachelor of Science in Software Development and Integration, via traditional and electronic delivery, with the stipulation that continuation of the program will depend upon meeting the criteria established by the institution and approved by the State Regents, as described below.

- **Bachelor of Science in Software Development and Integration.** Continuation beyond Fall 2029 will depend upon meeting the following criteria:
  Majors enrolled: a minimum of 50 students in Fall 2028; and
  Graduates: a minimum of 40 students in 2028-2029.

BACKGROUND:

Academic Plan

Institutional Academic Plans are submitted annually to the State Regents, with acknowledgment of receipt, not endorsement. The University of Oklahoma's (OU) 2023-2024 Academic Plan is available at: https://okhighered.org/admin-fac/academic-forms/.

APRA Implementation
In August 1991, the State Regents launched the Academic Planning/Resource Allocation (APRA) initiative, which was based on the principle that institutional officials would prioritize their programs and activities, and then fund higher priority activities at levels that ensured quality. Since implementation, the APRA has served as a framework for institutions to shift resources from low priority, low producing, and duplicate academic programs to higher priority programs that address state and local workforce needs.

As a result of the APRA process, a net of 93 academic programs have been eliminated. After 30 years of documenting institutions' successful efforts to prioritize programs through APRA, along with recommendations from the Task Force on the Future of Higher Education to expand collaboration and limit program duplication, the Net Reduction table has been reset, beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year, to monitor the next 30 years of progress on this initiative.

Since 2021, OU has taken the following program actions in response to APRA:

12	Degree and/or certificate programs deleted
37	Degree and/or certificate programs added

Program Review

OU offers 362 degree and/or certificate programs as follows:

73	Certificates
0	Associate in Arts or Science Degrees
0	Associate in Applied Science Degrees
126	Baccalaureate Degrees
105	Master's Degrees
58	Doctoral Degrees
0	First Professional Degrees

All of these programs were reviewed in the past five years with the exception of those programs with specialty accreditation. Programs with specialty accreditation are aligned with OU's program review schedule as appropriate. Thus, if a professional program received a ten-year accreditation, it would not be reviewed for ten years, which is an approved exception to State Regents' policy.

Program Development Process
OU's faculty developed the proposal, which was reviewed and approved by institutional officials. OU's governing board approved delivery of the Bachelor of Science in Software Development and Integration program at their March 12, 2024 meeting. OU is currently approved to offer 84 degree and certificate programs through electronic delivery. OU requests authorization to offer this program as outlined below.

POLICY ISSUES:

This action is consistent with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's (OSRHE) Academic Program Approval and the Distance Education and Traditional Off-Campus Courses and Programs policies.

ANALYSIS:

Bachelor of Science in Software Development and Integration

Program purpose. The proposed Bachelor of Science in Software Development and Integration program will provide a comprehensive education in software development, combining theoretical knowledge, and practical skills.

Program rationale and background. The proposed program is designed to cater to the evolving needs of the technology sector, focusing on equipping students with a broad range of skills essential for software development. The curriculum emphasizes a blend of theoretical knowledge and practical application, covering key areas such as programming, system design, and software integration. This comprehensive approach ensures that graduates are well-prepared to tackle the diverse challenges in the field of software development, from designing user-friendly applications to developing complex systems. Additionally, the program recognizes the importance of staying current with emerging technologies and methodologies in

software development. It aims to produce graduates who are not only proficient in current best practices but also adaptable to future technological advancements. This foresight is crucial in an industry characterized by rapid change and innovation. By fostering a deep understanding of both foundational principles and cutting-edge techniques, the program seeks to fulfill the industry's demand for highly skilled and versatile software developers, ready to contribute effectively in various roles within the technology industry.

Employment opportunities. There are over 600 open jobs in the Computer and Information Technology areas in Northeastern Oklahoma alone with 375 job openings in Tulsa specifically. A search done on CareerOneStop (https://www.careeronestop.org/) indicated over 960 annual projected job openings in Oklahoma. These are high paying jobs with a starting salary around $75,000. Some of the companies in the Tulsa area include Vital Energy, ONEGas, Nordam, ONEOK, Helmerich & Payne, and QuikTrip. Expanding to Oklahoma City, Devon Energy, Paycom, and many others can be added. Leading partners in this endeavor are the George Kaiser Family Foundation, Tulsa Innovation Labs, Bank of Oklahoma, and Google. Additionally, the proposed program could directly benefit several occupations listed as critical in Oklahoma. Key industry partners in Northeastern Oklahoma have reached out to OU expressing their need for Software Development and especially Software Integration applicants. Software integration is an issue that can be found in any industry, company, organization in both the private and public sector.

Student demand. The proposed program is expected to meet the enrollment and graduation standards by the established deadline prior to final approval by the State Regents as shown in the following table.

Productivity Category	Criteria	Deadline
Minimum Enrollment of majors in the program	50	Fall 2028
Minimum Graduates from the program	40	2028-2029

Duplication and impact on existing programs. The proposed Bachelor of Science in Software Development and Integration may share similar content with the following programs:

Institution	Existing Program
Oklahoma State University	Bachelor of Science in Applied Computer Programming (344)
Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology	Bachelor of Technology in Information Technologies with option in Software Development (094)
Rogers State University	Bachelor of Science in Information Technology with option in Software Development and Multimedia (108)
Southwestern Oklahoma State University	Bachelor of Science in Computer Science with option in Software Development (088)

A system wide letter of intent was communicated by email on January 24, 2024. Oklahoma State University (OSU) submitted a protest of the letter of intent based on unnecessary duplication. Through communication between OU and OSU leadership, OSU withdrew their protest. Due to rising job demands within this field, approval will not constitute unnecessary duplication.

Delivery method and support services. The proposed Bachelor of Science in Software Development and Integration program will be offered via traditional and electronic delivery. OU utilizes Canvas as its

learning management system to deliver program content for online courses. The following features in Canvas facilitate student learning: discussion boards, assignment submission, resources, and direct messaging between instructors and students. Canvas contains a calendar/alerts notification component which provide reminders and prompts to students regarding due dates. The library, classrooms, and equipment may also be utilized by students and are adequate for the proposed program.

Online Pedagogy and Training. Faculty who teach in online environments complete training in both the technical tools as well as pedagogical design. In addition, professional development sessions throughout the year offer faculty supplemental training on the latest online teaching techniques. OU is a member of Quality Matters (QM). QM is a global organization leading quality assurance in online and innovative digital teaching and learning environments through research-supported and practice-based quality standards, as well as peer review and certification of quality in online education. The State Regents support institutional membership to ensure online programs meet QM standards.

AGENDA ITEM #13-b:

> **New Programs.**

SUBJECT: Oklahoma State University. Approval to offer the Master of Science in Counseling Psychology.

RECOMMENDATION:

> **It is recommended that the State Regents approve Oklahoma State University's request to offer the Master of Science in Counseling Psychology, via traditional delivery, with the stipulation that continuation of the program will depend upon meeting the criteria established by the institution and approved by the State Regents, as described below.**

> - **Master of Science in Counseling Psychology.** Continuation beyond Fall 2028 will depend upon meeting the following criteria:
>   Majors enrolled: a minimum of 6 students in Fall 2027; and
>   Graduates: a minimum of 3 students in 2027-2028.

BACKGROUND:

Academic Plan

Institutional Academic Plans are submitted annually to the State Regents, with acknowledgment of receipt, not endorsement. Oklahoma State University's (OSU) 2023-2024 Academic Plan is available at: https://okhighered.org/admin-fac/academic-forms/.

APRA Implementation
In August 1991, the State Regents launched the Academic Planning/Resource Allocation (APRA) initiative, which was based on the principle that institutional officials would prioritize their programs and activities, and then fund higher priority activities at levels that ensured quality. Since implementation, the APRA has served as a framework for institutions to shift resources from low priority, low producing, and duplicate academic programs to higher priority programs that address state and local workforce needs.

As a result of the APRA process, a net of 93 academic programs have been eliminated. After 30 years of documenting institutions' successful efforts to prioritize programs through APRA, along with recommendations from the Task Force on the Future of Higher Education to expand collaboration and limit program duplication, the Net Reduction table has been reset, beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year, to monitor the next 30 years of progress on this initiative.

Since 2021, OSU has taken the following program actions in response to APRA:

3	Degree and/or certificate programs deleted
54	Degree and/or certificate programs added

Program Review

OSU offers 369 degree and/or certificate programs as follows:

110	Certificates
0	Associate in Arts or Science Degrees
0	Associate in Applied Science Degrees
121	Baccalaureate Degrees
84	Master's Degrees
54	Doctoral Degrees
0	First Professional Degrees

All of these programs were reviewed in the past five years with the exception of those programs with specialty accreditation. Programs with specialty accreditation are aligned with OSU's program review schedule as appropriate. Thus, if a professional program received a ten-year accreditation, it would not be reviewed for ten years, which is an approved exception to State Regents' policy.

Program Development Process
OSU's faculty developed the proposal, which was reviewed and approved by institutional officials. OSU's governing board approved delivery of the Master of Science in Counseling Psychology program at their January 26, 2024 meeting. OSU requests authorization to offer this program as outlined below.

POLICY ISSUES:

This action is consistent with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's (OSRHE) Academic Program Approval policy.

ANALYSIS:

Master of Science in Counseling Psychology

Program purpose. The proposed Master of Science in Counseling Psychology will provide integrated training in psychology as a behavioral science and in counseling psychology as a specialty.

Program rationale and background. The Counseling Psychology program is based on the scientist-practitioner model of psychology training and is grounded on the principle that theory, research, and practice should be considered inseparable in the preparation of professional psychologists. Students will be required to follow an organized sequence of study in which academic coursework and practicum experiences are integrated. The curriculum is designed to prepare students to engage in master's level practice in the field that will integrate science and practice throughout all areas of professional life; provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills in the area of professional practice; and to participate in developmental, individual and cultural/contextual variables within the counseling psychology profession. The establishment of the program will enhance the students' learning and ability to go out into their

community and equip them with the skills and experiences that they need to be better prepared for the doctoral program and working with clients.

Employment opportunities. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of clinical, counseling, and school psychologists is projected to grow 10 percent from 2021 to 2031, faster than the average for all occupations. Greater demand for psychological services in schools, hospitals, mental health centers, and social services agencies are some of the main drivers for employment growth. Students who graduate from the proposed program have employment opportunities in numerous fields, some of which include: hospitals, VA hospitals, community mental health centers, rehabilitation agencies, college and university counseling centers, academia, individual or group practice, Indian behavioral health, corrections, and the military.

Student demand. The proposed program is expected to meet the enrollment and graduation standards by the established deadline prior to final approval by the State Regents as shown in the following table.

Productivity Category	Criteria	Deadline
Minimum Enrollment of majors in the program	6	Fall 2027
Minimum Graduates from the program	3	2027-2028

Duplication and impact on existing programs. The proposed Master of Science in Counseling Psychology may share similar content with the following programs:

Institution	Existing Program
Northwestern Oklahoma State University	Master of Counseling Psychology in Counseling Psychology (043)
University of Central Oklahoma	Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology (244)

A system wide letter of intent was communicated by email on December 12, 2023. None of the State System institutions notified State Regents' staff of a protest to the proposed program. Due to anticipated growth in the field, approval will not constitute unnecessary duplication.

Delivery method and support services. The proposed Master of Science in Counseling Psychology program will be offered via traditional delivery. The library, classrooms, and equipment are adequate for the proposed program.

AGENDA ITEM #13-c:

> **New Programs.**

SUBJECT: Northeastern State University. Approval to offer the Bachelor of Science in Sport/Recreation Management.

RECOMMENDATION:

> **It is recommended that the State Regents approve Northeastern State University's request to offer the Bachelor of Science in Sport/Recreation Management, via traditional and electronic delivery, with an option in Sport Management Recreation, and with the stipulation that continuation of the program will depend upon meeting the criteria established by the institution and approved by the State Regents, as described below.**

> - **Bachelor of Science in Sport/Recreation Management.** Continuation beyond Fall 2028 will depend upon meeting the following criteria:
>   Majors enrolled: a minimum of 12 students in Fall 2027; and
>   Graduates: a minimum of 5 students in 2027-2028.

BACKGROUND:

Academic Plan

Institutional Academic Plans are submitted annually to the State Regents, with acknowledgment of receipt, not endorsement. Northeastern State University's (NSU) 2023-2024 Academic Plan is available at: https://okhighered.org/admin-fac/academic-forms/.

APRA Implementation
In August 1991, the State Regents launched the Academic Planning/Resource Allocation (APRA) initiative, which was based on the principle that institutional officials would prioritize their programs and activities, and then fund higher priority activities at levels that ensured quality. Since implementation, the APRA has served as a framework for institutions to shift resources from low priority, low producing, and duplicate academic programs to higher priority programs that address state and local workforce needs.

As a result of the APRA process, a net of 93 academic programs have been eliminated. After 30 years of documenting institutions' successful efforts to prioritize programs through APRA, along with recommendations from the Task Force on the Future of Higher Education to expand collaboration and limit program duplication, the Net Reduction table has been reset, beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year, to monitor the next 30 years of progress on this initiative.

Since 2021, NSU has taken the following program actions in response to APRA:

4	Degree and/or certificate programs deleted
31	Degree and/or certificate programs added

Program Review

NSU offers 147 degree and/or certificate programs as follows:

56	Certificates
0	Associate in Arts or Science Degrees
0	Associate in Applied Science Degrees
64	Baccalaureate Degrees
26	Master's Degrees
0	Doctoral Degrees
1	First Professional Degrees

All of these programs were reviewed in the past five years with the exception of those programs with specialty accreditation. Programs with specialty accreditation are aligned with NSU's program review schedule as appropriate. Thus, if a professional program received a ten-year accreditation, it would not be reviewed for ten years, which is an approved exception to State Regents' policy.

Program Development Process
NSU's faculty developed the proposal, which was reviewed and approved by institutional officials. NSU's governing board approved delivery of the Bachelor of Science in Sport/Recreation Management program at their February 23, 2024 meeting. NSU is currently approved to offer 97 degree and certificate programs through electronic delivery. NSU requests authorization to offer this program as outlined below.

POLICY ISSUES:

This action is consistent with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's (OSRHE) Academic Program Approval and the Distance Education and Traditional Off-Campus Courses and Programs policies.

ANALYSIS:

Bachelor of Science in Sport/Recreation Management

Program purpose. The proposed Bachelor of Science in Sport/Recreation Management is designed to prepare students for a variety of career opportunities in the field of sport and recreation management.

Program rationale and background. The proposed program is an area of possible program opportunities in terms of student demand and competitions within Oklahoma. Career opportunities for graduates of this program could include sport administrators in college or K-12 schools, coaches, and state and national park managers, to name a few. Graduates from the proposed program can also pursue advanced degrees in the areas of sport management or recreation management.

Employment opportunities. The field of sports and recreation management has grown very rapidly in recent years and data show a high student demand for this program. For example, the sports sponsorship market is projected to grow at an annual rate of 6.36 percent until 2030, reaching a value of almost 108

billion dollars. Also, the health and fitness club market is estimated to grow at a rate of 7.67 percent annually between 2023 and 2030. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) analyzed that real gross output for the outdoor recreation economy increased 21.7 percent, while outdoor recreation employment increased 13.1 percent. Additionally, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reports that jobs in the sports management related fields are expected to grow approximately 10 percent between 2020 and 2030. The following fields are expecting increases in employment opportunities: fitness/sport club manager positions by 8.5 percent, athletic coach positions by 9 percent, education administrators (e.g., athletic director) by 15.1 percent, and sports officials by 9.7 percent. Furthermore, the Labor Market Information Unit's Employment Projections program shows there will be significant increased employment demands in the areas of sport/recreation management in Oklahoma between 2020 and 2030 including coach and scout (26.3 percent), recreation industries (8.7 percent), event planners (11.9 percent), and market research analysts and marketing specialist (24.9 percent) to name a few. Employment resources clearly indicate a need for this type of program to meet the employment demands in the future.

Student demand. The proposed program is expected to meet the enrollment and graduation standards by the established deadline prior to final approval by the State Regents as shown in the following table.

Productivity Category	Criteria	Deadline
Minimum Enrollment of majors in the program	12	Fall 2027
Minimum Graduates from the program	5	2027-2028

Duplication and impact on existing programs. The proposed Bachelor of Science in Sport/Recreation Management may share similar content with the following programs:

Institution	Existing Program
University of Oklahoma	Bachelor of Business Administration in Management with option in Sports Business (168)
Oklahoma State University	Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in Management with option in Sports Management (449)
Oklahoma Panhandle State University	Bachelor of Science in Health Physical Education with option in Sport and Exercise Management (012)
Rogers State University	Bachelor of Science in Sport Management (122)
Southeastern Oklahoma State University	Bachelor of Science in Recreation Sport Management (041)
Southwestern Oklahoma State University	Bachelor of Science in Sports Management (065)

A system wide letter of intent was communicated by email on February 6, 2024. Rogers State University (RSU) submitted a protest of the letter of intent based on unnecessary duplication. Through communication between NSU and RSU leadership, RSU withdrew their protest. Due to anticipated employment opportunities, approval will not constitute unnecessary duplication.

Delivery method and support services. The proposed Bachelor of Science in Sport/Recreation Management programs will be offered via traditional and electronic delivery. NSU utilizes Blackboard as its learning management system to deliver program content for online courses. They also utilize Zoom as a supplemental software. The following features in Blackboard facilitate student learning: discussion boards, assignment submission, resources, and a calendar/alerts notification component which provide reminders and prompts to students regarding due dates. Online tutoring is free and available to all students using

Tutor.com, linked in the Blackboard. The library, classrooms, and equipment may also be utilized by students and are adequate for the proposed program.

Online Pedagogy and Training. Faculty who teach in online environments complete training in both the technical tools as well as pedagogical design. In addition, professional development sessions throughout the year offer faculty supplemental training on the latest online teaching techniques. NSU is a member of Quality Matters (QM). QM is a global organization leading quality assurance in online and innovative digital teaching and learning environments through research-supported and practice-based quality standards, as well as peer review and certification of quality in online education. The State Regents support institutional membership to ensure online programs meet QM standards.

AGENDA ITEM #13-d:

New Programs.

SUBJECT: Rose State College. Approval to offer the Associate in Science in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the State Regents approve Rose State College's request to offer the Associate in Science in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Technology, via traditional and electronic delivery, with the stipulation that continuation of the program will depend upon meeting the criteria established by the institution and approved by the State Regents, as described below.

