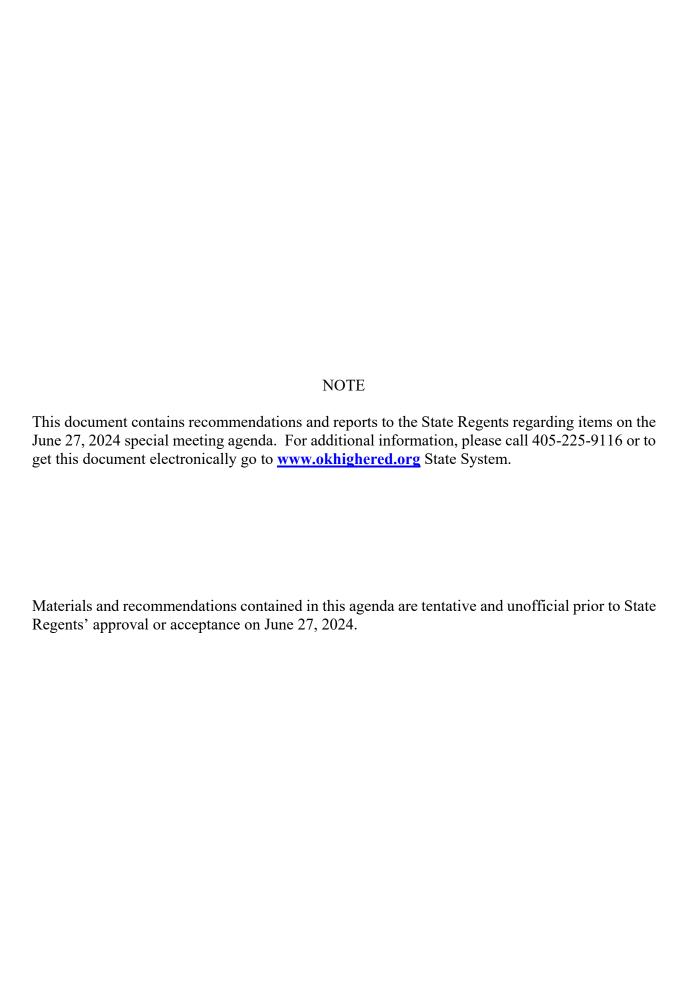


# Agenda

June 27, 2024



#### OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

655 Research Parkway, Oklahoma City

#### AGENDA

Thursday, June 27, 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.)

#### **FISCAL**

#### 6. **E&G Budget.**

- a. Approval of final allocations and approval of Educational and General Budgets of institutions, constituent agencies, higher education centers, special programs and other operations. Page 1.
- b. Approval of allocations to regional universities and two-year colleges from funds received through the Oklahoma Capital Assets Maintenance and Protection Fund. Page 3.
- c. Approval of allocations to Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences and the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center from the revenue derived from the sale of cigarettes and tobacco products. Page 5.
- d. Approval of the fifth year of five-year annually renewable grant commitment to the Oklahoma Historical Society for the Higher Education Archives Project for FY2024. Page 7.

#### 7. Tuition.

a. Approval of Institutional Requests for Changes to Academic Services Fees for Fiscal Year 2025. Page 9.

- b. Approval of FY25 Tuition and Mandatory Fees. Page 11.
- 8. **Endowment.** Approval of reconciliation of accounts as requested by Oklahoma State University. Page 13.
- 9. **EPSCoR.** 
  - a. Approval of NASA Matching Funds. Page 15.
  - b. Approval of Contract and Allocation of Matching Funds for the National Science Foundation. Page 17.
- 10. **Capital.** Approval of the FY25 Annual Campus Master Plan for submission to the Long-Range Planning Commission. Page 21. (Supplement)
- 11. Contracts and Purchases.
  - a. Approval of contracts exceeding \$100,000 for FY2024. Page 22.1.
  - b. Approval of contracts exceeding \$100,000 for FY2025. Page 23.
- 12. **Investments.** Approval of investment managers. Page 25.

#### **ACADEMIC**

- 13. **New Programs.** 
  - a. East Central University.
    - (1) Approval to offer the Master of Science in Biological Sciences. Page 27.
    - (2) Approval to offer the Master of Business Administration in Business Administration. Page 31.
  - b. Rogers State University. Approval to offer the Master of Science in Cybersecurity Policy, Governance, and Training. Page 35.
  - c. Southwestern Oklahoma State University.
    - (1) Approval to offer the Bachelor of Science in Learning and Instruction. Page 39.
    - (2) Approval to offer the Associate in Science in Emergency Management. Page 43.
  - d. University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma. Approval to offer the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science. Page 47.
- 14. **Program Deletions.** Approval of institutional requests. Page 51.