- **Associate in Science in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Technology.** Continuation beyond Fall 2029 will depend upon meeting the following criteria:
    Majors enrolled: a minimum of 20 students in Fall 2028; and
    Graduates: a minimum of 10 students in 2028-2029.

BACKGROUND:

Academic Plan

Institutional Academic Plans are submitted annually to the State Regents, with acknowledgment of receipt, not endorsement. Rose State College's (RSC) 2023-2024 Academic Plan is available at: https://okhighered.org/admin-fac/academic-forms/.

APRA Implementation
In August 1991, the State Regents launched the Academic Planning/Resource Allocation (APRA) initiative, which was based on the principle that institutional officials would prioritize their programs and activities, and then fund higher priority activities at levels that ensured quality. Since implementation, the APRA has served as a framework for institutions to shift resources from low priority, low producing, and duplicate academic programs to higher priority programs that address state and local workforce needs.

As a result of the APRA process, a net of 93 academic programs have been eliminated. After 30 years of documenting institutions' successful efforts to prioritize programs through APRA, along with recommendations from the Task Force on the Future of Higher Education to expand collaboration and limit program duplication, the Net Reduction table has been reset, beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year, to monitor the next 30 years of progress on this initiative.

Since 2021, RSC has taken the following program actions in response to APRA:

8	Degree and/or certificate programs deleted
5	Degree and/or certificate programs added

Program Review

RSC offers 73 degree and/or certificate programs as follows:

27	Certificates
27	Associate in Arts or Science Degrees
18	Associate in Applied Science Degrees
1	Baccalaureate Degrees
0	Master's Degrees
0	Doctoral Degrees
0	First Professional Degrees

All of these programs were reviewed in the past five years with the exception of those programs with specialty accreditation. Programs with specialty accreditation are aligned with RSC's program review schedule as appropriate. Thus, if a professional program received a ten-year accreditation, it would not be reviewed for ten years, which is an approved exception to State Regents' policy.

Program Development Process
RSC's faculty developed the proposal, which was reviewed and approved by institutional officials. RSC's governing board approved delivery of the Associate in Science in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Technology program at their February 29, 2024 meeting. RSC is currently approved to offer 20 degree and certificate programs through electronic delivery. RSC requests authorization to offer this program as outlined below.

POLICY ISSUES:

This action is consistent with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's (OSRHE) Academic Program Approval and the Distance Education and Traditional Off-Campus Courses and Programs policies.

ANALYSIS:

Associate in Science in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Technology

Program purpose. The proposed Associate in Science in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Technology program will provide comprehensive training that aligns with industry requirements and emerging trends.

Program rationale and background. While Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) Technologies offer immense potential, their successful implementation requires a deep understanding of both the technical aspects and the ethical implications involved. Technicians proficient in AI/ML Technology must possess a comprehensive knowledge of algorithms, data analysis, statistical modeling, and programming languages such as Python, R, and TensorFlow. Furthermore, they must be equipped with critical thinking skills to assess the impact of AI applications on society, privacy, and ethical considerations.

This includes understanding bias in data sets, ensuring transparency and accountability in AI systems, and adhering to ethical guidelines and regulations. By offering the proposed program, RSC aims to bridge the gap between industry demand and skilled workforce supply. Through a combination of rigorous academic coursework, hands-on projects, internships, and industry partnerships, the proposed program will prepare graduates to excel in a variety of roles across diverse sectors. Graduates of the proposed program will be equipped with the necessary technical expertise and ethical framework to thrive in diverse AI-related roles, including AI technician, machine learning engineer, data analyst, and AI specialist.

Employment opportunities. The demand for AI and ML professionals has been consistently rising across industries. According to the World Economic Forum, AI-related jobs are projected to increase significantly in the coming years, with estimates suggesting that AI could create millions of new jobs worldwide by 2030. This demand is driven by the integration of AI and ML technologies in various sectors, including healthcare, finance, manufacturing, retail, and transportation, among others. Additionally, according to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), there are approximately 31,700 positions in computer and information science, encompassing roles such as artificial intelligence specialists. By the year 2028, the BLS anticipates this figure to rise to around 37,000 positions, reflecting an increment of about 5,300 jobs. This growth constitutes a 16 percent increase, surpassing the cumulative projected 5 percent growth rate for all occupations from May 2018 to 2028.

Student demand. The proposed program is expected to meet the enrollment and graduation standards by the established deadline prior to final approval by the State Regents as shown in the following table.

Productivity Category	Criteria	Deadline
Minimum Enrollment of majors in the program	20	Fall 2028
Minimum Graduates from the program	10	2028-2029

Duplication and impact on existing programs. There are currently no Associate in Science in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Technology programs in Oklahoma. A system wide letter of intent was communicated by email on March 6, 2024. None of the State System institutions notified State Regents' staff of a protest to the proposed program. Due to expected growth within this field, approval will not constitute unnecessary duplication.

Delivery method and support services. The proposed Associate in Science in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Technology program will be offered via traditional and electronic delivery. RSC utilizes Canvas as its learning management system and Zoom to deliver program content for online courses. The following features in Canvas facilitate student learning: discussion boards, assignment submission, resources, and direct messaging between instructors and students. Canvas contains a calendar/alerts notification component which provide reminders and prompts to students regarding due dates. The library, classrooms, and equipment may also be utilized by students and are adequate for the proposed program.

Online Pedagogy and Training. Faculty who teach in online environments complete training in both the technical tools as well as pedagogical design. In addition, professional development sessions throughout the year offer faculty supplemental training on the latest online teaching techniques. RSC is a member of Quality Matters (QM). QM is a global organization leading quality assurance in online and innovative digital teaching and learning environments through research-supported and practice-based quality standards, as well as peer review and certification of quality in online education. The State Regents support institutional membership to ensure online programs meet QM standards.

AGENDA ITEM #13-e:

> **New Programs.**

SUBJECT: Redlands Community College. Approval to offer the Associate in Science in Computer Science.

RECOMMENDATION:

> **It is recommended that the State Regents approve Redlands Community College's request to offer the Associate in Science in Computer Science, via traditional and electronic delivery, with options in Cybersecurity and Data Analytics, with the stipulation that continuation of the program will depend upon meeting the criteria established by the institution and approved by the State Regents, as described below.**
>
> - **Associate in Science in Computer Science.** Continuation beyond Fall 2029 will depend upon meeting the following criteria:
>   Majors enrolled: a minimum of 15 students in Fall 2028; and
>   Graduates: a minimum of 5 students in 2028-2029.

BACKGROUND:

Academic Plan

Institutional Academic Plans are submitted annually to the State Regents, with acknowledgment of receipt, not endorsement. Redlands Community College's (RCC) 2023-2024 Academic Plan is available at: https://okhighered.org/admin-fac/academic-forms/.

APRA Implementation
In August 1991, the State Regents launched the Academic Planning/Resource Allocation (APRA) initiative, which was based on the principle that institutional officials would prioritize their programs and activities, and then fund higher priority activities at levels that ensured quality. Since implementation, the APRA has served as a framework for institutions to shift resources from low priority, low producing, and duplicate academic programs to higher priority programs that address state and local workforce needs.

As a result of the APRA process, a net of 93 academic programs have been eliminated. After 30 years of documenting institutions' successful efforts to prioritize programs through APRA, along with recommendations from the Task Force on the Future of Higher Education to expand collaboration and limit program duplication, the Net Reduction table has been reset, beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year, to monitor the next 30 years of progress on this initiative.

Since 2021, RCC has taken the following program actions in response to APRA:

3	Degree and/or certificate programs deleted
2	Degree and/or certificate programs added

Program Review

RCC offers 27 degree and/or certificate programs as follows:

10	Certificates
11	Associate in Arts or Science Degrees
6	Associate in Applied Science Degrees
0	Baccalaureate Degrees
0	Master's Degrees
0	Doctoral Degrees
0	First Professional Degrees

All of these programs were reviewed in the past five years with the exception of those programs with specialty accreditation. Programs with specialty accreditation are aligned with RCC's program review schedule as appropriate. Thus, if a professional program received a ten-year accreditation, it would not be reviewed for ten years, which is an approved exception to State Regents' policy.

Program Development Process
RCC's faculty developed the proposal, which was reviewed and approved by institutional officials. RCC's governing board approved delivery of the Associate in Science in Computer Science program at their April 11, 2024 meeting. RCC is currently approved to offer 13 degree and certificate programs through electronic delivery. RCC requests authorization to offer this program as outlined below.

POLICY ISSUES:

This action is consistent with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's (OSRHE) Academic Program Approval and the Distance Education and Traditional Off-Campus Courses and Programs policies.

ANALYSIS:

Associate in Science in Computer Science

Program purpose. The proposed Associate in Science in Computer Science will help develop collaboration skills, innovation techniques, and train future leaders in the computer science industry.

Program rationale and background. The proposed program will offer two options, Cybersecurity and Data Analytics in response to increased student demand. By offering these options in Computer Science, the Business department will be able to broaden its academic offerings and attract a larger student population. Allocation has been made to the 2023-2024 budget to accommodate the additional faculty needed for successful implementation of the proposed Computer Science program. The faculty member has been hired and will start in the Summer 2024 semester.

Employment opportunities. Workforce and Economic Development statistics from OSRHE indicate there were 37,676 jobs in 2020 with an expected 22.1 percent increase over the next 10 years for the field of computer science. This equates to approximately 4,101 job openings annually. These jobs will need education in the ever-changing, fast-paced computer science industry. Current statistics show that there is one person for every two jobs in computer science. The current college graduate pipeline is not sufficient enough to meet the anticipated job openings for the field. In a one-year period (June 2022 – June 2023), there was a monthly average job posting for computer science positions of 2,380, while the average monthly hires for computer science positions averaged 1,578. This indicates an approximate deficit of 33.6 percent of job openings versus job hires. The proposed program will assist with filling the current gap in the computer science workforce.

Student demand. The proposed program is expected to meet the enrollment and graduation standards by the established deadline prior to final approval by the State Regents as shown in the following table.

Productivity Category	Criteria	Deadline
Minimum Enrollment of majors in the program	15	Fall 2028
Minimum Graduates from the program	5	2028-2029

Duplication and impact on existing programs. The proposed Associate in Science in Computer Science may share similar content with the following programs:

Institution	Existing Program
Connors State College	Associate in Science in Computer Science (103)
Murray State College	Associate in Science in Computer Science (051)
Northern Oklahoma College	Associate in Science in Computer Science Pre-Professional (049)
Oklahoma City Community College	Associate in Science in Computer Science (106)
Rogers State University	Associate in Science in Computer Science (097)
Seminole State College	Associate in Science in Computer Science (226)
Southwestern Oklahoma State University	Associate in Science in Computer Science (140)

A system wide letter of intent was communicated by email on June 2, 2023. Oklahoma City Community College (OCCC) submitted a protest of the letter of intent based on unnecessary duplication. Through communication between RCC and OCCC leadership, OCCC withdrew their protest. Due to anticipated growth in the field, approval will not constitute unnecessary duplication.

Delivery method and support services. The proposed Associate in Science in Computer Science program will be offered via traditional and electronic delivery. RCC utilizes Canvas as its learning management system to deliver program content for online courses. The following features in Canvas facilitate student learning: discussion boards, assignment submission, resources, and direct messaging between instructors and students. Canvas contains a calendar/alerts notification component which provide reminders and prompts to students regarding due dates. The library, classrooms, and equipment may also be utilized by students and are adequate for the proposed program.

Online Pedagogy and Training. Faculty who teach in online environments complete training in both the technical tools as well as pedagogical design. In addition, professional development sessions throughout

the year offer faculty supplemental training on the latest online teaching techniques. RCC is a member of Quality Matters (QM). QM is a global organization leading quality assurance in online and innovative digital teaching and learning environments through research-supported and practice-based quality standards, as well as peer review and certification of quality in online education. The State Regents support institutional membership to ensure online programs meet QM standards.

AGENDA ITEM #13-f:

New Programs.

SUBJECT: Southwestern Oklahoma State University. Approval to offer the Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the State Regents approve Southwestern Oklahoma State University's request to offer Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence, via traditional and electronic delivery, with the stipulation that continuation of the program will depend upon meeting the criteria established by the institution and approved by the State Regents, as described below.

- **Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence.** Continuation beyond Fall 2029 will depend upon meeting the following criteria:
  Majors enrolled: a minimum of 12 students in Fall 2028; and
  Graduates: a minimum of 5 students in 2028-2029.

BACKGROUND:

Academic Plan

Institutional Academic Plans are submitted annually to the State Regents, with acknowledgment of receipt, not endorsement. Southwestern Oklahoma State University's (SWOSU) 2023-2024 Academic Plan is available at: https://okhighered.org/admin-fac/academic-forms/.

APRA Implementation
In August 1991, the State Regents launched the Academic Planning/Resource Allocation (APRA) initiative, which was based on the principle that institutional officials would prioritize their programs and activities, and then fund higher priority activities at levels that ensured quality. Since implementation, the APRA has served as a framework for institutions to shift resources from low priority, low producing, and duplicate academic programs to higher priority programs that address state and local workforce needs.

As a result of the APRA process, a net of 93 academic programs have been eliminated. After 30 years of documenting institutions' successful efforts to prioritize programs through APRA, along with recommendations from the Task Force on the Future of Higher Education to expand collaboration and limit program duplication, the Net Reduction table has been reset, beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year, to monitor the next 30 years of progress on this initiative.

Since 2021, SWOSU has taken the following program actions in response to APRA:

2	Degree and/or certificate programs deleted
6	Degree and/or certificate programs added

Program Review

SWOSU offers 75 degree and/or certificate programs as follows:

6	Certificates
8	Associate in Arts or Science Degrees
5	Associate in Applied Science Degrees
41	Baccalaureate Degrees
14	Master's Degrees
0	Doctoral Degrees
1	First Professional Degrees

All of these programs were reviewed in the past five years with the exception of those programs with specialty accreditation. Programs with specialty accreditation are aligned with SWOSU's program review schedule as appropriate. Thus, if a professional program received a ten-year accreditation, it would not be reviewed for ten years, which is an approved exception to State Regents' policy.

Program Development Process
SWOSU's faculty developed the proposal, which was reviewed and approved by institutional officials. SWOSU's governing board approved delivery of the Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence program at their February 23, 2024 meeting. SWOSU is currently approved to offer 22 degree and certificate programs through electronic delivery. SWOSU requests authorization to offer this program as outlined below.

POLICY ISSUES:

This action is consistent with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's (OSRHE) Academic Program Approval and the Distance Education and Traditional Off-Campus Courses and Programs policies.

ANALYSIS:

Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence

Program purpose. The proposed Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence (AI) program will provide students with the technological components of AI as well as the theoretical and ethical application.

Program rationale and background. Oklahoma state legislators and higher education officials have expressed a desire for Oklahoma universities to begin programs in artificial intelligence. In addition, Oklahoma is centrally located in the U.S. and is strategically located in the aerospace and defense sector. According to recent estimates, aerospace and defense will overtake oil and gas as the largest industry in Oklahoma in the next five (5) years. Employers in this arena will need employees with expertise in artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and computer science. Aerospace and defense employers including Tinker Air Force Base and Boeing are growing at such a high rate, that they will not be able to find qualified employees. Adding the proposed program will provide a more robust and ready workforce to meet workforce demands.

Employment opportunities. Artificial intelligence is quickly becoming an in-demand industry. The World Economic Forum states that AI-related jobs are projected to increase significantly in the next five to ten years, with their estimates suggesting that AI could create millions of new jobs worldwide by 2030. The demand is driven by the integration of AI in various sectors, including aerospace and defense, finance, technology, digital marketing and more. According to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), there are approximately 31,700 positions in computer and information science, which include roles in artificial intelligence. By 2028, the BLS anticipates this figure to rise to around 37,000 positions, reflecting an increase of about 5,300 jobs. This translates to a 16 percent increase, which by far surpasses the cumulative projected 5 percent growth rate for all occupations from May 2018 to 2028. Graduates of the proposed program will be able to work in the computer science field within various industries such as aerospace and defense, finance, technology, digital marketing, and more. As artificial intelligence continues to grow, employers will seek graduates with expertise in the field resulting in many more artificial intelligence jobs in the coming months and years.

Student demand. The proposed program is expected to meet the enrollment and graduation standards by the established deadline prior to final approval by the State Regents as shown in the following table.

Productivity Category	Criteria	Deadline
Minimum Enrollment of majors in the program	12	Fall 2028
Minimum Graduates from the program	5	2028-2029

Duplication and impact on existing programs. There are currently no Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence programs in Oklahoma. A system wide letter of intent was communicated by email on March 6, 2024. None of the State System institutions notified State Regents' staff of a protest to the proposed program. Due to the lack of programs in AI and expected growth within this field, approval will not constitute unnecessary duplication.

Delivery method and support services. The proposed Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence program will be offered via traditional and electronic delivery. SWOSU utilizes Canvas as its learning management system to deliver program content for online courses. The following features in Canvas facilitate student learning: discussion boards, assignment submission, resources, and direct messaging between instructors and students. Canvas contains a calendar/alerts notification component which provide reminders and prompts to students regarding due dates. The library, classrooms, and equipment may also be utilized by students and are adequate for the proposed program.

Online Pedagogy and Training. Faculty who teach in online environments complete training in both the technical tools as well as pedagogical design. In addition, professional development sessions throughout the year offer faculty supplemental training on the latest online teaching techniques. SWOSU is a member of Quality Matters (QM). QM is a global organization leading quality assurance in online and innovative digital teaching and learning environments through research-supported and practice-based quality standards, as well as peer review and certification of quality in online education. The State Regents support institutional membership to ensure online programs meet QM standards.

AGENDA ITEM #14:

> **Program Deletions.**

SUBJECT: Approval of institutional requests.

RECOMMENDATION:

> **It is recommended that the State Regents approve the following requests for program deletions as described below.**

BACKGROUND:

University of Oklahoma (OU) requests authorization to delete the program listed below:
- Bachelor of Microbiology in Microbiology (325)

Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College (NEOAMC) requests authorization to delete the programs listed below:
- Associate in Arts in Natural Resource Ecology and Management (023)
- Associate in Arts in Native American Studies (108)
- Associate in Arts in Speech and Theatre (015)
- Certificate in Natural Resource Ecology Management (124)
- Certificate in Natural Resource Ecology Management (125)

Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) requests authorization to delete the program listed below:
- Bachelor of Science in Public Health (167)

Western Oklahoma State College (WOSC) requests authorization to delete the program listed below:
- Associate in Applied Science in Military Studies (075)

POLICY ISSUES:

These actions are consistent with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's Academic Program Approval policy.

ANALYSIS:

OU requests authorization to delete the Bachelor of Microbiology in Microbiology (325), beginning Fall 2024. This program was approved at the September 19, 1993 State Regents' meeting. OU reports:
- Deletion of the degree program is due to low enrollment.
- OU's School of Biological Sciences is combining, reorganizing, and modernizing the existing undergraduate programs in Biology, Microbiology, and Plant Biology to offer a cohesive undergraduate training program in the Biological Sciences.

- There are currently 16 students enrolled in the program with the last student expected to graduate by Spring 2027.
- No courses will be deleted.
- No funds are available for reallocation.

NEOAMC requests authorization to delete the Associate in Arts in Natural Resource Ecology and Management (023), effective immediately. This program was approved at the September 11, 2008 State Regents' meeting. NEOAMC reports:
- Deletion of the degree program is due to low enrollment and lack of student interest.
- There are no students enrolled in the program.
- No courses will be deleted.
- No funds are available for reallocation.

NEOAMC requests authorization to delete the Associate in Arts in Native American Studies (108), effective immediately. This program was approved at the March 12, 1995 State Regents' meeting. NEOAMC reports:
- Deletion of the degree program is due to low enrollment and lack of student interest.
- There are no students enrolled in the program.
- No courses will be deleted.
- No funds are available for reallocation.

NEOAMC requests authorization to delete the Associate in Arts in Speech and Theatre (015), effective immediately. This program was approved at the January 29, 1999 State Regents' meeting. NEOAMC reports:
- Deletion of the degree program is due to low enrollment and lack of student interest.
- There are no students enrolled in the program.
- No courses will be deleted.
- No funds are available for reallocation.

NEOAMC requests authorization to delete the Certificate in Natural Resource Ecology Management (124), effective immediately. This program was approved at the April 19, 2012 State Regents' meeting. NEOAMC reports:
- Deletion of the degree program is due to low enrollment and lack of student interest.
- There are no students enrolled in the program.
- No courses will be deleted.
- No funds are available for reallocation.

NEOAMC requests authorization to delete the Certificate in Natural Resource Ecology Management (125), effective immediately. This program was approved at the April 19, 2012 State Regents' meeting. NEOAMC reports:
- Deletion of the degree program is due to low enrollment and lack of student interest.
- There are no students enrolled in the program.
- No courses will be deleted.
- No funds are available for reallocation.

SWOSU requests authorization to delete the Bachelor of Science in Public Health (167), effective immediately. This program was approved at the April 26, 2018 State Regents' meeting. SWOSU reports:
- Deletion of the degree program is due to low enrollment and lack of student interest.
- There are currently 8 students enrolled in the program with the last student expected to graduate by Spring 2026.

- No courses will be deleted. Courses specific to Public Health will continue to be taught until all students have successfully completed the degree program.
- No funds are available for reallocation.

WOSC requests authorization to delete the Associate in Applied Science in Military Studies (075), effective immediately. This program was approved at the May 25, 2018 State Regents' meeting. WOSC reports:
- Deletion of the degree program is due to low enrollment and lack of student interest.
- There are no students enrolled in the program.
- No courses will be deleted.
- No funds are available for reallocation.

AGENDA ITEM #15:

       Grant.

SUBJECT: Approval of a modification to the Interagency Agreement and allocation of GEER II funds sourced from Reverted EANS funds from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to support specific academic programs.

RECOMMENDATION:

> **It is recommended that the State Regents approve a modification to the Interagency Agreement for the Administration of Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) Funds and the proposed GEER II program allocations in the amount of $11,348,455.**

BACKGROUND:

The Office of the Governor has received unobligated Emergency Assistance to Non-public Schools (EANS) funding from the Oklahoma State Department of Education under the provisions established by the United States Department of Education (USDOE). The Governor has indicated his desire to authorize those reverted funds to be used by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund. Unobligated EANS funds revert to the Governor's Office and can be used for certain authorized uses in accordance with GEER II funds as authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSA). OSRHE authorized the acceptance of GEER II funds in the amount of $11,348,455 to support the implementation of specific academic programs as proposed to the Governor and USDOE at the February 1, 2024 meeting.

POLICY ISSUES:

The workforce landscape is changing, prompting the need for more skilled labor and individuals with the essential skills to compete in a changing global society. To meet this growing demand, it is critical that higher education focus on the quality and effectiveness of individuals who matriculate through institutions and ensure their effective preparation to meet the expectations of today's employers.

To address the challenges of an evolving workforce OSRHE developed *Blueprint 2030: Innovating and Elevating Oklahoma Higher Education for Tomorrow's Workforce*. A key goal outlined in the plan includes the production of workforce-ready graduates for the state. Data from Unlocking Career Success, an initiative of the U.S. Departments of Education, Commerce and Labor, forecasts that 70% of jobs across the country will require education beyond high school by 2027. In Oklahoma, more than half of our 100 critical occupations – and all of the top 29 highest-paying professions – require an associate degree or higher.

This GEER Funding Proposal supports critical occupations in teaching, child care, nursing, computer technology and engineering. Three projects are recommended for funding:

1. Increasing teaching credentials:
    a. Micro-credentials for alternatively and emergency certified teachers to address the teacher shortage;
    b. Funding to support accelerated teacher education credentials;
2. Increasing the number of credentialed child care professionals to address the shortage of child care workers; and
3. Increasing credentials in nursing, computer technology, and engineering among those who stopped-out during the pandemic (2019 to present).

Funds will be used to implement the above initiatives, as further detailed in Exhibit B of the Interagency Agreement, which contains the GEER Funding Proposal.

ANALYSIS:

Based on discussions with the Governor's office, the State Regents submitted proposals to the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for use of reverted EANS funds to support the following academic programs: micro-credentials for alternative and emergency certified teachers; accelerated teacher education programs; child care provider credentials; and adult degree completion efforts focused on STEM and critical occupations.

State Regents staff worked with the Governor's Office, the Office of Management and Enterprise Services, and the State Department of Education on this interagency agreement, which facilitates the drawdown, expenditure and reporting of the GEER II funds. All funds must be obligated by September 20, 2024, and must be liquidated no later than January 28, 2025 or on a date in accordance with any liquidation extension granted by USDOE.

It is recommended that the State Regents approve the modification to the interagency agreement and the program expenditures to be administered for the purposes described above. Specifically, the modification eliminates Southern Nazarene University (SNU) from receiving funds for Teacher Micro-Credentials and adds the additional funds to Oklahoma Panhandle State University (OPSU). This modification is the result of SNU notifying OSRHE that they would decline participation, as they are unable to meet the requirements for offering the micro-credential courses. OPSU had inquired about additional funds for this initiative beyond their initial request for scholarships; however, due to the timing and the pre-established allocation formula for the scholarships, funds were not available. OPSU has been informed that the funds are now available, and they have expressed continued interest in serving additional students. As a result, OPSU's allocation will increase by $52,480.00, bringing their total for Teacher Micro-credentials to $62,976.00. A copy of the full agreement is available upon request.

Furthermore, it is recommended that funds be distributed to institutions based on their participation in the four proposed initiatives listed below. Funds designated for marketing will be included in the disbursements.

Teacher Micro-credentials	$2,750,000
Accelerated Teacher Education Programs	$2,750,000
Child Care Credentials	$114,000
Adult Degree Completion	$5,514,455
Marketing	$220,000
Total	**$11,348,455**

All funds must be obligated by September 20, 2024, and expended within 120 days after obligation. A full budget breakdown is provided in Attachment A.

Teacher Micro-Credentials
Funds for this project will be used to provide scholarships to participants using micro-credentials in pursuit of a teaching certification. The targeted demographic will be alternative or emergency certified teachers who need a permanent teaching credential. All teacher preparation programs were notified of the potential grant opportunity and were asked to estimate the number of students they would be able to serve if funding were approved. Submitted estimates totaled to an opportunity for 1,048 students to earn micro-credentials towards teacher certification at $2,624 per student.

Accelerated Teacher Education Programs
Funds for this project will be used to develop accelerated teacher certification programs. Responding to a request for proposals in the summer of 2023, institutions submitted plans to develop accelerated programs towards teaching credentials with American Rescue Plan Act funds. Institutions that were not selected were given the option to receive GEER funds to develop the programs they proposed. If approved, each institution will receive $550,000.

Child Care Credentials
Funds for this project will be used to provide scholarships for students in the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care program, leading to professional credential opportunities for 500 child care professionals. The budget for this project is an estimate based on 9 credit hours of instruction per student, averaging the fees per institution and the average cost left to students after financial aid is applied. If approved, institutions that participate in the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care program will invoice the OSRHE for the scholarship amounts needed within the total budgeted amount for the project, $114,000.

Adult Degree Completion
Funds for this project will be used to provide scholarships for adult students to complete critical occupation degrees so they can quickly enter the workforce. Priority will be given to students who are close to earning their degree in a critical occupation area. Amounts per institution were determined based on total undergraduate FTE at public institutions for AY22 and are anticipated to support the graduation of 500 or more students.

Attachment.

GEER Funds Project Summaries and Budget Breakdown

Teacher Micro-Credentials

Overview
Funds for this project will be used to provide scholarships to participants using micro-credentials to obtain a teaching certification. The target audience is alternative or emergency certified teachers who need a permanent teaching credential. Of the 21 teacher preparation program institutions listed in the initial proposal, the ones listed below responded affirmatively to a call for participation issued Wednesday, January 17, 2024. An affirmative response indicates that the institution has micro-credentials currently in place for teacher certification purposes or that they agree to develop micro-credentials for the purpose of teacher certification by the stated March 2024 deadline.

Budget by Institution

Teacher Prep Institution	Previous Allocation	Previous # of Students	New Allocation	New # of Students
CAMERON UNIVERSITY	$39,360	15	$39,360	15
EAST CENTRAL UNIVERSITY	$78,720	30	$78,720	30
Mid-America Christian University	$49,856	19	$49,856	19
NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY	$524,800	200	$524,800	200
Oklahoma City University	$603,520	230	$603,520	230
OKLAHOMA PANHANDLE STATE UNIVERSITY	$10,496	4	$62,976	24
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	$236,160	90	$236,160	90
Randall University	$20,992	8	$20,992	8
Southern Nazarene University	$52,480	20	$0	0
SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	$438,208	167	$438,208	167
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA	$656,000	250	$656,000	250
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND ARTS OF OKLAHOMA	$39,360	15	$39,360	15
Total	**$2,749,952**	**1,048**	**$2,749,952**	**1,048**

Budget Explanation and Formula
All teacher preparation programs were notified of the potential grant opportunity and were asked to estimate the number of students they would be able to serve if funding were approved. The above budget allocation reflects the institutions who have micro-credentials or will have micro-credentials in place by the end of March and their expected number of served students at $2,624 each. Allocation column represents the dollar amount expended based on the number of students they expect to serve by the allocation deadline.

Accelerated Teacher Education Programs

Overview
These funds will be used to develop accelerated teacher certification programs. In the summer of 2023, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) sent a request for proposals (RFP) for Teacher Acceleration Programs to be supported by funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Requirements for program proposals included expediting the certification process for holders of non-

education bachelor's degrees seeking to enter the teaching profession, with a focus on math and science education as well as special education and English as a Second Language programs to address learning loss from the COVID-19 pandemic. Out of seven proposals received, two were awarded. Institutions listed below represent the remaining five proposals from the initial RFP process. Each was contacted to gauge whether they would participate if funding could be secured.

- Cameron University
- Langston University
- Northwestern Oklahoma State University
- Oklahoma State University
- University of Oklahoma

Budget $2,750,000

ARPA-Proposed Institutions	Allocation
CAMERON UNIVERSITY	$555,000
LANGSTON UNIVERSITY	$555,000
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	$555,000
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA	$555,000
NORTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	$555,000
Total	**$2,750,000**

Budget Explanation and Formula
The budget has been split evenly among the five remaining unfunded proposals received during the ARPA RFP call held in summer 2023.

Child Care Credentials

Overview
These funds will be used to cover the gap that the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care program and financial aid does not cover in tuition and fees. This is roughly 10% of the students' total bill. This funding will facilitate professional credentials for approximately 500 child care professionals. This will assist in retention of these scholars and the completion of the child development degrees.

Budget by Institution

Scholars for Excellence in Childcare Institutions	Estimated Allocation before Financial Aid – Spring 2024	Estimated Allocation before Financial Aid – Summer 2024	Estimated Total
CARL ALBERT STATE COLLEGE	$7,727	$3,192	$10,919
CONNORS STATE COLLEGE	$3,554	$1,890	$5,444
MURRAY STATE COLLEGE	$4,975	$1,880	$6,855
NORTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA A&M COLLEGE	$3,094	$1,830	$6,855
NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE	$8,404	$2,201	$10,605
OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	$3,290	$1,321	$4,611
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY – OKLAHOMA CITY	$7,651	$1,992	$9,643
REDLANDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE	$5,822	$1,611	$7,433
ROSE STATE COLLEGE	$6,737	$2,267	$9,004
SEMINOLE STATE COLLEGE	$6,701	$1,762	$8,463
TULSA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	$5,490	$1,011	$6,501
WESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE COLLEGE	$3,974	$1,366	$5,341
SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	$15,012	$7,001	$22,013
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA	$822	$590	$1,472
CAMERON UNIVERSITY	$465	$307	$772
Grand Total Before Financial Aid Applied			**$114,000**

Budget Explanation and Formula
Scholars for Excellence in Child Care (SECC) is covering 90% of the tuition and fees after all financial aid has been applied. The amounts above are estimates based on 9 credit hours of instruction per student, averaging the fees per institution, and multiplying by 10%. The remaining bill per student after SECC and scholarships are applied and are invoiced by the institution in April/May for Spring 24 and Summer 24 Aug/Sept. Exact numbers cannot be given until May and August, 2024.

Adult Degree Completion

Overview
These funds will be allocated to provide scholarships to adult students to complete critical occupation degrees so they can more quickly enter the workforce with less financial burden.

Budget $5,514,455

Institution Name	Type	Funding
CAMERON UNIVERSITY	Regional	$126,178
CARL ALBERT STATE COLLEGE	CC	$62,377
CONNORS STATE COLLEGE	CC	$68,994
EAST CENTRAL UNIVERSITY	Regional	$129,796
EASTERN OKLAHOMA STATE COLLEGE	CC	$45,397
LANGSTON UNIVERSITY	Regional	$90,828
MURRAY STATE COLLEGE	CC	$70,925
NORTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA A&M COLLEGE	CC	$73,186
NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY	Regional	$229.964
NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE	CC	$94,883
NORTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	Regional	$68,669
OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	CC	$338,418
OKLAHOMA PANHANDLE STATE UNIVERSITY	Regional	$58,761
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY (TOTAL)	Research	$1,257,176
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY – MAIN CAMPUS & TULSA	Branch	$975,280
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY – OKLAHOMA CITY	Branch	$172,063
OSU INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY – OKMULGEE	Branch	$109,833
REDLANDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE	CC	$51,268
ROGERS STATE UNIVERSITY	Regional	$120,044
ROSE STATE COLLEGE	CC	$192,022
SEMINOLE STATE COLLEGE	CC	$55,315
SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	Regional	$126,085
SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	Regional	$170,687
TULSA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	CC	$458,495
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA	Regional	$489,581
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA (TOTAL)	Research	$1,052,745
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA – MAIN CAMPUS & TULSA	Branch	$1,004,119
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER	Branch	$48,550
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA LAW CENTER	Branch	$76
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND ARTS OF OKLAHOMA	Regional	$41,418
WESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE COLLEGE	CC	$41,263
Total		**$5,514,455**

Budget Explanation and Formula

Funds were calculated on a formula model dividing the total available by the undergraduate FTE of each institution for AY22. All state system institutions were included.

Combined GEER Fund Amount by Institution	Type	Marketing	Adult	Child Care	Accelerated	Micro-Credentials	Total
CAMERON UNIVERSITY	Regional	$8,800	$126,178	$772	$550,000	$39,360	$725,110
CARL ALBERT STATE COLLEGE	CC	$8,800	$62,377	$10,919			$82,106
CONNORS STATE COLLEGE	CC	$8,800	$68,994	$5,444			$83,238
EAST CENTRAL UNIVERSITY	Regional	$8,800	$129,796			$78,720	$347,112
EASTERN OKLAHOMA STATE COLLEGE	CC	$8,800	$45,397				$54,197
LANGSTON UNIVERSITY	Regional	$8,800	$90,828		$550,000		$649,628
Mid-America Christian University	Private					$49,856	$49,856
MURRAY STATE COLLEGE	CC	$8,800	$70,925	$6,855			$86,580
NORTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA A&M COLLEGE	CC	$8,800	$73,186	$4,924			$86,910
NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY	Regional	$8,800	$229,964			$524,800	$763,564
NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE	CC	$8,800	$94,883	$10,605			$114,288
NORTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	Regional	$8,800	$68,669		$550,000		$77,469
OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	CC	$8,800	$338,418	$4,611			$897,218
Oklahoma City University	Private					$603,520	$603,520
OKLAHOMA PANHANDLE STATE UNIVERSITY	Regional	$8,800	$58,761			$62,976	$120,041
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY (TOTAL)	Research	$8,800	$1,257,176	$9,643	$550,000	$236,160	$2,061,779
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY – MAIN CAMPUS & TULSA	Branch		$975,280		$550,000	$236,160	$1,761,440
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY – CHS	Branch						
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY – VET MET	Branch						
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY – OKLAHOMA CITY	Branch		$172,063	$9,643			$181,706
OSU INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY – OKMULGEE	Branch		$109,833				$109,833
Randall University	Private					$20,992	$20,992
REDLANDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE	CC	$8,800	$51,268	$7,433			$67,501
ROGERS STATE UNIVERSITY	Regional	$8,800	$120,044				$128,844
ROSE STATE COLLEGE	CC	$8,800	$192,002	$9,004			$209,806
SEMINOLE STATE COLLEGE	CC	$8,800	$55,315	$8,463			$72,578
SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	Regional	$8,800	$126,085	$22,013			$156,898

Institution	Type						
SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	Regional	$8,800	$170,687			$438,208	$617,695
TULSA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	CC	$8,800	$458,495	$6,501			$473,796
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA	Regional	$8,800	$489,581	$1,472		$656,000	$1,154,381
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA (TOTAL)	Research	$8,800	$1,052,745		$550,000		$1,616,545
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA – MAIN CAMPUS & TULSA	Branch		$1,004,119		$550,000		$1,559,119
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER	Branch		$48,550				$48,550
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA LAW CENTER	Branch		$76				$76
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND ARTS OF OKLAHOMA	Regional	$8,800	$41,418			$39,360	$89,578
WESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE COLLEGE	CC	$8,800	$41,263	$5,341			$55,404
Total		**$222,000**	**$5,514,455**	**$114,000**	**$2,750,000**	**$2,749,952**	**$11,248,407**

AGENDA ITEM #16:

Scholars for Excellence in Childcare.