#### 15. **Policy**.

- a. Posting of revisions to the Distance Education and Traditional Off-Campus Courses and Programs policy. Page 53.
- b. Posting of revisions to the Functions of Public Institutions policy. Page 61.
- c. Posting of revisions to the Program Approval policy. Page 67.
- d. Posting of revisions to the Granting of Degrees policy. Page 75.
- 16. **Grant Funds.** Approval of funds granted for the cross-campus collaboration pilot program from the Mathematical Inquiry Project (MIP). Page 79.
- 17. **ACT.** Approval of the ACT Agreement for 2024-2025. Page 81.

#### 18. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families.

- a. Approval of the contract modification between the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and Oklahoma Human Services relating to the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Program. Page 89.
- b. Allocation of funds to Oklahoma community colleges participating in the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Program pursuant to the contracts with the Oklahoma Human Services. Page 93.

#### 19. Scholars for Excellence in Child Care.

- a. Approval of contract between Oklahoma Human Services and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to continue the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care program. Page 95.
- b. Allocation of funds to Oklahoma community colleges participating in the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care Program pursuant to the contract with the Oklahoma Human Services. Page 99.

#### 20. State Authorization.

- a. Approval of request from Chamberlain University (Illinois) to be authorized to operate in Oklahoma. Page 101.
- b. Approval of institutional requests to renew authorization to operate in Oklahoma. Page 105.

#### **EXECUTIVE**

21. **Commendations.** Recognition of State Regents' staff for service and recognitions on state and national projects. Page 109.

#### **CONSENT DOCKET**

- 22. **Consent Docket.** Approval/ratification of the following routine requests which are consistent with State Regents' policies and procedures or previous actions.
  - a. Chancellor Glen D. Johnson Scholarship in Leadership and Public Service. Ratification of recipients of the Chancellor Glen D. Johnson Scholarship in Leadership and Public Service for the 2024-25 academic year. Page 111.
  - b. Operations.
    - (1) Ratification of purchases exceeding \$25,000. Page 113.
    - (2) Contract with Attorney General for legal services. Page 115.
  - c. Resolution. Resolution honoring retiring staff. Page 119.

#### REPORTS

#### 23. Reports.

- a. Programs. Acknowledge receipt of the Current Status Report on program requests. Page 121.
- b. Annual Reports.
  - (1) Acknowledge receipt of the Inspired to Teach 2023-2024 Year-End Report. Page 123. (Supplement)
  - (2) Acknowledge receipt of the Teacher Education Annual Report on Systemwide Review. Page 127. (Supplement)
- 24. **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.
- 25. **Proposed Executive Session.** Page 131.

- 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; and (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), 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.
- 26. **Officers.** Election of State Regents' officers for 2024-25.
- 27. **Recognition.** Recognition of outgoing Chair Jack Sherry.
- 28. **New Business.** Consideration of "any matter not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting the agenda."
- 29. Announcement of Next Regular Meeting The next regular meetings are scheduled to be held on Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. and Thursday, September 5, 2024 at 9 a.m. at the State Regents Office in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
- 30. 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 <a href="mailto:accessibility@osrhe.edu">accessibility@osrhe.edu</a> or call 405.225.9116 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. We will make every reasonable effort to accommodate your needs.

June 27, 2024

#### **AGENDA ITEM #6-a:**

E&G Budget.

SUBJECT: Approval of final allocations and approval of Educational and General Budgets of

institutions, constituent agencies, higher education centers, special programs and other

operations.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve the final allocations and approve the fiscal year 2025 (FY-2025) budgets for institutions, constituent agencies, the higher education program, special programs and other governance operations of the state system. It is recommended that the State Regents authorize the Chancellor to certify the budgets to the Office of Management and Enterprise Services. Budget detail is presented to the Regents as a supplement in the Educational and General Budgets, Summary and Analysis, Fiscal Year 2025 document.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

At the meeting of May 31, 2024, the State Regents allocated \$1,023,746,221 in state-appropriated funds for FY-25 educational and general operating budgets for institutions, constituent agencies, the higher education program, specific special programs and other State Regents' operations. Budgets for these entities have been submitted and upon approval by the State Regents, a certified copy will be filed with the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for the establishment of allotments so institutions and programs may encumber and expend funds for fiscal year 2025. The Oklahoma's Promise Scholarship Fund, funded from \$67.7 million in state dedicated general revenue is in addition to the state appropriations allocations approved at the May meeting. The combined total of state appropriations, including the Oklahoma's Promise Scholarship Fund dedicated revenue for FY24 is \$1,091,446,221, representing an increase from the appropriations received in FY-2024.