SUBJECT: Approval of contract between the Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care program.

RECCOMENDATION:

It is recommended that the State Regents approve the Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness contract in the amount of $110,000.

BACKGROUND:

Beginning May 1, 2024, the percentage of financial support for child care providers who are approved for the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care scholarship, and enrolled in a Certificate of Mastery at a participating community college, or in the Pathway to Your National Credential program at a participating technology center is being reduced from 100% to 90% for tuition and fees. The percentage of financial support for the scholarship recipients who are applying for the National CDA Credential is also being reduced. The Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness agrees to pay the 10% gap funding for scholarship participants through December 30, 2024 with the opportunity to renew the contract for two additional grant cycles of December 31, 2024 – December 30, 2025 and December 31, 2025 through December 30, 2026. Through this partnership, the cost for education to increase child care credentials for the scholarship participants will be free.

POLICY ISSUES:

This action is consistent with the State Regents' commitment to enhance educational opportunities, credential and degree completion, and encourage coordination and cooperation between the OSRHE, State System institutions, and other state agencies.

ANALYSIS:

The Scholars Program has achieved success since its inception. Through summer 2023, there have been approximately 444 child care providers that, through taking courses at the community colleges, have obtained a Child Development Associate (CDA), a nationally recognized credential; approximately 4,530 have earned a certificate of mastery and 1,379 an associate degree through the Scholars program initiative. There have been 735 directors/assistant directors who have obtained a Director's Certificate of Completion awarded through the Scholars program. Forty-five scholars have received a bachelor's degree through the bachelor's scholarship.

Since the inception of the Early Education Pathway to Your CDA curriculum in spring 2007, area technology centers have offered online and classroom training to prepare students for the national CDA Credential. The

Scholars program has provided a scholarship to assist with the cost. Since June 2023, approximately 591 child care providers in the state have obtained a national CDA Credential.

The Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Foundation, Inc.
Subrecipient Subaward Contract
This subaward is funded with 100% federal funding through the Preschool Development Grant Birth-Five
Federal Award Number 90TP0094-01-00
Assistance Listing Number: 93.434

This Subrecipient Subaward Contract (referred to as "Subaward") is by and between The Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Foundation, Inc., an Oklahoma nonprofit corporation and its directors, officers, employees, volunteers, affiliates and agents, (collectively, "Foundation") and the Oklahoma State Regent for Higher Education (referred to as "Subrecipient").

WHEREAS, Foundation desires the Subrecipient to provide certain services upon the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, and Subrecipient is willing to perform such services.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and Subaward hereinafter set forth, the parties agree as follows:

1. Services
1.1 Foundation hereby engages Subrecipient and Subrecipient hereby accepts such Subaward, to execute the Scope of Work (Schedule A) related to Foundation's grant award of $110,000.00.

1.2 Subrecipient shall provide to Foundation the services set forth on the attached Scope of Work (Schedule A) pursuant to the approved Budget (Schedule B).

1.3 Foundation shall not control the manner or means by which Subrecipient or Subrecipient's employees perform the Services.

1.4 With the exception of funds provided under this Subaward, each party shall furnish at their own expense, any additional equipment, supplies, and other materials used to perform the Services as identified in the Scope of Work.

1.5 While on Foundation's premises, using Foundation's equipment, or conducting business on behalf of Foundation, Subrecipient shall comply with all applicable policies of Foundation relating to business and office conduct, health and safety, and use of Foundation's facilities, supplies, information technology, equipment, networks, and other resources.

2. Term
The term of this Subaward shall commence as of May 1, 2024 through December 30, 2024 with the option to renew for an additional year, December 31, 2024 – December 30, 2025 as funds are available and agreement objectives are met.

3. Termination
Either Party may terminate this Subaward without cause upon 30 days written notice to the other Party.

3.1 Termination for Cause. Foundation may terminate this Subaward for cause if the Subrecipient fails in any material respect to comply with any provision of this Subaward, and the failure continues for a period of 30 days after Foundation gives notice to the Subrecipient setting forth the alleged breach.

3.2 Effect of Termination. The Subrecipient shall not be entitled to any further payments and shall return to Foundation all unused payments or Subaward payments not utilized in support of those activities contemplated under this Subaward.

3.3 To the extent permitted by the Oklahoma Open Records Act, 51 O.S. § 24A.1 et seq. ("ORA"), each party shall return and/or destroy all confidential information of the other Party in the event of termination.

4. Relationship of the Parties

4.1 Party is an Independent Contractor, and this Subaward shall not be construed to create any association, partnership, joint venture, employee, or agency relationship between the parties for any purpose. Subrecipient has no authority (and shall not hold itself out as having authority) to bind Foundation and shall not make any agreements or representations on Foundation's behalf without Foundation's prior written consent.

4.2 Without limiting Section 4.1, Subrecipient will not be eligible to participate in any vacation, group medical or life insurance, disability, profit sharing or retirement benefits, or any other fringe benefits or benefit plans offered by Foundation to its employees, and Foundation will not be responsible for withholding or paying any income, payroll, Social Security, or other federal, state, or local taxes, making any insurance contributions, including for unemployment or disability, or obtaining workers' compensation insurance on Subrecipient's behalf. Subrecipient shall be responsible for all such taxes or contributions, including penalties and interest. Any persons employed or engaged by Subrecipient in connection with the performance of the Services shall be Subrecipient's employees or Contractors and Subrecipient shall be fully responsible for them.

5. Confidentiality

Subrecipient's employees and subcontractors may be required to sign confidentiality acknowledgments (Schedule C) that mention the importance of confidentiality and safety for Foundation clients and which require Subrecipient's representatives to keep information confidential should they see someone they know at a Foundation or partner facility. If Foundation becomes aware of any Subrecipient or representatives who (1) breach Foundation confidentiality, (2) fail to sign a confidentiality acknowledgment, or (3) are not permitted on Foundation property, Foundation shall not allow such Subrecipient or representative to access Foundation property and Subrecipient or representative shall no longer come on to Foundation property and shall no longer have access to Foundation Confidential Information. Under such circumstances, Foundation shall not be obligated to inform the Subrecipient of the reason for termination of the relationship, other than that termination was due to breach of Foundation confidentiality.

5.1 Subrecipient may have access to information that is treated as confidential and proprietary by Foundation including without limitation the existence and terms of this Subaward, trade secrets, technology, and information pertaining to business operations and strategies, customers, pricing, marketing, finances, sourcing, personnel, or operations of Foundation, its affiliates, or their suppliers or customers, in each case whether spoken, written, printed, electronic, or in any other form or medium (collectively, the "Confidential Information"). Any Confidential Information that Subrecipient develops in connection with the Services, including but not limited to any Work Product, shall be subject to the terms and conditions of this clause. Subrecipient agrees to treat all Confidential Information as strictly confidential, not to disclose Confidential Information or permit it to be disclosed, in whole or part, to any third party without the prior written consent of Foundation in each instance, and not to use any Confidential Information for any purpose except as required in the performance of the Services. Subrecipient shall notify Foundation immediately in the event Subrecipient becomes aware of any loss or disclosure of any Confidential Information.

5.2 Confidential Information shall not include information that is or becomes generally available to the public other than through breach of this Subaward or is communicated to Subrecipient by a third party that had no confidentiality obligations with respect to such information.

5.3 Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent disclosure of Confidential Information as may be required by the ORA or other applicable law or regulation, or pursuant to the valid order of a court of competent jurisdiction or an authorized government agency, provided that the disclosure does not exceed the extent of disclosure required by such law, regulation, or order. Subrecipient agrees to provide written notice of any such order to an authorized officer of Foundation immediately upon receiving such order, but in any event sufficiently in advance of making any disclosure to permit Foundation to contest the order or seek confidentiality protections, as determined in Foundation's sole discretion.

5.4 Notice of Immunity under the Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016 ("DTSA").
   a) Subrecipient will not be held criminally or civilly liable under any federal or state trade secret law for any disclosure of a trade secret that is made: (i) (A) in confidence to a federal, state, or local government official, either directly or indirectly, or to an attorney; and (B) solely for the purpose of reporting or investigating a suspected violation of law; or (ii) is made in a complaint or other document that is filed under seal in a lawsuit or other proceeding.

   b) If Subrecipient files a lawsuit for retaliation by Foundation for reporting a suspected violation of law, Subrecipient may disclose Foundation's trade secrets to Subrecipient's attorney and use the trade secret information in the court proceeding if Subrecipient (i) files any document containing the trade secret under seal; and (ii) does not disclose the trade secret, except pursuant to court order.

5.5 Subrecipient represents that it will respect and abide by all applicable law(s) pertaining to confidentiality and disclosure with regard to all Protected Health Information ("PHI"), health data, and medical records (together, "Information") obtained and reviewed in the course of the Work. Subrecipient shall comply in all applicable respects with all applicable law(s)

regarding the Privacy and Security of PHI (including its collection, use, storage, transmission, and disclosure), including, but not limited to, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 and the regulations promulgated thereunder, as may be amended from time to time ("HIPAA"). Subrecipient and Foundation may use and share Information for purposes of the Research as allowed within the approved Informed Consent and HIPAA Authorization forms; and to the extent required to comply with law. Subrecipient will use all reasonable efforts to protect the privacy and security of Information and will require its employees and business partners to do so also, including but not limited to using only encrypted storage and transmission methods for Information.

6. Data Ownership and Intellectual Property

Foundation will retain the sole and full ownership of all respective data provided to Subrecipient and all propriety data and records to which the Subrecipient otherwise gains access by operation of the contract or any agreement related thereto. All Work Product (defined in 7.1(e)) generated by Subrecipient using any or all of Foundation's proprietary data and records and any subsequent derivative works shall be the joint property of Foundation and Subrecipient. Upon termination or completion of the Subaward, Subrecipient shall promptly return to Foundation all data possessed by Subrecipient that was granted access to or generated through the Subaward. Subrecipient shall retain no copies or backup records of Foundation data after completion of the Subaward unless permission is granted by Foundation or retention is required by the ORA. Subrecipient shall not use the data for other projects, publications, or additional research unless prior written permission is granted by Foundation. Foundation and Subrecipient shall share in joint ownership of all intellectual property created by the Subrecipient under the work of this contract.

7. Representations and Warranties

7.1 Subrecipient represents and warrants to Foundation that:
a) Subrecipient has the right to enter into this Subaward, to grant the rights granted herein, and to perform fully all of Subrecipient's obligations in this Subaward;
b) Subrecipient's entering into this Subaward with Foundation and performance of the Services do not and will not conflict with or result in any breach or default under any other agreement to which Subrecipient is subject;
c) Subrecipient has the required skill, experience, and qualifications to perform the Services and shall perform the Services in a professional and workmanlike manner in accordance with best industry standards for similar services, and Subrecipient shall devote sufficient resources to ensure that the Services are performed in a timely and reliable manner;
d) Subrecipient shall perform the Services in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations;
e) All Work Product is and shall be Subrecipient's original work (except for material in the public domain or provided by Foundation) and Subrecipient will not violate or infringe upon the intellectual property right or any other right whatsoever of any person, firm, corporation, or other entity.
f) Subrecipient certifies that they are not debarred or suspended for award of contracts by any state or federal agency.

7.2 Foundation hereby represents and warrants to Subrecipient that:

a) It has the full right, power, and authority to enter into this Subaward and to perform its obligations hereunder; and

b) The execution of this Subaward by its representative whose signature is set forth at the end hereof has been duly authorized by all necessary corporate action.

8. Certifications and Authorizations

8.1 Certification Regarding Lobbying (2 CFR 200.450)

By signing this Subaward, Subrecipient certifies, to the best of their knowledge and belief, that no Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the Subrecipient, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement in accordance with 2 CFR 200.450.

If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or intending to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the Contractor shall complete and submit Standard Form -LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," to the Pass Through Entity (PTE).

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 and not more than $100,000 for each such failure.

8.2 Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters (2 CFR 200.214 and 2 CFR 180)

By signing this Subaward, the Subrecipient certifies, to the best of their knowledge and belief that neither the Subrecipient nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency, in accordance with 2 CFR 200.214 and 2 CFR 180.

8.3 Audit and Access to Records

Subrecipient certifies that it will provide PTE with notice of any adverse findings which impact this Subaward. Subrecipient certifies compliance with applicable provisions of 2 CFR 200.501–200.521. If Subrecipient is not required to have a Single Audit as defined by 200.501, Awarding Agency requirements, or the Single Audit Act, then Subrecipient will provide notice of the completion of any required audits and will provide access to such audits upon request. Subrecipient will provide access to records as required by parts 2 CFR 200.337 and 200.338 as applicable.

8.4 Capitalization, Depreciation, and Disposition

Capitalization

All assets with a useful life of greater than three (3) years and costing more than five thousand dollars ($5,000) per item will be capitalized and will be recorded in the fixed asset records. Any asset that does not meet this criterion will be expensed such as supplies, minor equipment, repairs, or maintenance.

The cost basis of furniture and equipment assets will include all charges relating to the purchase of the assets including the purchase price, freight charges, and installation or date of use if applicable.

Any Capital expenditures made by grant recipients who are subrecipients are deemed expenditures to acquire capital assets or expenditures to make additions, improvements, modifications, replacements, rearrangements, reinstallations, renovations, or alterations to capital assets that materially increase their value or useful life. When approved as a direct charge, capital expenditures will be charged in the period in which the expenditure is incurred, or as otherwise compliant with 2 CFR 200.313-Equipment.

Equipment is defined as an article of nonexpendable, tangible personal property having a useful life of more than 1 year and an acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the Subrecipient for financial statement purposes, or $5,000, pursuant to 2 CFR 200.439 -- Equipment and other capital expenditures. If equipment is purchased by the Subrecipient, each purchase must have an established inventory system and disposition process compliant with 2 CFR Part 200.313.

Depreciation

Depreciation methods/lives for assets shall be based on the estimated useful life of the asset. Leases will be accounted for under GASB Statement # 87.

Dispositions

Capital assets may be sold or traded-in on new equipment.

Any asset that is missing or has been stolen will be reported in writing to the Board and as soon as possible. The description, serial number, and other information about the lost item shall be included in the report.

Unusable assets will be evaluated and may be disposed of in a manner following Uniform Guidance (form SF-428C), when required, and reflected in the Financial Statements. When disposing of property originally purchased with federal funds, 2 CFR 200.439 will be followed in determining current per unit fair market value of $5,000 of more.

No later than 90 days after the close of the project period, subrecipient will provide Tangible Personal Property Report using SF428 and SF-428B, and SF 428S if needed.

8.5 Program for Enhancement of Contractor Employee Protections (41 U.S.C. 4712)

Subrecipient is hereby notified that they are required to: inform their employees working on any federal award that they are subject to the whistleblower rights and remedies of the pilot program; inform their employees in writing of employee whistleblower protections under 41

U.S.C. §4712 in the predominant native language of the workforce; and include such requirements in any agreement made with a subcontractor.

The Subrecipient shall require that the language of the certifications required in this section be included in the award documents for all subcontracts at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subcontracts shall certify and disclose accordingly.

8.6 Use of Name
Neither party shall use the other party's name, trademarks, or other logos in any publicity, advertising, or news release without the prior written approval of an authorized representative of that party. The parties agree that each party may use factual information regarding the existence and purpose of the relationship that is the subject of this Subaward for legitimate business purposes, to satisfy any reporting and funding obligations, or as required by applicable law or regulation without written permission from the other party. In any such statement, the relationship of the parties shall be accurately and appropriately described.

8.7 Payment Terms
All payments shall be considered provisional and are subject to adjustment in the event such adjustment is necessary as a result of an adverse audit finding against the Subrecipient.

8.8 Prohibition on Certain Telecommunication and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment Pursuant to 2 CFR 200.216, Subrecipient will not obligate or expend funds received under this Subaward to:
(1) procure or obtain; (2) extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain; or (3) enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure or obtain equipment, services, or systems that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services (as described in Public Law 115-232, section 889) as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as a critical technology as part of any system.

8.9 Compliance with the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387) Subrecipient must comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387) for any Subawards in excess of $150,000. Violations must be reported to the Federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

9. Assignment
Subrecipient may assign any rights, or delegate or subcontract any obligations, under this Subaward with Foundation's prior written consent. Any assignment in violation of the foregoing shall be deemed null and void. Foundation may freely assign its rights and obligations under this Subaward at any time. Subject to the limits on assignment stated above, this Subaward will inure to the benefit of, be binding on, and be enforceable against each of the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns.

If the Subrecipient enters into a contract with a small business firm or nonprofit organization regarding the substitution of parties, assignment or performance of experimental, development, or research work under this Subaward, the Subrecipient shall comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 401 "Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements," and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency. This provision applies to Subawards that meet the term "funding agreement" under 37 CFR 401.2 (a).

10. <u>Governing Law</u>
This Subaward and all related documents including all schedules attached hereto, and all matters arising out of or relating to this Subaward, whether sounding in Contract, tort, or statute are governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of Oklahoma (including its statutes of limitations), without giving effect to the conflict of law provisions thereof to the extent such principles or rules would require or permit the application of the laws of any jurisdiction other than those of the State of Oklahoma. Jurisdiction shall be in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma.

11. <u>Reporting Requirements</u>
11.1 Subrecipient shall submit invoices by the 20th business day for costs incurred the prior calendar month. Invoices that are not received by the 20th business day may be paid the following month. Invoices shall be emailed to the Financial Contact at the Foundation. Any invoice received 60 days after the reporting month end, will not be reimbursable. Any questions regarding payment or invoicing requirements should be directed to the Financial Contact at the Foundation.