#### **POLICY ISSUES:**

The recommendation is consistent with Regents' policy and approved budget principles.

#### **ANALYSIS:**

The supplemental report provides schedules that summarize each institution's budgeted amounts for personnel services; travel; utilities; supplies and other operating expenses; property, furniture and equipment; library books and periodicals; and cash scholarships (excluding tuition waivers). Objects of expenditure are provided for primary educational and general operating budgets, sponsored budgets and special agency funds. Budget amounts are also available for the University Center at Ponca City, special programs and other operations of the State Regents.

State appropriations for total system operations increased by 2.0 percent to \$1,023.7 million for FY-2025. Residual Federal stimulus Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), and American Rescue Plan funding has also been budgeted by our institutions for FY-2025 in the total amount of \$78.9 million. These sources of funding represent direct allocations to our institutions from the U.S. Department of Education as one-time federal stimulus dollars, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, or were appropriated from the Statewide Recovery Fund for specific projects. Portions of funding not expended in FY-2024 are included in institutional FY-2025 budgets as a one-time source of revenue.

In FY-2025, institutions will be reimbursed at one hundred percent (100%) of the actual concurrent enrollment waivers awarded to senior and junior high school students. The allocation to the Section 13 Offset Program resulted in capital funding for the participating institutions of \$175/per FTE, or a minimum of \$1,000,000, whichever amount was greater. This funding allows our institutions to address critical infrastructure improvements and required deferred maintenance projects to ensure the health and safety of students, faculty and visitors at our campuses.

The primary educational and general operating budgets of the colleges and universities will increase by \$97.2 million, or 3.3 percent, to a total of \$3,023.6 million. Functions for the Academic Enterprise (Instruction, Academic Support, Student Services, and Scholarships) have a combined increase of \$63.2 million (3.0%).

The budgeted, system-wide average projected for enrollment is a net gain of 1.4 percent and represents a difference of 1,708 additional full-time-equivalent students anticipated to enroll for the fall semester of the academic year, when compared to the previous fall.

The sponsored programs budget (E&G Part II) is budgeted to increase by approximately \$54.7 million to \$731.1 million in FY-25. The system expects to generate a return on investment of 2.68 to 1 on the investment is the sponsored research category.

The budget guidelines prescribed by the State Regents have been followed and all debt service requirements will be meet for FY-25. The institutions and consistent agencies, as well as the State Regents' office, will continue to be prudent in the expenditures of state revenue and cost savings will remain a focus throughout the fiscal year.

**Supplements** 

June 27, 2024

#### **AGENDA ITEM #6-b:**

E&G Budget.

SUBJECT: Approval of allocations to regional universities and two-year colleges from funds received

through the Oklahoma Capital Assets Maintenance and Protection Fund.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve allocations of \$3,579,545 to each of the 11 regional universities and \$1,205,357 to each of the 14 two-colleges from revenue collected through the Higher Education Facilities Revolving Fund.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The Oklahoma Legislature passed Senate Bill No. 1185 in May 2024 designating \$56.250 million the Oklahoma Capital Assets Maintenance and Protection Fund. This revenue will be received by the State Regents for Higher Education allocation to the regional and two-year institutions for deferred maintenance expenditures in Fiscal Year 25. The bill further states that of these funds \$39.375 million shall be expended by all four-year regional colleges, excluding the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University, and \$16.875 million shall be expended for projects at the two-year colleges within the State System.

Specific deferred maintenance projects have been submitted from these institutions designating their priorities for the use of these funds during Fiscal Year 2025. As required by the legislation, a plan was submitted to the legislature on May 30, 2024, defining the anticipated allocation process implemented for the first year of the five-year program developed by the Legislature in Senate Bill No.1399.

#### **POLICY ISSUES:**

The recommendation is consistent with Regents' policy and approved budget principles.

#### **ANALYSIS:**

Projects funded in this program are defined as deferred maintenance and may include various improvements to existing facilities, replacement of mechanical equipment, preventive maintenance, safety and security measures, system upgrades and corrective repairs to ensure infrastructure stability.

Repair, restoration, rehabilitation, or demolition of assets will be the focus of projects that our institutions will select based upon their individual, unique priorities within the guidelines established by the State Regents.