11.2 Invoices must be in a format approved by Foundation and shall include the following (See Schedule D for a template):
   a) Invoices must include a certification by signature that the invoice is true, complete, and accurate.

11.3 Foundation will review all invoices submitted for authorized expenses and compliance with Subrecipient requirements. Upon invoice approval, Foundation will issue payment within two (2) weeks from the date Foundation receives payment from the grant funder.

11.4 Payment will be made in accordance with the project budget at Schedule B. All payments shall be considered provisional and are subject to adjustment in the event such adjustment is necessary as a result of an adverse audit finding against Foundation.

11.5 Subrecipient agrees to submit quarterly progress reports by the 15th of the month following a quarter. Subrecipient agrees to utilize the progress report format, Schedule E, for all program reports.

12. __Miscellaneous__

12.1 Subrecipient shall not export, directly or indirectly, any technical data acquired from Foundation, or any products utilizing any such data, to any country in violation of any applicable export laws or regulations.

12.2 All notices, requests, consents, claims, demands, waivers, and other communications hereunder (each, a "Notice") shall be in writing and addressed to the parties at the addresses set forth in Attachment 2A and 2B. All Notices shall be delivered by personal delivery, nationally recognized overnight courier (with all fees prepaid), facsimile or email (with confirmation of transmission), or certified or registered mail (in each case, return receipt requested, postage prepaid). Except as otherwise provided in this Subaward, a Notice is effective only if (a) the receiving party has received the Notice and (b) the party giving the Notice has complied with the requirements of this Section.

12.3 This Subaward, together with any other documents incorporated herein by reference and related exhibits and schedules, constitutes the sole and entire agreement of the parties to this Subaward with respect to the subject matter contained herein, and supersedes all prior and contemporaneous understandings, agreements, representations, and warranties, both written and oral, with respect to such subject matter.

12.4 This Subaward may only be amended, modified, or supplemented by an agreement in writing signed by each party hereto, and any of the terms thereof may be waived, only by a written document signed by each party to this Subaward or, in the case of waiver, by the party or parties waiving compliance.

12.5 If any term or provision of this Subaward is invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any jurisdiction, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other term or provision of this Subaward or invalidate or render unenforceable such term or provision in any other jurisdiction.

12.6 This Subaward may be executed in multiple counterparts and by electronic signature, each of which shall be deemed an original and all of which together shall constitute one instrument.

12.7 Subrecipient and all its representatives shall sign and return a Photo Release if requested by Foundation. (Schedule F)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Subaward as of the effective date first written above.

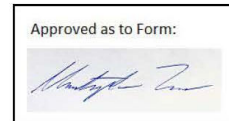**The Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Foundation, Inc.**

_____   _____
 Signature   Date

Subrecipient

_____   _____
Signature (Subrecipient Authorized Official)   Date

Approved as to Form:

SCHEDULE A

<u>SCOPE OF WORK</u>

Purpose

The Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Foundation (OPSRF) through Preschool Development Grant (PDG) will provide financial support for the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care (Scholars) program, administered by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE).

Statement of Work

The Statement of Work covers three different areas—the Technology Center Scholarship, the Child Development Assessment Scholarship, and the Community College Scholarship. Responsibilities of OSRHE and OPSRF are defined separately under each area.

Technology Center Scholarship

OSRHE/Scholars for Excellence in Child Care Responsibilities:

- As per the established Scholars regulations, OSRHE will identify the students pursuing Pathway to Your National Credential coursework at participating technology centers.

- As per the established Scholars regulations, OSRHE will pay 90% ($4.95) per clock hour of the total tuition for the students identified as enrolled in the Pathway to Your National Credential units at the participating technology centers for the fall, spring and summer semesters identified in this agreement.

- OSRHE will invoice the OPSRF for the fall, spring, and summer semesters identified in this agreement for 10% ($0.55) per clock hour for students enrolled for the Pathway to Your National Credential coursework. Per student, this amount may total up to $82.50. The total invoice per semester will be based on the total number of units enrolled per semester.

- Upon receipt of the OPSR funds, OSRHE agrees to pay the participating technology centers the 10% ($0.55) per clock hour for the students participating in the Scholars program and enrolled in Pathway to Your National Credential coursework.

Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Responsibilities:

- Within 30 days of receipt of invoice from OSRHE for the 10% ($0.55) per clock hour for students enrolled for the Pathway to Your National Credential coursework, per participating technology center, OPSRF agrees to pay OSRHE through EFT for the total invoiced amount, not to exceed $82.50 per scholar.

Child Development Associate Assessment Scholarship

OSRHE/Scholars for Excellence in Child Care Responsibilities:

- As per the established Scholars regulations, OSRHE will identify the students pursuing the CDA credential coursework at participating institutions.
- Qualified Scholars participants will be working toward a National Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential.
- OSRHE will invoice OPSR for a total of $45.00 per eligible CDA Candidate on a monthly basis for the time frame identified in this agreement.

Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Responsibilities:

- Within 30 days of receipt of invoice from OSRHE, OPSR agrees to pay OSRHE through EFT for the total invoiced amount, not to exceed $45.00 per CDA Candidate.

Community College Scholarship

OSRHE/Scholars for Excellence in Child Care Responsibilities:

- As per the established Scholars regulations, OSRHE will identify the students enrolled in the Certificate of Mastery in Child Development 18-credit hour certificate coursework at 12 participating community colleges for the fall, spring and summer semesters identified in this agreement. After all financial aid awards are applied to participating student bursar balances, as per the established regulations, the OSRHE Scholars program will pay 90% of the students' remaining tuition and fees balances.
- The students' remaining amount of 10% will be paid to the 12 participating community colleges with the OPSR PDG federal funds for the fall, spring and summer semesters identified in this agreement.
- OSRHE agrees to invoice OPSR for each semester (fall, spring, summer) identified in this agreement for the 10% portion of the balance of the scholars' total tuition and fees that remains following the regular Scholars payment.
- Upon receipt of OPSR funds, OSRHE will pay the 12 participating community colleges the 10% balance for the students enrolled in Certificate of Mastery coursework.

Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Responsibilities:

- Within 30 days of receipt of invoice from OSRHE for the 10% total balance for tuition and fees for students enrolled in Certificate of Mastery coursework, OPSR agrees to pay OSRHE by EFT for the invoiced amount.

Scholarships

Technology Center Scholarship	33,000
CDA Assessment Scholarship	7,000
Community College- CoM	60,000

Total Scholarship Costs	100,000
Indirect Costs (10%)	10,000
TOTAL	$110,000

SCHEDULE C
CONFIDENTIALITY

SCHEDULE D
INVOICE PROCESS

OPSRF PDG Subrecipient Invoice and Process will be sent after subrecipient award is signed.

SCHEDULE E
QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

The Program Performance Report (PPR) is due 15 days after the end of each quarter as follows:

- October 1 – December 30: submit by January 15
- December 31 – March 31: submit by April 15
- April 1 – June 30: submit by July 15
- July 1 – September 30: submit by October 15

At minimum, the PDGB5 quarterly program performance report will include the following:

1. Major activities and accomplishments during this period
2. Problems/Challenges
3. Significant findings and events
4. Dissemination activities
5. Equity-related activities
6. Other activities
7. Activities planned for next reporting period

SCHEDULE F

PHOTO RELEASE

I, _____ hereby consent that my image or likeness may be used by The Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Foundation, Inc. in whatever way they desire for future promotional pieces (e.g., social media). Furthermore, I hereby consent that such photographs, films, and electronic images shall be their sole property and The Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Foundation, Inc. has the right to duplicate and reproduce the images as they desire, free and clear of any claim on my part. This authorization shall remain in effect until revoked by me in writing.

I, _____ hereby decline that my image or likeness may be used by The Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Foundation, Inc.

Name of Participant (please print):	
Participant's Signature:	
Parent/Guardian Signature (if participant is under 18 years of age):	
Date:	
Phone Number:	
Email:	

AGENDA ITEM #17:

> **State Authorization.**

SUBJECT: Approval of requests to renew authorization to operate in Oklahoma.

RECOMMENDATION:

> **It is recommended that the State Regents approve re-authorization of John Brown University, Miller-Motte College, Southeastern University, Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology, Saint Paul School of Theology, and Upper Iowa University to operate as degree-granting institutions in Oklahoma, as described below.**

BACKGROUND:

On October 29, 2010, the United States Department of Education (USDE) published final regulations that strengthened student consumer protections by requiring higher education institutions to obtain authorization in each state in which they maintain a physical location in order to be eligible for federal financial aid (34 CFR §600.9). Additional federal regulations became effective in 2016 requiring institutions that offer degree programs through distance education to meet the requirements of the state(s) in which its student is located to legally offer degree-related instruction to that student (34 CFR § 600.9 (c) (1) (i)).

Effective November 1, 2016, Oklahoma Senate Bill 1157 established the statutory basis for Oklahoma's state authorization process, requiring private degree-granting institutions and out-of-state public degree-granting institutions that operate in Oklahoma to be accredited by an accrediting agency that is recognized by the United States Department of Education and be authorized according to policies and procedures established by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) (70 O.S. § 4103).

The statute limited the scope of OSRHE policy and procedures to 1) a complaint process, 2) standards for operation, 3) stipulations for a written enrollment agreement between the institution and the student, and 4) reporting requirements, and exempted from requirements private institutions that participate in the Oklahoma Tuition Equalization Grant program, out-of-state institutions participating in a state authorization reciprocity agreement, and non-degree-granting post-secondary institutions. Additionally, the statute did not address out-of-state institutions offering degree-related distance education to students located in Oklahoma.

On October 20, 2016, the State Regents approved revisions to the Institutional Accreditation and State Authorization policy to establish the requirements and standards that private (non-exempt) and out-of-state public institutions must meet to operate as a degree granting institution with a physical presence in Oklahoma. Institutions were required to submit an application providing general institutional, accreditation, home state authorization, and financial responsibility information; provide copies of its student enrollment agreement, student complaint process, and student catalogue, and an annual report to the OSRHE including enrollment, graduation, credentials awarded and financial aid data for the institution's Oklahoma degree-program students.

On May 28, 2021, the State Regents approved additional revisions that removed the distinction between regional and national accreditors to align with the same change in federal regulations, and added the requirements that private and public out-of-state institutions submit a student records disposition plan in the event of a closure as part of the state authorization process and notify the State Regents if the plan is updated. Further revisions approved on June 29, 2023 removed the annual student data reporting requirement.

Currently, 24 out-of-state and private institutions are authorized to operate in Oklahoma with a physical presence:

• Aquinas Institute of Theology	• Newman University
• Asbury Theological Seminary	• Park University
• ATA College	• Saint Paul School of Theology
• Baylor University	• Southeastern University
• Central Oklahoma College	• Southwestern Assemblies of God University
• Columbia College	• Spartan College of Aeronautics and
• Embry Riddle Aeronautical University	Technology
• Heavy Equipment Colleges of America	• Strayer University
• John Brown University	• Tulsa Welding School
• Liberty University	• Upper Iowa University
• Marian University	• Webster University
• Miller-Motte College (FKA Platt	• Wichita State University
College)	
• New York University	

POLICY ISSUES:

The Institutional Accreditation and State Authorization policy establishes the requirements and standards private (non-exempt) and out-of-state public institutions must meet to operate as a degree granting institution with a physical presence in Oklahoma.

ANALYSIS:

State Regents' staff issued the renewal application to authorized institutions in December 2023. As of the submittal deadline for this meeting, staff received completed applications from John Brown University, Miller-Motte College, Southeastern University, Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology, Saint Paul School of Theology, and Upper Iowa University.

The table below summarizes the institutions' locations, types, accreditation, and federal financial responsibility composite (FFRC) scores.

Institutional Summary Table

Institution	Home State	OK Location	For- or Non-Profit	Accreditor	FFRC Score*
John Brown University	AR	OKC, Tulsa, Avant, Colcord	Non	HLC	3.0
Miller-Motte College	TN	Tulsa	For	ACCSC[1]	1.5
Southeastern University	FL	OKC, Broken Arrow, Tulsa	Non	SACS-COC[2]	2.2
Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology	OK	Tulsa	For	ACCSC	-0.9
Saint Paul School of Theology	KS	OKC	Non	HLC	2.63
Upper Iowa University	IA	Fort Sill	Non	HLC	1.8

After reviewing the applications and required documentation, State Regents' staff determined that these institutions meet the re-authorization requirements established in the OSRHE Institutional Accreditation and State Authorization policy currently in effect. Therefore, it is recommended that the State Regents authorize these institutions for the 2024-2025 academic year.

[1]   Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges.

[2]   Southern Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Colleges.

*   For private and proprietary institutions that participate in Title IV funding programs, the USDE calculates and publishes an institutional Federal Financial Responsibility Composite (FFRC) Score each year, based on an institution's audited financial statement using a prescribed, publicly available method.

The FFRC score reflects the overall relative financial health of an institution along a scale from negative 1.0 to positive 3.0. A score greater than or equal to 1.5 indicates the institution is considered financially responsible. Schools with a score of less than 1.5 but greater than or equal to 1.0 are considered financially responsible, but require additional oversight. These schools are subject to cash monitoring and other participation requirements.

A school with a score less than 1.0 is considered not financially responsible. However, a school with a score less than 1.0 may continue to participate in the Title IV programs under provisional certification. In addition, this lower score typically requires that the school be subject to cash monitoring requirements and post a letter of credit.

A Non-Title IV institution that wishes to establish a score for state authorization purposes may have one calculated from its most recent audited financial statement by a certified public accountant using the USDE's prescribed method. Cash monitoring and other USDE Title IV participation requirements can bolster a low score are not available to these schools.

AGENDA ITEM #18:

        Policy.

SUBJECT: Approval of State Regents' Policy 5.19 *Amanda Winge Study Abroad Scholarship*.

RECOMMENDATION:

> **It is recommended that the State Regents approve a new policy section (5.19) establishing the Amanda Winge Study Abroad Scholarship, as described below.**

BACKGROUND:

Amanda Winge graduated with honors, achieving a Bachelor of Arts in International and Area Studies from the University of Oklahoma. She also pursued minors in French and History. At the time of her passing, she was in the process of completing her master's degree at Oklahoma State University. Amanda's love of travel guided her in her choice of study and career.

In her pivotal role within the Chancellor's office, Amanda administered both the Brad Henry International Scholarship Program and the Chancellor Hans Brisch Scholarship Program.

As part of her academic journey, Amanda participated in the University of Oklahoma's study abroad program at the University of Hertfordshire in Hatfield, England. Her dedication extended beyond academics as she earned certifications in Nonprofit Management through the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits and in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) through TEFL International.

Amanda's commitment to helping others, combined with her love of travel, led her to Mainsprings: The Janada L. Batchelor Foundation for Children, a non-profit organization in Tulsa, where she served as executive assistant. In this role, she provided comprehensive administrative support to the CEO, managing calendars, correspondence, and travel arrangements. Amanda also played a crucial role in planning and executing local fundraisers and various campaigns to boost donations. She managed the organization's social media presence and assisted with donor development. During her time at the Foundation, Amanda took on the role of guest coordinator in Kitongo, Tanzania, where she orchestrated and led engaging activities for summer volunteers to ensure a positive experience while in Tanzania. Amanda coordinated logistical arrangements for volunteers and collaborated with Tanzanian staff members. She also supported the director of development by providing updates for the organization's promotional materials.

Prior to her work at the Foundation, Amanda served as the academic coordinator for Cultural Homestay International in Roseville, California, where she promoted international cultural exchanges by recruiting local families to host international high school students for an academic term or year. She closely monitored and mentored international students to ensure their academic and personal success while studying abroad. She also served as head instructor at The Tutoring Center in Roseville.

Finally, Amanda served as a bilingual education teacher at Maple Bear Global Schools Ltd. in Suwon, South Korea. In this role, she diligently crafted and conducted English lessons for children between the

ages of 7 and 10, tailoring her teaching to accommodate diverse proficiency levels. She played an active role in coordinating and conducting school-wide progress assessments and worked closely with parents to enhance students' learning and overall growth, both within the school environment and at home.

In remembrance of Amanda Winge, who sadly passed away from pancreatic cancer in December 2022, the State Regents, Chancellor Garrett, and her friends and family have come together to create this scholarship fund in her honor. This initiative stands as a testament to her enduring legacy and the profound impact she had on those around her.

POLICY ISSUES:

The Amanda Winge Study Abroad Scholarship provides additional financial support to undergraduate students from Oklahoma's public regional universities (including the University of Science & Arts of Oklahoma, Oklahoma Panhandle State University, Cameron University, Langston University, and all six RUSO universities) who are chosen to study as Brad Henry International Scholars at the University of Wales in Swansea (Swansea University). The scholarship was started with private funds and the fund's corpus continues to grow with support from family and friends. To date, over $8,529.31 has been received in donations to the scholarship fund.

Chapter 5 of the State Regents' *Policy and Procedures Manual* outlines policies related to scholarships administered by the State Regents. Section 5.19 is being added to create The Amanda Winge Study Abroad Scholarship.

ANALYSIS:

The proposed new policy section, 5.19 Amanda Winge Study Abroad Scholarship, is attached.

5.19   AMANDA WINGE STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIP

5.19.1 Purpose

The Amanda Winge Study Abroad Scholarship provides additional financial support to undergraduate students from Oklahoma regional universities (including the University of Science & Arts of Oklahoma, Oklahoma Panhandle State University, Cameron University, Langston University, and all six RUSO universities) who have been chosen to participate in the Brad Henry International Scholarship Program at the University of Wales in Swansea (Swansea University). This supplemental scholarship can be applied toward tuition, fees, accommodations, textbooks, materials, travel, and other associated expenses for that overseas study program.

5.19.2 General Provisions

A.   The Amanda Winge Study Abroad Scholarship will be awarded to one student each year, chosen from the pool of students selected by their regional university president to participate as Brad Henry Scholars at Swansea University during the spring semester.

B.   The award recipient will be selected by a committee of State Regents' staff or other designees of the Chancellor.

C.   The recipient will be chosen based largely on a 300-word essay that highlights their participation in civic or volunteer initiatives within their community.

D.   The award will be given prior to the beginning of the study abroad semester each spring.

5.19.3 Eligibility Requirements

In addition to meeting all eligibility requirements set forth in Policy 5.15.3 for the Brad Henry International Scholarship Program, recipients of the Amanda Winge Study Abroad Scholarship should, in addition, have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and submit the 300-word essay referenced in 5.19.2(C), above, to the State Regents' selection committee in conjunction with his or her application to Brad Henry International Scholarship Program.

5.19.4 Fiscal Aspects of the Program

A.   Funds made available to a student as part of the Amanda Winge Study Abroad Scholarship shall be directed to the regional university in which the student recipient is enrolled for disbursement to that student.

B.   Private donations to the Amanda Winge Study Abroad Scholarship will be added to the fund's corpus.

C.   The total amount of funds available for any given semester varies based on interest earnings. Accordingly, there may be semesters where no funding is available.

D.   The amount of the scholarship award will be determined at the sole discretion of the State Regents in consideration of the amount of funding available each year.

Meeting of the
OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
May 31, 2024

AGENDA ITEM #19:

Commendations.

SUBJECT: Recognition of State Regents' staff for service and recognitions on state and national projects.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the State Regents commend staff for state and national recognitions.

RECOGNITIONS:

State Regents' staff received the following state and national recognitions:

Dr. Melissa Brevetti, coordinator for teacher education programs, was honored with the Individual Leadership Award as part of the 2024 Oklahoma Online Excellence Awards. This award recognizes collaboration and innovation in "exemplary leadership" that advances education. Higher education colleagues select recipients who show leadership and innovation. Dr. Brevetti was also invited to be a reviewer for The American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) as a national expert to evaluate proposals and provide feedback to universities. She published an article, "(Re)imagining AI for Educators: How to Improve Learner-Centered Classrooms with Futuristic Possibilities," for *Faculty Focus.* She also published "Educational Leaders Must Leverage Collaboration for Success" in *eSchool News*, which explains how educators lead by facilitating others to find hope and purpose. Finally, she presented at 2024 Oklahoma Learning Innovations Summit (OKLIS) on "Grappling in the Space of No Longer and Not Yet: How Leaders Lean into Uncertainty for Student Success" and co-presented "Pathways for Blueprint 2030! Innovative Ways to Increase Recruitment and Professional Development for STEM Teachers" with Dr. Susmita Hazra.

Dr. Stephanie Beauchamp, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, facilitated the statewide nursing articulation agreement between the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) and the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education, aligning with OSRHE Blueprint 2030 goals to boost degrees and credentials in critical occupations. Signed on February 28, 2024, and effective July 1, 2024, this collaboration streamlines pathways for practical nursing students to earn up to 18 college credit hours for their prior learning, addressing the state's nursing shortage. By fostering cooperation between state system colleges, universities, and CareerTech, this initiative aims to increase educational attainment and workforce development in Oklahoma's healthcare sector. Dr. Beauchamp was also inducted into the 2024 Midwest City High School Wall of Fame. Finally, she was elected to serve as State Chair of Oklahoma Women in Higher Education. She will serve a 3-year term and has previously held positions on the OKWHE Executive Board as State Chair Elect and Fall/Spring Conference Chair.

Gina McPherson, director of special programs, and **Dr. Goldie Thompson**, associate vice chancellor for teacher preparation and special programs, adeptly crafted and submitted a modernization proposal to sustain

the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program at institutions of higher education within a tight deadline in response to updated requirements. This proposal prioritizes short-term education opportunities, micro-credentials, and certificate programs, as well as workforce-focused associate and bachelor's degrees that can be completed in 12 months or less.

Brad Griffith, associate vice chancellor for innovation, **Dr. Goldie Thompson**, associate vice chancellor for teacher preparation and special programs, **Dr. Melissa Brevetti,** coordinator for teacher education programs, and **Debbie Myrick**, staff assistant III, successfully organized the Teacher Education Micro-credentials Summit at the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education on March 28, 2024. This summit brought together key stakeholders from institutions and featured special remarks by the Oklahoma Teacher of the Year Traci Manuel and Chancellor Allison D. Garrett as well as a workshop led by Dr. Bucky Dodd, CEO and principal consultant for ClearKinetic.

Dr. Goldie Thompson, associate vice chancellor for teacher preparation and special programs, **Dr. Melissa Brevetti**, coordinator for teacher education programs, **Jess Tucker**, coordinator for teacher education scholarships and incentive programs, and **Christine Fisher**, coordinator of grant writing and external funding assistance, organized the 2024 Teach Oklahoma Conference, which attracted over 100 education stakeholders and featured remarks from Secretary of Education Nellie Tayloe Sanders as well as National Teacher of the Year Rebecka Peterson and former University of Oklahoma basketball coach and Hall of Fame inductee Sherri Coale. Participants engaged in discussions on leadership styles, workplace engagement, and strategies to attract new educators. Oklahoma Teacher Connection's mission is to recruit, retain, and place teachers in K-12 schools and is complemented by initiatives like Teach Oklahoma, Inspired to Teach, Lead Oklahoma, and Educators Rising, which are all aimed at strengthening the teacher education pipeline.

Dr. Goldie Thompson, associate vice chancellor for teacher preparation and special programs, attended The Elevating the Teaching Profession convening at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg Center in Washington, D.C. in March. At the convening, Dr. Thompson participated in a panel addressing teacher education and the state of the teaching profession in Oklahoma. The convening tackled critical issues facing K-12 education, including teacher shortages, challenging work conditions, and declining interest in the profession. With insights from academics, policymakers, and education experts, discussions focused on innovative strategies to recruit and retain quality teachers, considering the complexities and providing comprehensive support for aspiring teachers while addressing retention challenges by prioritizing relationships and working conditions.

State Regent Jack Sherry earned his Master of Legal Studies from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in May 2024.

State Regent Emeritus Ann Holloway was recognized at Southeastern Oklahoma State University's Spring 2024 commencement ceremony. She was presented with a ceremonial copy of her undergraduate diploma. Regent Holloway was unable to walk in her original graduation from SEOSU due to the hospitalization of a family member. In light of that, President Thomas Newsom took time during the commencement ceremony to award her diploma.

State Regent Steven W. Taylor was honored for being a member of the Oklahoma Bar for 50 years at the Law Day event held by the Pittsburgh County Bar Association in May 2024.

AGENDA ITEM #20-a:

> **State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement.**

SUBJECT: Ratification of institutional requests for annual renewal of participation in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement.

RECOMMENDATION:

> **It is recommended that the State Regents ratify institutional requests for annual renewal of participation in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement.**

BACKGROUND:

In 2010, the US Department of Education published new regulations that require postsecondary institutions to obtain authorization from each state in which they operate for their students in those states to be eligible for federal financial aid, including instruction by distance education. As a result of this, states instituted laws, regulations and procedures of varying rigor and complexity through which out-of-state institutions could obtain authorization to operate within their boundaries, creating often significant barriers for institutions to offer distance education to out-of-state students.

In response, the four regional education compacts—the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC), the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE), and the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)—worked together to forge their existing individual regional reciprocity agreements into a single agreement that could cover all states in all the compacts. This process culminated in the establishment of the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement in 2015.

The State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) is an agreement among the regional compacts and their member states through which participating institutions may offer distance education to students located in other member states without having to obtain separate, individual authorization from each state in which a student is located. Only institutions located in member states can participate. Currently, 49 states (California is the only non-member state), the District of Columbia, and the US territories of Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands are members. States are approved for membership through their respective regional compacts and must renew their approval every two years. Only public, private non-profit, and private for-profit degree-granting institutions may participate in SARA.

The State Regents approved Oklahoma's first application to join SARA at their May 29, 2015 meeting. The Southern Regional Education Board's S-SARA Regional Steering Committee approved Oklahoma as a SARA state on June 29, 2015, and most recently renewed that approval on June 6, 2023.

Among its other activities, the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA) requires extensive student data reporting from participating institutions which is posted on the NC-SARA website. According to this source, in Fall 2022, Oklahoma public and private institutions enrolled a

total of 7,764 (up from 7,298 the previous year) out-of-state students in distance education programs, nearly four times the total of 1,991 reported in 2015. Additionally, NC-SARA provides extensive, invaluable support and professional development to member states and institutions in understanding and implementing ongoing changes to federal regulations governing the offering of distance education across state lines.

As the state portal entity, the State Regents are responsible for the initial approval and ongoing oversight of SARA activities which are conducted by Oklahoma public and private institutions. Because of the occasional extended time periods between State Regents' meetings, relying on State Regents' approval to permit eligible institutions to participate in SARA would delay the timeframe in which institutional participation in SARA is approved or renewed. Therefore, on September 3, 2015, the State Regents approved a revision to the Administrative Operations policy that delegates authority to the Chancellor to approve eligible institutions to participate in SARA, pending State Regents' ratification.

POLICY ISSUES:

These actions are consistent with the State Regents' Distance Education and Traditional Off-Campus Courses and Programs policy.

ANALYSIS:

Prior to May 31, 2024, State Regents' staff received a SARA renewal application from the institutions listed below:

- Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City; and
- Oklahoma City University.

As a result of meeting the SARA eligibility requirements, these institutions were approved for annual renewal of their participation in SARA. State Regents' ratification is requested.

AGENDA ITEM #20-b (1):

      Operations.

SUBJECT: Ratification of purchases exceeding $25,000.

RECOMMENDATION:

      It is recommended that the State Regents ratify purchases in amounts exceeding $25,000 but less than $100,000 between March 19, 2024, and April 22, 2024.

BACKGROUND:
Agency purchases are presented for State Regents' action. They relate to previous board action and the approved agency budgets.

POLICY ISSUES:
The recommended action is consistent with the State Regents' purchasing policy which provides for the Budget Committee's review of purchases exceeding $25,000.

ANALYSIS:
For the time period between March 19, 2024 and April 22, 2024 there were 6 purchases exceeding $25,000 but less than $100,000.

OneNet
1) Clifford Power Systems in the amount of $34,942.00 for FY24 annual generator maintenance agreement for OneNet and OCAN Cummins generators to provide emergency power if commercial power is interrupted. Cost recovered through OneNet user fees. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

2) Copper River Information Tech in the amount of $90,876.09 for optical equipment needed to deliver wave services at the NEOA&M Miami hub campus. Costs recovered from OneNet user fees. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

3) Copper River Information Tech in the amount of $46,084.08 for optical equipment for the Lawton to Durant backhaul. Costs recovered from OneNet user fees. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

4) Copper River Information Tech in the amount of $56,423.76 for spare optical cards to replace those that have been put into service to deliver circuits. Costs recovered from OneNet user fees. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

5) Transource Services Corporation in the amount of $81,254.00 for equipment to refresh OneNet's existing enterprise storage watch, which is nearing the end of support life, and to provide needed performance improvements. Cost recovered from OneNet user fees. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

<u>EPSCoR</u>
6) The Implementation Group in the amount of $75,000.00 to provide consulting services for the development of a highly competitive RII Track-1 proposal submission to NSF in the fall of 2024 and prepare additional information in response to questions from NSF arising from the merit review process. (Funded from 714-EPSCoR).

AGENDA ITEM #20-b (2):

Operations.

SUBJECT: Personnel. Ratification of personnel appointments.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the State Regents ratify the personnel changes as noted below.

BACKGROUND/POLICY ISSUES:

State Regents' personnel policy (2.8.2) requires Regents' approval or ratification of decisions relating to director-level and above personnel.

ANALYSIS OF DIRECTOR-AND-ABOVE ACTIONS.

It is recommended that the State Regents' ratify the following personnel actions regarding State Regents Staff:

Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs. Dr. Robert Placido recently submitted his resignation as Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, effective May 24, 2024. It is recommended that the State Regents ratify the appointment of Dr. Stephanie Beauchamp as Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs to provide leadership in the Academic Affairs division while a search is conducted for the next Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs. Dr. Beauchamp has been employed by the State Regents since 2010 and currently serves as the Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. She will receive a stipend of $2,000 per month for the extra duties assumed in this interim position. A copy of the current job description is attached.

JOB DESCRIPTION
Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs
FLSA: Exempt
Position #100266
Cost Center: APRA 13000
Worker's Comp Code: 8742

ESSENTIAL FUNCTION

The Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs is the chief academic officer for the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, and the chief student affairs officer. In this capacity, the Vice Chancellor provides academic leadership to the State System consisting of 25 universities and colleges as well as constituent agencies.

The position guides the State Regents' academic work in the areas of academic policy, student preparation, collegiate programs, student services, and federal post-secondary authorization and compliance. Academic leadership includes strategies and work relating to: 1) creating pathways for high school students to seek higher education opportunities, including concurrent enrollment, traditional students, and adult degree completion initiatives; 2) programs promoting workforce and economic development; 3) the academic portions of the State Regents' Public Agenda; and 4) providing leadership and oversight for state grants and scholarships operations.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES

Provide leadership and direction for the Academic Affairs and Student Affairs division of the State Regents and the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, including responsibility, oversight, and supervision for:

PRE-COLLEGIATE PROGRAMS—State grants and scholarships (including Oklahoma's Promise), College Savings Plan, Oklahoma Teacher Connection, Student Preparation and provision of the Pre-ACT to participating school districts, and PK-16 programs such as Summer Academies, and collaborations with the Oklahoma State Department of Education initiatives.

COLLEGE PROGRAMS—Academic Policy, Academic Research, Institutional Functions, Academic Program Review and Approval, Statewide Degree Program Inventory, Teacher Education, Accreditation and Evaluation, Statewide Postsecondary State Authorization, Academic Innovation and Online Learning, Adult Learning Initiatives (including Reach Higher), Academic work with technology centers, and other Academic Projects including liaison to the Council on Instruction.

STUDENT SERVICES—Campus Compact, Student Civic Engagement, Training Partnerships with Department of Human Services (Scholars for Excellence in Child Care and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families), student relations, student research, student leadership, leadership and mentoring for student affairs professional staff, and other student affairs projects, including liaison to the Council on Student Affairs.

GENERAL DUTIES –

Revised May 2024

- Provide leadership and support to key advisory groups such as the Council of Presidents, Council on Instruction, Council on Student Affairs, Faculty Advisory Council, Student Advisory Board, the Oklahoma Council of Academic Library Directors, and the Online Consortium of Oklahoma.
- Represent the Chancellor on academic issues with institutions, agencies, and organizations within Oklahoma, the region, and the nation.
- Represent the Chancellor and agency in collaboration with the Oklahoma Secretary of State Office, and international organizations to host international visitors interested in Oklahoma higher education.
- As needed, represent the Chancellor within the legislative network and respond to requests related to bills under consideration and research/information for presentation at interim studies.
- Coordinate various academic committees and task force studies on academic and student affairs policy issues and system-wide strategic planning efforts, including work with the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technical Education and Oklahoma technology centers.
- Guide the preparation of academic policy, analysis papers, and agenda items with recommendations for State Regents' consideration.
- Responsible for recommending hiring, firing, advancement, promotion or other changes in assigned employee status.
- Other similar duties as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

The individual in this position must have an earned doctorate from an accredited university and at least ten (10) years' experience in higher education working with faculty, administrators, and staff. Preference will be given to candidates with significant higher education administrative experience. The individual should have a thorough knowledge and understanding of higher education and excellent verbal, writing, and analytical abilities.

The individual must demonstrate an understanding of the challenges of working at a system-wide level, the ability to work effectively with internal and external constituencies, and the ability to promote collaboration and inter-agency cooperation. The successful applicant will have a broad understanding of national academic, student, economic and workforce development issues. In addition, the appointee will demonstrate the ability to develop and implement innovative approaches for achieving high-quality teaching in multiple modalities, research and public service programs at two-year community colleges, four-year regional universities, and research universities. Some in and out-of-state travel required.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

N/A.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Ability to sit and stand for extended periods of time. Exhibit manual dexterity and hand-eye coordination to operate a computer, keyboard, photocopier, telephone, calculator and other office equipment. Ability to see and read a computer screen and printed material with or without vision aids. Ability to hear and understand speech at normal levels, with or without aids. Ability to communicate clearly. Physical ability to lift up to 25 pounds, to bend, stoop, climb stairs, walk and reach. Must use the proper manual handling equipment including but not limited to dollies, carts and lift team members. Duties are normally performed in an office environment with a moderate noise level.

Revised May 2024

SUPERVISION

The employee performs work under the supervision of the Chancellor.

I can perform the essential function(s) of this position with or without reasonable accommodation.

Signature _____ Date _____

Meeting of the
OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
May 31, 2024

AGENDA ITEM #21-a:

> **Programs.**

SUBJECT: Acknowledge receipt of the Current Status Report on program requests.

RECOMMENDATION:

> **It is recommended that the State Regents acknowledge receipt of the Current Status Report on program requests.**

BACKGROUND:

The Status Report on New Program Requests tracks the status of all program requests received since July 1, 2023 as well as requests pending from the previous year.

POLICY ISSUES:

This report lists requests regarding degree programs as required by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's Academic Program Approval policy.

ANALYSIS:

The Status Report on New Program Requests lists all program requests received by the State Regents and program actions taken by the State Regents within the current academic year (2023-2024) and can be found online at https://app.smartsheet.com/b/publish?EQBCT=25d78996ed8748139000df892989a4d9.

AGENDA ITEM #21-b (1):

Annual Reports.

SUBJECT: Acknowledge receipt of the Faculty Advisory Council Annual Report.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the State Regents acknowledge receipt of the Faculty Advisory Council Annual Report.

BACKGROUND:

On June 26, 1990, the Chancellor nominated seven representatives from a statewide assembly of faculty. Bylaws for the first Faculty Advisory Committee were approved by the State Regents on December 17, 1990. In June 2002, the State Regents approved the Faculty Advisory Committee's name change to the Faculty Advisory Council (FAC). FAC members serve two-year terms. On February 7, 2008, the State Regents expanded membership to double the representation from each type of institution from two to four members representing the research tier (two from the University of Oklahoma and two from Oklahoma State University), from two to four representing the regional tier, from two to four representing the community colleges and from one to two representing the Oklahoma independent institutions.

POLICY ISSUES:

This report details annual activities of the FAC for 2023 as required by the State Regents' Faculty Advisory Council policy.

ANALYSIS:

In 2023, the FAC work plan included the following items:
1. Intellectual Property Concerns and Academic Integrity
2. Workforce Challenges
3. Faculty Compensation
4. Campus Diversity and Mental Health Challenges
5. Communication Strategies

Additional information about each of these issues and other activities is provided in the attached annual report.

Attachment

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
Faculty Advisory Council
2023 Report

Purpose. The purpose of the Faculty Advisory Council (FAC) is to communicate to the Chancellor and the State Regents the views and interests of all Oklahoma college and university faculty on those issues that relate to the constitutional and statutory responsibilities of the State Regents. In representing faculty, the Faculty Advisory Council shall attempt to accurately represent the positions of faculty and develop recommendations to the State Regents.