#### **AGENDA ITEM #6-c:**

E&G Budget.

SUBJECT: Approval of allocations to Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences and the

University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center from the revenue derived from the sale

of cigarettes and tobacco products.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve the allocation of \$1,138,260.58 to Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences (OSU CHS) and \$1,138,260.58 the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (OUHSC) from revenue collected from the taxes placed on the sale of cigarettes and tobacco products.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The Oklahoma Legislature passed House Bill No. 2660 in May 2004, designating a portion of the revenue collected from taxes on the sale of cigarettes and tobacco products to be allocated for specific purposes at OUHSC and OSU CHS. This revenue will be deposited into dedicated funds, the "Comprehensive Cancer Center Debt Service Revolving Fund," at the Health Sciences Center and the "Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine Revolving Fund," at OSU CHS. The bill stated that the revenue collected shall be evenly deposited into accounts designated at these entities, for the purpose of servicing the debt obligations incurred to construct a nationally designated comprehensive cancer center at the OU Health Sciences Center and for the purpose of servicing debt obligations for construction of a building dedicated to telemedicine, for the purchase of telemedicine equipment and to provide uninsured/indigent care in Tulsa County through the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine. In 2007, the Oklahoma Legislature updated the purpose for use of the "Comprehensive Cancer Center Debt Service Revolving Fund" to include Cancer Center operations. The State Regents approved the first allocation of these funds in the meeting of May 27, 2005.

#### **POLICY ISSUES:**

The recommendation is consistent with Regents' policy and approved budget principles.

#### **ANALYSIS:**

The fund currently has on deposit \$2,276,521.16 This amount is sufficient for a transfer of \$1,138,260.58 each to OSU CHS and OUHSC. The OU Health Sciences Center will use their funds for debt service and operations of the Comprehensive Cancer Center. The OSU Center for Health Sciences will expend their funds on the following approved program components: (1) indigent patient clinical care, (2) telemedicine equipment, and (3) facility upgrades.

The current accumulated allocation to each institution, including this allocation, totals to \$112,169,892.67.

#### A five-year history of allocations by fiscal year is included below:

5-Year History of Allocations	Amount to Each Entity
FY 2020 Total	\$5,455,784.70
FY 2021 Total	\$5,062,359.40
FY 2022 Total	\$5,357,330.35
FY 2023 Total	\$6,237,704.94
FY 2024 Y-T-D	\$4,589,909.61

June 27, 2024

#### **AGENDA ITEM #6-d:**

E&G Budget.

**SUBJECT:** Approval of the fifth year of five-year annually renewable grant commitment to the

Oklahoma Historical Society for the Higher Education Archives Project for FY2024.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve a grant allocation in the amount of \$40,000 for year five of a renewable five-year commitment through 2024 to the Oklahoma Historical Society for support of the Higher Education Archives project.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

In FY2003, the State Regents' approved grant funding for a five-year period in support of the development of the Higher Education Archives project of the Oklahoma Historical Society. In FY2010, FY2015, and FY2020 the five-year grant was continued to provide support for and expansion of the Higher Education Archives project.

The project's primary objectives are to develop and establish a history of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, to enhance a comprehensive computerized database index of all higher education institutions, both public and private, to collect and preserve histories of Oklahoma institutions, and to provide public access to all elements.

#### **POLICY ISSUES:**

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

#### **ANALYSIS:**

This allocation is recommended as a grant to support the continued development of the higher education archives located at the Oklahoma Historical Society. The archives will include historical documents of the higher education institutions located in the State, both private and public, and highlight biographies of certain individuals who have been major contributors to Oklahoma Higher Education. Additionally, as part of this contract renewal, the Oklahoma Historical Society will:

- Maintain and add to the on-line and searchable data base for higher education leaders and institutions:
- Conduct oral histories with current regents for the searchable database;
- Update the interactive video presentation about regents, historical leaders, and institutions located in the Oklahoma History Center;
- Curate, design, and install a new museum exhibit about the constitutional amendment; creating the Regents for Higher Education; and
- Provide two free uses of the banquet facilities at the Oklahoma History Center each year.

Funding Source: FY2024 allocation for Grants/Economic Development/OEIS.

June 27, 2024

#### **AGENDA ITEM #7-a:**

Tuition.