Creation. In 1990, seven representatives were nominated and held its first meeting. Bylaws were drafted by the first Faculty Advisory Committee and approved by the State Regents on December 17, 1990. In June 2002, the State Regents approved the Faculty Advisory Committee's name change to the Faculty Advisory Council. FAC members serve two-year terms. Until 2008, two members represented the research universities (one from OU and one from OSU); two represent the regional universities; two represent the community colleges; and one represents the independent institutions. In February 2008, the State Regents approved expanding membership to a total of fourteen with the same proportional representation.

2023 MEMBERS

Research Universities
Brandt Gardner, Oklahoma State University
Julie Croff, Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences
K. David Hambright, University of Oklahoma
Eric Howard, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

Regional Universities
Amanda Evert, Southwestern Oklahoma State University
Jennifer Barger Johnson, University of Central Oklahoma
Sarah Eppler Janda, Cameron University
Katheryn Shannon, Southeastern Oklahoma State University

Community Colleges
Wesley Reddish, Murray State College
Marcia Shottenkirk, Redlands Community College
Mark Pranger, Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology
LuAnne Kuelzer, Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City

Independent Colleges
Ken Roefeld, Southern Nazarene University
Scott McMurry, Mid-America Christian University

CHAIRPERSON

January – March 2023	LuAnne Kuelzer
April, May & September 2023	Amanda Evert
October – December 2023	Scott McMurry

2023 WORK PLAN

During 2023, Chancellor Allison D. Garrett worked in partnership with the FAC to serve the interests of higher education faculty and institutions of Oklahoma. Dr. Rachel M. Bates, Associate Vice Chancellor for Educational Partnerships, served as advisor and liaison through June 2023. Dr. Stephanie Beauchamp, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, served as advisor and liaison August 2023 to present.

In October 2022, the annual statewide survey of higher education faculty leaders was administered. Results were compiled and discussed during the Faculty Assembly held November 12, 2022. The 2023 FAC members used this information to design a work plan that focused on issues of most concern to higher education faculty in Oklahoma.

In 2023, the FAC addressed the following work plan items:

1. **Intellectual Property Concerns and Academic Integrity.** Dr. Laura Dumin, Professor, University of Central Oklahoma presented information on effective use of AI in the classroom.

2. **Workforce Challenges.** No presentations on this topic.

3. **Faculty Compensation.** Topics were discussed. FAC members reviewed the annual faculty and staff salaries report from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE).

4. **Campus Diversity and Mental Health Challenges.** Ms. Megan Cannon, Suicide Prevention Program Manager for the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, provided a presentation about Oklahoma's suicide prevention program.

5. **Communication Strategies.** No presentations on this topic.

Additionally, in 2023, the FAC were provided the following presentations:

- Chancellor Allison Garrett provided information regarding the strategic plan for the State System.
- Mr. Brad Griffith, Associate Vice Chancellor for Innovation, OSRHE, presented on creation and implementation of micro-credentials.
- Ms. Annette Long, Director of Student Preparation for College Readiness, OSRHE, presented on Encouraging STEM in Middle and High School.
- Mr. Joel Dean, Coordinator, OSRHE, provided an update on Interim Studies.
- Ms. Halle Carr, Sex Trafficking Victim Outreach Coordinator, The Dragonfly Home, provided information regarding human sex trafficking and the services provided by The Dragonfly Home.
- Dr. Robert Placido, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, OSRHE, provided general information regarding the work of Academic Affairs and policy revisions.

2023 ACTIVITIES

- Dr. Katheryn Shannon provided comments on behalf of FAC at the Annual Tuition Hearing held on April 21, 2023.

- The FAC holds monthly meetings to discuss the work plan items and matters affecting all higher education institutions in Oklahoma. Copies of the minutes are on the FAC web site at http://www.okhighered.org/fac.

- Conducted the Faculty Opinion Survey of faculty leaders at all Oklahoma public and independent colleges and universities in October 2023.

- Hosted the annual Faculty Assembly on December 13, 2023 for election of incoming members.

Meeting of the
OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
May 31, 2024

AGENDA ITEM #21-b (2):

> **Annual Reports.**

SUBJECT: Acknowledge receipt of the Chiropractic Education Scholarship Program Year-End Report.

RECOMMENDATION:

> **It is recommended that the State Regents acknowledge receipt of the Chiropractic Education Scholarship Program 2023-2024 Year End Report.**

BACKGROUND:

The State Regents allocated $28,318 from appropriations made by the 2023 Oklahoma Legislature for the 2023-2024 Chiropractic Education Scholarship Program. The purpose of the program is to provide scholarships to students approved by the Board of Chiropractic Examiners pursuing programs leading to a Doctor of Chiropractic degree. Given the absence of a chiropractic school within Oklahoma, chiropractic students attend schools in other states. Eligible Oklahoma residents who are making satisfactory progress toward a degree at an accredited chiropractic college can receive financial assistance of up to $6,000 annually for a maximum of four annual scholarships.

ANALYSIS:

The Oklahoma Board of Chiropractic Examiners approved twenty-seven students for participation in the Chiropractic Education Scholarship Program for the 2023-2024 academic year. Below are the awards allocated to each participating institution for the same academic period, amounting to a total of $25,370.

Institution	2023-2024	
	Awardees	Amount
Cleveland College Kansas City, Kansas	4	$3,481
Life Chiropractic College Marietta, Georgia	1	$481
Logan College of Chiropractic Chesterfield, Missouri	2	$2,038
Parker College Dallas, Texas	20	$19,370
TOTAL	**27**	**$25,370**

AGENDA ITEM #21-b (3):

   Annual Reports.

SUBJECT: Acknowledge receipt of the William P. Willis Scholarship Year-End Report.

RECOMMENDATION:

   It is recommended that the State Regents acknowledge receipt of the William P. Willis Scholarship 2023-2024 Year End Report.

BACKGROUND:

In 1986, the Oklahoma Legislature created the William P. Willis Scholarship to honor the former Speaker of the House from Tahlequah, who served in the Legislature from 1959 to 1986. The statutes authorize the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to establish and maintain a program for the purpose of providing scholarships to low-income, full-time undergraduates enrolled at institutions in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education. Each year, up to twenty-eight students are nominated for awards by the presidents of Oklahoma State System institutions. Interest accrued from the William P. Willis Scholarship Trust and current appropriations provide nominees the following award amounts based on institutional tier – $2,000 at community colleges, $2,400 at regional universities, and $3,000 at research universities.

ANALYSIS:

The attached table shows the award distributions to twenty-nine students (two alternate recipients were awarded for the spring semester), totaling $56,600 for the 2023-2024 academic year.

The program is funded by a trust fund originally created by the Oklahoma Legislature in 1986 and funded with $1 million provided over the first four fiscal years. For many years, the trust fund was invested in a conservative cash management program administer by the State Treasurer's office that provided adequate earnings for the program scholarship costs. However, in recent years, the program trust fund balance and earnings have declined significantly due to reduced investment returns. To address this issue, the State Regents approved an allocation of $49,997 for FY2023 to minimize the further decline of the trust fund balance. For FY2024, the State Regents approved $59,997 to minimize decline. For FY 2024, the allocation plus interest earnings of $6,700 to date total $66,697 compared to expenditures of $56,600. As of April 26, the trust fund balance was $785,138.

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
William P. Willis Scholarship
2023-2024 Year End Report

Institution	Award
Cameron University	$2,400.00
Carl Albert State College	$2,000.00
Connors State College	$2,000.00
East Central University	$2,400.00
Eastern Oklahoma State College	$2,000.00
Langston University	$2,400.00
Murray State College	$2,000.00
Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College	$1,000.00
Northeastern Oklahoma State University*	$4,800.00
Northern Oklahoma College	$2,000.00
Northwestern Oklahoma State University	$2,400.00
Oklahoma City Community College	$2,000.00
Oklahoma Panhandle State University	$1,200.00
Oklahoma State University	$3,000.00
Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology	$1,000.00
Redlands Community College	$2,000.00
Rose State College	$2,000.00
Rogers State University	$2,400.00
Seminole State College	$2,000.00
Southeastern Oklahoma State University	$2,400.00
Southwestern Oklahoma State University	$2,400.00
Tulsa Community College	$1,000.00
University of Central Oklahoma	$2,400.00
University of Oklahoma	$3,000.00
University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma	$2,400.00
Western Oklahoma State College	$2,000.00
Total	**$56,600.00**

*By statute, NSU is allotted two nominees; one must be a history major.

AGENDA ITEM #21-b (4):

Annual Reports.

SUBJECT: Acknowledge receipt of the Policy Exception Quarterly Report.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the State Regents acknowledge receipt of the Policy Exception Quarterly Report.

BACKGROUND:

At the May 1994 meeting, the State Regents delegated authority to the Chancellor to approve minor exceptions and clarifications to Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) policies that will not result in a broad circumvention of policy. All exceptions are requested by the president and supported by extenuating circumstances and are to be reported quarterly to the State Regents. This is the 90th report of exceptions to academic policy granted by the Chancellor.

POLICY ISSUES:

One exception to OSRHE academic policies was granted by the Chancellor since the March 14, 2024 report.

ANALYSIS:

Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology

An exception was granted to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's Undergraduate Degree Requirements policy, which requires that a minimum of 30 hours of resident credit applied toward a baccalaureate degree be taken at the awarding institution, to allow OSUIT to award a bachelor of technology degree to a student who was five credit hours short of meeting the 30-credit hour requirement. The exception was approved based on the student's already having earned an associate in applied science degree from OSUIT as well as 176.5 total credit hours towards the bachelor of technology degree, and recommendation of the president.

AGENDA ITEM #23:

Proposed Executive Session.

SUBJECT: Possible discussion and vote to enter into executive session pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(4) for confidential communications between the board and its attorney(s) concerning: (1) Black Emergency Response Team, et al. v. Drummond, et al., Case No. 5:21-cv-01022-G in the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma; (2) Wisdom Ministries, Inc. v. Garrett, et al., Case No. 23-5098, United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit (appealed from 4:22-cv-00477-CVE-CDL in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma); and (3) EEOC Charge # 564-2023-01525, if the board, with the advice of its attorney, determines that disclosure will seriously impair the ability of the board to process the claim or conduct a pending investigation, litigation, or proceeding in the public interest.

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

<u>MINUTES</u>

Eight Hundred and Thirty-Seventh Meeting

April 25, 2024

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Minutes of the Eight Hundred and Thirty-Seventh Meeting
April 25, 2024

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Minutes of the Eight Hundred and Thirty-Seventh Meeting

of the

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

April 25, 2024

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 regular meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 25, 2024, at Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant. Notice of the meeting had been filed with the Secretary of State on Wednesday, September 12, 2023, and amended on Tuesday, April 9, 2024. A copy of the agenda for the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Open Meeting Act.

2. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chair Jack Sherry called the meeting to order and presided. Jack Sherry, Ann Holloway, Jeffrey W. Hickman, Dustin J. Hilliary, Steven W. Taylor, Michael C. Turpen and Courtney Warmington. Regents Phillip Mitchell "Mitch" Adwon and Dennis Casey were absent.

3. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS.** Regent Turpen moved, seconded by Regent Holloway, to approve the minutes of the State Regents' meetings in March 2024. Voting for the motion were Regents Sherry, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Taylor, Turpen and Warmington. Voting against the motion were none.

4. **COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR.** Chair Sherry expressed his gratitude to Southeastern Oklahoma State University (SEOSU) and President Newsom for their generous hospitality in hosting the meeting on their wonderful campus. He thanked the legislators and staff for organizing Oklahoma's Promise Day at the State Capitol on April

11, which featured remarks from Secretary of Education Nellie Sanders and several legislators. He also extended his thanks to Regents Steven Taylor, Dustin Hilliary, and Ann Holloway for attending the event. Additionally, he acknowledged the State Regents' Free Speech Committee for conducting its First Amendment training at the University of Central Oklahoma and expressed his appreciation to State Regent Emeritus Andy Lester, Regent Jeff Hickman, and the staff for their efforts in organizing this event. Finally, he recognized Regent Ann Holloway for her dedicated service on the board.

5. **COMMENTS FROM THE CHANCELLOR.** Chancellor Garrett expressed her gratitude to the staff for their efforts in organizing the Free Speech training conference. She also acknowledged Regent Andy Lester for his op-ed on free speech. Chancellor Garrett recognized the challenges that families, students, and institutions are facing with the rollout of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Typically, available in October, the system was delayed until January this year. Institutions are diligently working to support these students moving forward.

6. **PRESIDENT'S WELCOME**. President Newsom welcomed the State Regents to Southeastern Oklahoma State University. He recognized his team for their efforts in making this visit a success. President Newsom introduced Emma Quintana, a senior from McAlester majoring in biological health science. Emma Quintana shared that through counseling and mentorship, she has expanded her experience and enhanced her leadership abilities. One of her notable achievements was leading the SEOSU band as its drum major. She plans to attend Oklahoma State University's School of Veterinary Medicine.

7. **STATE SYSTEM INSTITUTIONAL UPDATE.** President Newsom highlighted SEOSU's growth in enrollment and its diverse student body, noting that this year SEOSU will have the largest graduating class in its history. He discussed SEOSU's campus strategic plan, "Vision 2040," and its alignment with the State Regents' strategic plan, "Blueprint 2030." The campus focus areas include academic excellence, sustainability, and the goal of becoming a student-ready university. Through the SEOSU Foundation and their successful "Day of Giving," $1.2 million was raised in scholarships this past year. President Newsom also recognized Regent Ann Holloway for her support of SEOSU, her

alma mater, and for her years of service on the State Regents.

8. **NEW PROGRAM.**

a. Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to approve the request from the University of Oklahoma to offer the Master of Arts in Econometrics. No institution protested the proposal within the 45-day protest period. Voting for the motion were Regents Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Taylor, Turpen, Warmington and Sherry. Voting against the motion were none.

b. East Central University.

   (1) Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Turpen, to approve the request from East Central University to offer the Doctorate of Education in Rural Education. Dr. Robert Placido, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, explained that this will be ECU's first professional doctorate program. No institution protested the proposal within the 45-day protest period. Voting for the motion were Regents Hickman, Hilliary, Taylor, Turpen, Warmington, Sherry and Holloway. Voting against the motion were none.

   (2) Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Turpen, to approve the request from East Central University to offer the Educational Specialist in School Psychology. No institution protested the proposal within the 45-day protest period. Voting for the motion were Regents Hilliary, Taylor, Turpen, Warmington, Sherry, Holloway and Hickman. Voting against the motion were none.

c. Northeastern State University.

   (1) Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Hilliary, to approve the request from Northeastern State University to offer the Master of Science in Management and Technology. No institution protested the proposal within the 45-day protest period. Voting for the motion were Regents Taylor, Turpen, Warmington, Sherry, Holloway, Hickman and Hilliary. Voting against the motion were none.

(2)   Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to approve the request from Northeastern State University to offer the Master of Science in Medical Laboratory Science. No institution protested the proposal within the 45-day protest period. Voting for the motion were Regents Turpen, Warmington, Sherry, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary and Taylor. Voting against the motion were none.

d.   Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Turpen, to approve the request from Rogers State University to offer the Master of Science in Nursing. Dr. Robert Placido, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, explained that initially Northeastern State University protested this program, but withdrew their protest after discussion with Rogers State University. Voting for the motion were Regents Warmington, Sherry, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Taylor and Turpen. Voting against the motion were none.

e.   Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

(1)   Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Turpen, to approve the request from Southwestern Oklahoma State University to offer the Master of Health Science in Health Science. No institution protested the proposal within the 45-day protest period. Voting for the motion were Regents Sherry, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Taylor, Turpen and Warmington. Voting against the motion were none.

(2)   Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Turpen, to approve the request from Southwestern Oklahoma State University to offer the Master of Business Administration in Data Science and Technology. Dr. Robert Placido, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, explained that this program, like many others we are seeing, are a direct result of the State Regents interest in expanding AI-related programs. No institution protested the proposal within the 45-day protest period. Voting for the motion were Regents Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Taylor, Turpen, Warmington and Sherry. Voting against the motion were none.

(3)   Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Turpen, to approve the request from Southwestern Oklahoma State University to offer the Master

of Music in Music Therapy. No institution protested the proposal within the 45-day protest period. Voting for the motion were Regents Hickman, Hilliary, Taylor, Turpen, Warmington, Sherry and Holloway. Voting against the motion were none.

(4) Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Turpen, to approve the request from Southwestern Oklahoma State University to offer the Bachelor of Music in Music Therapy. No institution protested the proposal within the 45-day protest period. Voting for the motion were Regents Hilliary, Taylor, Warmington, Sherry, Holloway and Hickman. Voting against the motion were none. Regent Turpen left the meeting.

f. The University of Central Oklahoma.

(1) Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to approve the request from the University of Central Oklahoma to offer the Bachelor of Science in Ecology and Conservation Biology. No institution protested the proposal within the 45-day protest period. Voting for the motion were Regents Taylor, Warmington, Sherry, Holloway, Hickman and Hilliary. Voting against the motion were none.

(2) Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to approve the request from the University of Central Oklahoma to offer the Bachelor of Business Administration in Supply Chain Management. No institution protested the proposal within the 45-day protest period. Voting for the motion were Regents Warmington, Sherry, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary and Taylor. Voting against the motion were none

9. **ACADEMIC POLICY.** Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Hickman, to approve a concurrent enrollment policy exception request from Cameron University to continue allowing 10th-grade students from Lawton Public Schools to enroll at the institution during the 2024-2025 academic year. Voting for the motion were Regents Warmington, Sherry, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary and Taylor. Voting against the motion were none.

10. **COURSE EQUIVALENCY PROJECT.** Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Hickman, to acknowledge receipt of the Course Equivalency Project (CEP) for the 2024-2025 academic year. Dr. Stephanie Beauchamp, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, presented this item and reviewed the process of compiling the CEP matrix and also briefed the Regents on the "Show What You Know" website (https://showwhatyouknowok.org.). Regent Warmington inquired about the number of issues addressed through the matrix. Dr. Beauchamp responded that the institutions handle these issues effectively, and only a few have reached the State Regents' staff. Voting for the motion were Regents Sherry, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Taylor and Warmington. Voting against the motion were none.