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Institutional Requests for Changes to Academic Services Fees for Fiscal Year

2025.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve all institutional requests for changes to academic services fees for Fiscal Year 2025 as reported in the supplemental schedules.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

#### Constitutional and Statutory Provisions for the Coordination of Higher Education Tuition and Fees

Article XIII-A of the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma establishes the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education as the coordinating board of control for all public institutions in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education. Among others, specific powers enumerated include the power to prescribe and coordinate student fees and tuition within limits prescribed by the Legislature. The State Regents are authorized to 1) establish resident tuition and mandatory fees at levels less than the average rate charged at public institutions in the Big Twelve Conference for research universities and less than the average rate charged at peer institutions for regional universities and community colleges, 2) establish academic services fees, not to exceed the cost of the actual services provided, and 3) make a reasonable effort to increase need-based financial aid available to students proportionate to any increase in tuition, as well as annually report on tuition and fees.

State Regents' policy lists February 1 of each year as the deadline for submission of requests for changes in academic services fees to be charged the following academic year. Institutional requests for changes to academic services fees for Fiscal Year 2025 were posted at the State Regents' meeting held March 14, 2024. A public hearing was held April 25, 2024, at the State Regents' meeting for the purpose of receiving views and comments on the requested changes to academic services fees and the legislative limits for resident and nonresident tuition and mandatory fees.

#### **POLICY ISSUES:**

This item is consistent with the State Regents' Policy and Procedures Relating to Tuition and Student Fees.

#### **ANALYSIS:**

The supplemental schedule lists institutional requests for changes to academic services fees for Fiscal Year 2025. Institutions assess special fees for instruction and academic services as a condition of enrollment and as a condition of academic recognition for completion of prescribed courses. These fees are required for all students receiving certain courses of instruction or academic services as designated by the institution. The

requested changes to academic services fees for Fiscal Year 2025 are recommended for posting at this time. Institutions have provided justifications for requested increases in these fees, the total revenue to be collected from the fees, and the use of increased revenues.

Of the twenty-five public institutions in The State System, seventeen requested changes in academic services fees for Fiscal Year 2025 and eight had no requests for changes in these fees. The institutions requested 93 changes in Special Instruction Fees, 10 changes in Facility/Equipment Utilization Fees, 11 changes in Testing/Clinical Services Fees, 42 changes in Classroom/Laboratory Supply and Material Fees, and 40 changes in various Other Special Fees. A total of 196 changes have been requested to academic services fees for Fiscal Year 2025, a decrease of 82 requests when compared to FY24 requests. The fee requests consist of 65 new fees, 81 modifications to existing fees, and 50 deletions of current fees. The complete listing of requests for posting is attached.

It is recommended that the State Regents approve these institutional requests for changes to academic services fees for Fiscal Year 2025.

**AGENDA ITEM #7-b:** 

Tuition.

**SUBJECT:** Approval of FY25 Tuition and Mandatory Fees.

This item will be available at the meeting.

June 27, 2024

#### **AGENDA ITEM #8:**

**Endowment.** 

**SUBJECT:** Approval of reconciliation of accounts as requested by Oklahoma State University.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve the reallocation and renaming of accounts within the portfolio as requested by Oklahoma State University.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The State Regents' Policy for Administering the Regents' Endowment Fund Program provides that:

Endowed chairs and distinguished professorships should be established in academic areas that will contribute to the enhancement of the overall cultural, business, scientific or economic development of Oklahoma.

Endowed chairs and professorships must be established in areas for which the institution has ongoing, approved academic programs.

An institution may apply for an endowed chair, professorship or other related project upon meeting the requirements for establishing an account. Matching funds must originate from monies contributed to the institution from sources specifically designated by the donor for the purpose specified in the endowment fund policy.

#### **POLICY ISSUES:**

This recommended action follows State Regents' policy.

#### **ANALYSIS:**

#### Reallocation and Renaming of Existing Accounts:

Oklahoma State University has requested the following changes to existing, approved endowment accounts based upon discussions with and review of agreements with the Oklahoma State University Foundation.

The additions and deletions will modify account names that were originally approved and will split the funding into new accounts with a net total change of zero. The State Regents are asked to approve the changes which resulted in the OSU Foundation working with the original donor to modify the use of the funds to support modernized academic program structures at the University. Both the donor and the University agree that the requested changes will meet the current academic needs and best serve the students in these programs. Market fluctuations will be included to achieve the requested consolidations at their current valuations.

Institution	Name Change/Combination	Name of Account	Original OSRHE Match
OSU OKM	Existing Account	George Kaiser Family Foundation Chair in Energy Technology	\$1,000,000
OSU OKM	New Account Name	George Kaiser Family Foundation Chair in Unmanned Aerial Systems II	\$1,000,000
OSU Tulsa	Existing Account	George Kaiser Family Foundation Chair in Entrepreneurship	\$1,000,000
OSU Tulsa	Existing Account	George Kaiser Family Foundation Chair in Family and Community	\$1,000,000
OSU Tulsa	Existing Account	George Kaiser Family Foundation Chair in Child Development	\$1,000,000
OSU Tulsa	New Consolidated Account	George Kaiser Family Foundation Super Chair in Advanced Technology II	\$3,000,000
OSU COMS	Existing Account	George Kaiser Family Foundation Chair in Medical Excellence and Service	\$1,000,000
OSU COMS	Existing Account	George Kaiser Family Foundation in Family Medicine	\$1,000,000
OSU COMS	New Consolidated Account	George Kaiser Family Foundation Healthcare Technology	\$2,000,000
OSU COMS	Existing Account	George Kaiser Family Foundation Chair in Obstetrics and Gynecology	\$1,000,000
OSU COMS	Existing Account	George Kaiser Family Foundation Chair in Pediatrics	\$1,000,000
OSU COMS	New Consolidated Account	George Kaiser Family Foundation Clinical Nursing Training II	\$2,000,000

**AGENDA ITEM #9-a:** 

EPSCoR.

**SUBJECT:** Approval of NASA Matching Funds.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve EPSCoR matching funds in the amount of \$50,000 to participating institutions for NASA EPSCoR projects.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Seven federal agencies have EPSCoR or similar programs to encourage the development of competitive sponsored research in states that have historically had little federally sponsored research. The federal agencies are the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Energy, the Department of Defense, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the United States Department of Agriculture. Oklahoma is one of 29 states that participate in a program at one or more federal agencies.

#### **POLICY ISSUES:**

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

#### **ANALYSIS:**

The State Regents have committed \$150,000 in matching funds for a three-year NASA EPSCoR program for the proposal entitled "Vacuum thermal evaporation (VTE) processed perovskite solar cells for in space assembly." In April 2023, the proposal submitted by Oklahoma State University was awarded federal funding in the amount of \$750,000 over the three-year period. It is recommended that the State Regents approve the allocation of \$50,000 for the second year of this award.

June 27, 2024

#### **AGENDA ITEM #9-b:**

EPSCoR.

SUBJECT: Approval of Contract and Allocation of Matching Funds for the National Science

Foundation.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve an agreement with Oklahoma State University to serve as the fiscal agent for matching funds for the National Science Foundation (NSF) EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Award (RII) and an allocation of \$800,000 for this program for FY 2025.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Seven federal agencies have EPSCoR or similar programs to encourage the development of competitive sponsored research in states that have historically had little federally sponsored research. The federal agencies are the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Energy, the Department of Defense, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the United States Department of Agriculture. Oklahoma is one of 29 states that participate in a program at one or more federal agencies.

#### **POLICY ISSUES:**

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

#### **ANALYSIS:**

Oklahoma has been awarded a five-year NSF EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement award beginning July 1, 2020 in the amount of \$20 million. The grant application provides a matching commitment of \$800,000 per year from the Oklahoma State Regents of Higher Education.

The award continues infrastructure improvements for the Science and Technology centers, encourages the success of minorities and women as professionals in science and engineering and promotes university-private sector partnerships.

Other areas of special focus include:

- the creation of a stable base of R&D funding for Oklahoma higher education;
- the recruitment and retention of high-quality science and engineering faculty; and
- the enhancement of the public visibility of the state's research and graduate programs.

The Research Infrastructure Improvement award focuses on the theme of climate research. The award, "Socially Sustainable Solutions for Water, Carbon, and Infrastructure Resilience in Oklahoma" will facilitate research and learning opportunities for college faculty, college students and K-12 students. The

NSF award is a multi-institutional collaborative project that includes researchers from Oklahoma State University, The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, the University of Oklahoma and the University of Tulsa.

The attached agreement formalizes Oklahoma State University's role as the fiscal agent for the new award.

#### Agreement Between the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and Oklahoma State University

#### Pertaining to Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research

This agreement is between the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE), the party of the first part, and Oklahoma State University (OSU), the party of the second part, executed this 26nd day of June 2024.