11. **STATE AUTHORIATION**.

   a. Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Hilliary, to approve requests for re-authorization from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Southwestern Assemblies of God University, Strayer University, Webster University, and Marian University to operate as degree-granting institutions in Oklahoma Voting for the motion were Regents Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Taylor, Warmington and Sherry. Voting against the motion were none.

   b. Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to approve a request for authorization of an out-of-state institution, Baylor University, to operate with a physical presence in Oklahoma. After reviewing the application and required documentation, State Regents' staff determined that this institution meets authorization requirements established in the State Regents Institutional Accreditation and State Authorization policy. Voting for the motion were Regents Hickman, Hilliary, Taylor, Warmington, Sherry and Holloway. Voting against the motion were none.

12. **E&G ALLOCATION.** Regent Hilliary moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to approve allocations of $673,365.82 to Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences (OSU CHS) and $673,365.82 the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (OUHSC) from revenue collected from the taxes placed on the sale of cigarettes and tobacco products.

The current accumulated allocation to each institution, including this allocation, totals to $111,031,632.09. Voting for the motion were Regents Hilliary, Taylor, Warmington, Sherry, Holloway and Hickman. Voting against the motion were none.

13. **GRANT ACCEPTANCE.** Regent Warmington moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to accept National Science Foundation Campus Cyberinfrastructure Award #2346397 in the amount of $1,014,757. Under the terms of this two-year grant cycle, Connors State College, Eastern Oklahoma State College, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College, and Oklahoma Panhandle State University will receive new connections to the OneOklahoma Friction Free Network. OFFN is a 10 and 100 Gbps research network that provides higher education institutions with a dedicated route to internet and research networks that is much faster than traditional internet highways. This alternate pathway allows researchers to transmit data at higher speeds. Voting for the motion were Regents Taylor, Warmington, Sherry, Holloway and Hickman. Voting against the motion were none. Regent Hilliary abstained.

14. **EPSCoR.** Regent Hilliary moved, seconded by Regent Hickman, to approve an allocation of $250,000 to participating universities for the Oklahoma IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (OK-INBRE) grant award from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center was awarded a five-year $18 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to continue the OK-INBRE program, bringing the total federal support for this award to $80 million. Included in the grant are East Central University, Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Rogers State University, Oklahoma Panhandle State University, and the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma. Voting for the motion were Regents Warmington, Sherry, Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary and Taylor. Voting against the motion were none.

15. **CONTRACTS AND PURCHASES.** Regent Warmington moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to approve FY24 purchases for amounts that exceed of $100,000. Voting for the motion were Regents Sherry, Holloway, Hickman, Taylor and Warmington. Voting against the motion were none. Regent Hilliary abstained.

16. **ITEM DELETED.** This item was deleted.

17.	**POLICY.** Item #17, Policy, is the posting of State Regents' policy 5.19, the Amanda Winge Study Abroad Scholarship. This item was for posting only.

18.	**CONSENT DOCKET.** Regent Taylor moved, seconded by Regent Holloway, to approve/ratify the following routine requests which are consistent with State Regents' policies and procedures or previous actions:

a.	State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement. Ratification of institutional requests for annual renewal of participation in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement.

b.	Operations. Ratification of purchases exceeding $25,000.

c.	Resolutions.

(1)	Resolution honoring the life of Regent Ike Glass.

(2)	Resolution honoring the service of Regent Ann Holloway.

Voting for the motion were Regents Holloway, Hickman, Hilliary, Taylor, Warmington and Sherry. Voting against the motion were none.

Regent Sherry acknowledged Regent Ann Holloway for her 11 years of service to the board and conferred upon her the title of "State Regent Emeritus." Regent Hickman then read the resolution.

19.	**REPORTS.** Regent Taylor moved, seconded by Regent Hickman, to acknowledge receipt of the Reports.

a.	Programs. Acknowledge receipt of the Current Status Report on program requests.

b.	Annual Reports. Acknowledge receipt of the Current Income and Expenditure Report, FY2023.

Voting for the motion were Regents Hickman, Hilliary, Taylor, Warmington, Sherry and Holloway. Voting against the motion were none.

20. **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES.**

   a.   Academic Affairs and Student Services Committee. The Academic Affairs and Student Services Committee had no additional items for Regents' action.

   b.   Budget and Audit Committee. The Budget and Audit Committee had no additional items for Regents' action.

   c.   Strategic Planning and Personnel and Technology Committee. The Strategic Planning and Personnel and Technology Committee had no additional items for Regents' action.

   d.   Investment Committee. The Investment Committee had no additional items for Regents' action.

21. **PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Upon advice of Matt Stangl, General Counsel for the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, Regent Taylor moved, seconded by Regent Hickman, to go into Executive Session pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(4) for confidential communications between the board and its attorney(s) concerning: (3) EEOC Charge # 564-2023-01525. Voting for the motion were Regents Hilliary, Taylor, Warmington, Sherry, Holloway and Hickman. Voting against the motion were none.

   Following the executive session, Regent Taylor moved, seconded by Regent Hickman, to return to the regular meeting. Voting for the motion were Regents Taylor, Warmington, Sherry, Holloway, Hickman and Hilliary. Voting against the motion were none.

22. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING.** Chair Sherry announced that the next regular meetings are scheduled to be held on Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. and Friday, May 31, 2024 at 9 a.m. at the State Regents Office in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

23. **ADJOURNMENT.** With no additional items to address, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

_____   _____
Jack Sherry, Chair   Steven Taylor, Secretary

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
830 East Main Street in Ada, Oklahoma

MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE
Wednesday, April 24, 2024

1. **ANNOUNCEMENT 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 regular meeting at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 24, 2024, at Murray State College, Health Science Building – Room 118, 1 Murray Campus Drive, Tishomingo, Oklahoma. Notice of the meeting had been filed with the Secretary of State on Wednesday, September 12, 2023, and amended on Tuesday, April 9, 2024. A copy of the agenda for the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Open Meeting Act.

2. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chair Jack Sherry called the meeting to order at 10:50 a.m. and presided. Present for the meeting were State Regents Jack Sherry, Ann Holloway, Jeffrey W. Hickman, Steven W. Taylor, and Michael C. Turpen. Regents Phillip Mitchell "Mitch" Adwon, Dustin J. Hilliary, Dennis Casey, and Courtney Warmington were absent.

3. **PRESIDENT'S WELCOME.** President Tim Faltyn of Murray State College (MSC) extended a warm welcome to the Regents upon their arrival in Tishomingo and at Murray State College. During his address, he introduced Jason Welty, the student body president at Murray State College. Welty shared his journey, noting that while MSC was not initially his first choice, it ultimately proved to be the ideal fit for him. Hailing from a long line of farmers with a deep involvement in beef cattle farming, Welty emphasized how his engagement in campus government has been instrumental in providing him with purpose and drive. He highlighted the increasing participation in student government and expressed gratitude for being awarded a scholarship from the Sam Noble Foundation. As he prepares to transition to Oklahoma State University, Welty expressed genuine appreciation for his time at MSC and eagerly anticipates continuing his educational journey. Regent Sherry inquired about the educational pathways available to students at Murray State College. President Faltyn responded by outlining the primary destinations for MSC students as they progress in their education, namely Southeastern Oklahoma State University, East Central University, and Oklahoma State University. Additionally, President Faltyn offered a concise overview of Murray State College's historical background and a look at their future.

4. **STATE SYSTEMS INSTITUTIONS. Update on institutional activities at Murray State College.** President Tim Faltyn delivered an update on the ongoing institutional activities at MSC, emphasizing their alignment with the overarching goals of Blueprint 2030. MSC is committed to fulfilling the workforce requirements of southeastern Oklahoma. The majors offered by MSC include Nursing, Veterinary Technology, Veterinary Nursing, Gunsmithing, Hospitality, Child Development, Physical Therapy

Assistant, and Occupational Therapy Assistant. Upon completion of their studies, MSC students graduate with both a degree and a certificate in their chosen field. In addition, MSC is collaborating with various institutions, such as Redlands Community College and Carl Albert State College, to develop shared services and initiatives. Regent Hickman inquired about his stance on concurrent enrollment. President Faltyn clarified that the Higher Learning Commission has revised its regulations regarding concurrent enrollment, permitting the hiring of provisional faculty members as they pursue additional qualifications. MSC is collaborating with high schools to engage interested and qualified high school faculty members in enhancing their concurrent enrollment initiative.

5. **BUDGET REPORT AND REVENUE UPDATE.** Mark Tygret, Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance, presented the Regents with an update on the budget. Tygret noted that the allocation efforts concerning deferred maintenance show promise, with both the House and Senate working on the details. On another note, the agency budgets are currently under review. As to the State, revenue appears to be consistent. Furthermore, year-to-date sales tax collections have shown little variation compared to FY2023, although it is worth noting that grocery tax revenue is anticipated to cease in the fall.

6. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.** Dr. Jarrett Jobe, Vice Chancellor for Government Relations, provided the Regents with an update on legislative proceedings. Dr. Jobe announced that the deadline week will come to a close by week's end. Our request, SB1550, known as the EPSCoR bill, has successfully passed through both chambers. SB1302 is currently under review by the House, with the hope of it reaching the Governor's desk for final approval. Discussions regarding the deferred maintenance bill are ongoing, and plans are being made to establish a committee inclusive of higher education representation. This committee will be responsible for determining the allocation of funds. Both the House and Senate are still negotiating their separate budgets and will work to come to an agreement before the end of session. Regent Hickman commended the work that the Regent's team is doing at the Capitol.

7. **LUNCH.** The Regents took a brief recess at 12:00 p.m. for lunch hosted by President Tim Faltyn, which featured a demo from MSC Academic Team. The State Regents meeting reconvened at 1:20 p.m., and Chair Jack Sherry called the meeting to order and presided. Present for the meeting were State Regents Jack Sherry, Ann Holloway, Jeffrey W. Hickman, Steven W. Taylor, and Michael C. Turpen. Regents Phillip Mitchell "Mitch" Adwon, Dustin J. Hilliary, Dennis Casey, and Courtney Warmington were absent.

8. **BLUEPRINT 2030.**

    a. **Business and Employer Advisory Council.** Update on creation of State Regents' Business and Employer Advisory Council (Strategy #2B). Chancellor Garrett briefly addressed the establishment of the Business and Employer Advisor Council aimed at fostering stronger connections between higher education and businesses at the state level. The Council's primary role will be to provide advice to higher

education on the resources and programs necessary to enhance collaborative efforts. Over the past few months, discussions have been held with potential Council members and the inaugural meeting was held on March 26, 2024. During the initial meeting, the Council discussed the statewide summit as an initial step, with potential topics of discussion including the impact of AI, academic partnerships, and strategies for improving student-employer connections. Shane Cole from Google has generously offered his assistance in securing a speaker for the AI session. Other topics on the agenda may include insights into the nursing industry. The summit is scheduled to take place in early 2025.

b.   **Concurrent Enrollment.** Update on Concurrent Enrollment Working Group and discussion on potential recommendations (Strategy #9C). In the interest of time, this item was postponed until the May meeting.

9.   **PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Matt Stangl, General Counsel, indicated that an executive session was needed at this time pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(4) for confidential communications between the board and its attorney(s) concerning Wisdom Ministries, Inc. v. Garrett, et al., Case No. 23-5098. Regent Holloway moved, seconded by Regent Hickman, to go into executive session.

Voting for the motion were Regents Taylor, Turpen, Sherry, Holloway and Hickman. Voting against the motion were none. Regent Adwon, Hilliary, Casey, and Warmington were not present.

Following the executive session, Regent Taylor moved, seconded by Regent Hickman, to return to the regular meeting. Voting for the motion were Regents Turpen, Sherry, Holloway, Hickman and Taylor. Voting against the motion were none. Regent Adwon, Hilliary, Casey, and Warmington were not present.

Regent Taylor moved, seconded by Regent Hickman, to follow the advice of counsel in the Wisdom Ministries, Inc. v. Garrett, et al., Case No. 23-5098. Voting for the motion were Regents Sherry, Holloway, Hickman, Taylor and Turpen. Voting against the motion were none. Regent Adwon, Hilliary, Casey, and Warmington were not present.

10.   **"BEST OF HIGHER EDUCATION."** Regents received the update on institutional activities via e-mail.

11.   **CALENDAR OF EVENTS.** The calendar of events was distributed in written form to the Regents on April 23, 2024.

12.   **ADJOURN.** With no other items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned and the Regents toured the MSC campus.

ATTEST:

_____   _____
Jack Sherry, Chair   Steven W. Taylor, Secretary

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK

PUBLIC HEARING
on Tuition and Fees

Thursday, April 25, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.
Southeastern Oklahoma State University – Hallie McKinney
416 University Boulevard
Durant, Oklahoma
and via Zoom

Regent Jack Sherry: Before we start this public hearing, let's review the tuition and fees items that will be the focus on the State Regents website. It is also available on the registration table at the door. I would like to ask Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance Mark Tygret to explain the items to be addressed today.

Mark Tygret: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Chancellor, and thank you Regents. In order to fulfill our statutory and policy requirements, the State Regents are authorized to establish resident and non-resident tuition and mandatory fees within limits prescribed by the Legislature. Each year, staff compiles data related to the tuition and mandatory fees rate for each respective peer. The FY2025 legislative peer limits for tuition and mandatory fees for undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs were posted at the March 14, 2024, State Regents meeting and are currently available on our website. The peer limits are defined by each respective tier – research, regionals, including RUSO institutions and the four-year liberal arts university USAO, and of the two-year community colleges. Professional programs also have unique peer limits defined by specific programs offered. The 2025 peer limits for undergraduate resident students represents increases from 2024 peer limits of 0.1 percent for the research tier and an increase of 3.9 percent for the two-year community college tier. Oklahoma institutions are to submit requests regarding FY25 tuition and mandatory fees for approval in June. Rates may not exceed the average of their respective peers as shown on the table included in your packet and posted on our website. Also posted on March 14, 2024 and also available on the website is the list of institutional requests for changes in academic service fees for FY25. The service fees are required in addition to tuition and mandatory fees for students enrolled in certain courses of instruction, which could include laboratory courses, or specific service fees, which may include testing and assessment fees. Seventeen institutions have requested a total of 196 changes to academic service fees, representing a decrease of 82 requests or 29.5 percent compared to the FY24 cycle. Included in the request are 50 eliminations, 81 modifications, and 65 new academic service fees. Regents and Chancellor, this concludes my overview of our peer limits postings for today's hearing.

Regent Jack Sherry: Thank you, Mark. We have several speakers that have asked to provide public testimony on these topics. We thank you for your interest and appreciate your willingness to engage in these public policy discussions. I would like to review the ground rules for the public hearing. Each speaker will have three minutes to make comments. A timer will be onscreen so we will know when that time is over. Each speaker is only allowed their time allotment. Speakers will speak from the podium or via Zoom. We ask that each speaker state their name and institution or organization that they represent, if any. This is a public hearing on the topic of tuition and fees. We ask that all speakers confine their comments to that topic. If speakers have written comments or materials, they can be submitted at the end

of their comments or at the end of the meeting to Kylie Smith. The State Regents are here for the purpose of listening to the public. We may have a question or two for the speakers if clarification is needed regarding your comments, but we are not here to debate. We will have time between today and our June meeting for further discussion. So, Regents, just a reminder that we are here today to listen. Our first speaker is Dr. Katheryn Shannon in person. She is an associate professor of educational instruction and leadership at Southeastern Oklahoma State University and Faculty Advisory Council member. Thank you.

Dr. Katheryn Shannon: Thank you and good day. As stated, my name is Katheryn Shannon. I am an Associate Professor and the Faculty Senate Chair at Southeastern, as well as a member of OSHRE's Faculty Advisory Council. I want to thank you for the opportunity to provide a statement regarding tuition for Oklahoma's institutions for higher education. I am a proud product of Oklahoma education systems. I attended Tulsa Public Schools and received degrees from Southeastern and the University of Oklahoma. When I began my undergraduate education here in Durant, I received scholarships that covered my tuition and fees. My mother, a single mother, provided money to help with housing and I worked on campus for spending money. At the time of my graduation, tuition at Southeastern was $35 per credit hour. That tells you a little bit about how long ago that was. At this tuition rate, my entire bachelor's degree costed less than $4,200, which would be 9,440 in today's dollars. Students currently attending Southeastern for a bachelor's degree will pay closer to $27,000 in tuition alone. In today's dollars, this is nearly three times what I paid. These increases are in part due to the state's failure to keep up with the increased costs universities spend to provide educational programs. Today, many of our students at Southeastern struggle to pay their tuition bills, working many more hours than was required of me as they also complete their coursework. This squeeze for time also means that they have less time to take advantage of campus resources and activities that might benefit them in their future careers, such as work study and research opportunities, both of which I had the opportunity to do. I understand that a tuition increase is on the table for today's meeting. As state allocations currently account for about one-third of university operating costs across the state, it is necessary to make up that difference somewhere. However, rather than continuing to pass this increasing expense on to our students across the state, I challenge you, as advocates of higher education, to inspire our state legislature to increase allocations to our university system commensurate with increases our institutions must shoulder to provide quality educational outcomes for the citizens of Oklahoma. Thank you.

Regent Jack Sherry: Thank you very much. Our next speaker is Savannah Alldredge via Zoom. She is a student from USAO and the incoming Oklahoma Student Government Association President.

Savannah Alldredge: Thank you very much. As stated, my name is Savannah Alldredge. I am currently serving as the Vice President for the Oklahoma Student Government Association. Higher education is a cause I'm very passionate for as it has changed my experience as an individual completely. I currently have a Regent Baccalaureate scholarship at the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, allowing me to get my tuition free, but many of my peers work full-time to afford their tuition. They also have to consistently search for other scholarships to afford this tuition. Many of my peers are low-income students and first-generation students. First-generation students don't have the knowledge of those who had a parent who went to college and don't have that support. Keeping this low tuition is extremely necessary for these students, and I ask you to please take this into consideration when making your decision. I wish I could stay longer, but I do have a final directly after this. It's finals week at USAO, but I thank you all for this opportunity to speak. Thank you so very much.

Regent Jack Sherry: Thank you. Is there anyone else that is interested in speaking that didn't have their name down?

Kylie Smith: There is no one else.

Regent Jack Sherry: No one else? Thank you, Dr. Smith. Seeing none, again, the State Regents want to thank all the individuals who testified before us today. All the written and oral commentary received today, as well as commentary received in the State Regents office via e-mail or mail, will be assembled and provided to the State Regents. If there are no other comments, we are adjourned.