WHEREAS the Oklahoma EPSCoR Advisory Committee, together with Oklahoma State University, the University of Oklahoma, the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, initiated a Research Infrastructure Improvement Plan proposal under the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) of the National Science Foundation;

WHEREAS the National Science Foundation has made an award of monies based on scientific merit for the Oklahoma EPSCoR proposal;

WHEREAS the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education have allocated monies for EPSCoR sufficient to provide matching funds for this project; said allocated monies will be distributed by OSRHE for this program pursuant to the constitutional authority vested in OSRHE, the coordinating board of control for higher education;

WHEREAS the expanding number of Oklahoma EPSCoR programs and activities have likewise achieved a degree of statewide and national visibility;

#### THEREFORE, the parties agree that:

- 1) The OSRHE, as the coordinating board of control for higher education, shall allocate a sum of monies up to \$800,000 for the period of July 1,2024 through June 30, 2025. Said monies represent the matching monies to the National Science Foundation grant to the Oklahoma EPSCoR Program and to institutional monies allocated to the purposes of the project.
- OSU will act as the fiscal agent for this program for the term referenced above and shall distribute monies as appropriate to the other program participants including the University of Oklahoma and the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, subject to the following provisions:
  - a. The Principal Investigator (PI) shall have final budget authority for all expenditures of State Regents matching funds.
  - OSU shall provide monthly reports in a timely manner of all expenditures on the award to the PI.

- c. OSU shall request prior approval from the PI for any State Regents matching funds expenditure that differs from those listed in the budget submitted to NSF.
- d. A no-cost extension may be requested for any unspent funds at the end of this agreement.
- e. OSU shall provide an annual report in a format to be determined jointly by the OSRHE and OSU, accounting for all monies expended under the terms of the agreement.
- 3) This agreement shall be subject to continuing approval by the National Science Foundation of the scientific and technical merits of the program.
- 4) OSU further agrees that by accepting said funds it will abide by the terms and provisions of the National Science Foundation grant.

THE PARTIES HAVE READ THE TERMS AND PROVISIONS OF THIS AGREEMENT AND HEREBY GIVE THEIR VOLUNTARY CONSENT TO THAT AGREEMENT.

Oklahoma State University	Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education		
By: Vice President for Research	By:		
Date:	Date:		
	Approved as to Form:		

June 27, 2024

#### **AGENDA ITEM #10:**

Capital.

**SUBJECT:** Approval of the FY25 Annual Campus Master Plan for submission to the Long-Range

Planning Commission.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents authorize the transmittal of institutional capital improvement plans for the eight (8) fiscal years 2026-2033 to the State of Oklahoma Long-Range Capital Planning Commission. The institutional capital improvement plans are presented in the supplement to this agenda.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The State of Oklahoma Long-Range Capital Planning Commission was created during the 1992 legislative session (62 O.S., Section 901) and revised in 2014. Its purpose was to establish a capital planning process that would result in an annually updated state capital improvement plan addressing all agency and institutional needs covering the next eight years. The statute provides that the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education shall cooperate with the Commission by collecting from each institution and entity in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education a detailed list of all capital projects anticipated for the next eight years. Institutional listings identify projects that will require funding from state appropriations, as well as projects that will be self-funded by the institution from sources such as Section 13 and New College funds, revenue bond proceeds, auxiliary enterprise revenues and Section 13 Offset.

#### **POLICY ISSUES:**

None.

#### **ANALYSIS:**

Based on the information submitted by institutions and agencies, the Commission, submits prior to each legislative session, a state capital improvement plan to the Governor and legislative leadership that contains two sections. The first section includes projects identified by institutions and agencies that the Commission recommends for funding from state appropriations. The second section includes all self-funded projects that were identified by institutions and agencies.

The Commission's approach for development of a state capital improvement plan focuses on projects for which state appropriations are required. The Commission's evaluation process has, in prior years, placed a high priority on projects relating to telecommunications and technology, asset preservation, health and safety, and renovation of facilities.

A total of 738 capital projects are identified by State System institutions for submission to the Commission. These projects are summarized by institution in the supplement provided at this meeting and total approximately \$5.021 billion for the eight-year period.

Supplement

June 27, 2024

#### **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

#### **OCAN**

1) Dobson Technologies Transport and Telecom Solutions in the amount of \$131,527.75 for location and marking as necessary of approximately 1,200 miles of OCAN and OneNet fiber across the state due to road construction and digging projects. (Funded from 720-OCAN).

June 27, 2024

#### **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) A vendor to be determined in an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000.00 to provide remote access to telehealth services, including behavioral, medical and therapy consultations, to actively enrolled Oklahoma public higher education institution students. (Funded From 210-Core).
- 2) Oklahoma Department of Libraries in the amount of \$149,473.00 for the Academic Journal Database EBSCO. This database provides a subscription for academic libraries at institutions in the state of Oklahoma. (Funded from 210-Core).

#### **Endowed Chairs**

3) Mercer in the amount of \$686,000.00 for FY25 investment consulting services on the Endowed Chairs, Academic Scholars and Retirement Trust Funds. (Funded from 707-Endowed Chairs Program).

#### OneNet

4) Pioneer Telephone in the amount of \$296,227.43 for 100 Gig circuit connection for the Northwestern Oklahoma State University - Alva campus. Cost recovered through National Science Foundation OFFN7 grant. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

#### **OCAN**

- 5) Dobson Technologies Transport and Telecom Solutions in the amount of \$578,383.25 for fiber maintenance and repairs of the Oklahoma Community Anchor Network (OCAN). Cost recovered through OneNet user fees. (Funded from 720-OCAN).
- 6) Dobson Technologies Transport and Telcom in the amount of \$100,000.00 for Oklahoma Community Anchor Network (OCAN) fiber optic relocation due to highway construction. Cost recovered through OneNet user fees. (Funded from 720-OCAN).

#### Multiple Funds

- 7) A vendor to be selected from among vendors participating in the state marketing and advertising contract will be engaged to serve as the State Regents' marketing 'agency of record' for FY25, in the amount of \$521,000.00 for FY25 statewide advertising campaigns, including execution of marketing strategies and development of creative assets for key initiatives to include UpskillOK, Reach Higher, Inspired to Teach, Oklahoma's Promise, and FAFSA completion. (Funded from 210-Core and 701-OCAP).
- 8) Bank of America in the amount of \$176,000.00 for FY25 P-Card expenditures. The funds for P-Card expenditures must be encumbered prior to using the P-Card for purchases. (Funded from 210-Core, 701-OCAP, 718-OneNet, 720-OCAN, 730-GEAR UP).

#### **AGENDA ITEM #12:**

Investments.

**SUBJECT:** Approval of investment managers.

This item will be available at the meeting.

# Meeting of the OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

June 27, 2024

# **AGENDA ITEM #13-a (1):**

New Programs.

**SUBJECT:** East Central University. Approval to offer the Master of Science in Biological Sciences.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve East Central University's request to offer the Master of Science in Biological Sciences, with options in Water Science and Biological Health Science, 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.

• Master of Science in Biological Sciences. 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 6 students in 2028-2029.

### **BACKGROUND:**

#### **Academic Plan**

Institutional Academic Plans are submitted annually to the State Regents, with acknowledgment of receipt, not endorsement. East Central University's (ECU) 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, ECU has taken the following program actions in response to APRA:

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

# **Program Review**

ECU offers 56 degree and/or certificate programs as follows:

13	Certificates
0	Associate in Arts or Science Degrees
0	Associate in Applied Science Degrees
28	Baccalaureate Degrees
14	Master's Degrees
1	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 ECU'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**

ECU's faculty developed the proposal, which was reviewed and approved by institutional officials. ECU's governing board approved delivery of the Master of Science in Biological Sciences program at their April 18, 2024 meeting. ECU is currently approved to offer 22 degree and certificate programs through electronic delivery. ECU 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:**

# **Master of Science in Biological Sciences**

**Program purpose.** The proposed Master of Science in Biological Sciences is designed to strengthen the student's scientific portfolio and provide specialized preparation for those individuals seeking careers in the health industry, water science, ecology or the natural sciences.

**Program rationale and background.** Local and regional resources do not provide graduate-level training programs providing both thesis-level and practical training needed by the students and stakeholders to reach STEM workforce goals. Stakeholders include the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) with the relocation of the Houston EPA lab to the Ada, OK Kerr EPA Research Center, the Chickasaw Nation's Office of Natural Resources, and the Oka' Institute, as well as state and local regulatory centers and water testing biotechnology companies. The proposed program will: 1) foster the ability to synthesize, analyze, and communicate information from scientific data; 2) promote knowledge of theories, methods, and findings in biological fields; and 3) promote competence in the application of basic knowledge within the biological health and water science fields.

**Employment opportunities.** Regionally, the proposed program seeks to meet the need for water scientists and health professionals that improve the availability of healthcare and environmental health professionals

in the Southern/Central Oklahoma region. The Chickasaw Nation has requested the expansion of water programming into the science and investigation of water usage, monitoring and beneficial use. The Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations are working to start testing laboratories which will require trained scientists to fill key roles. Similarly, a group of local physicians has reached out to ECU requesting the enhancement of opportunities and support for pre-medical track students. Local healthcare facilities are having trouble retaining physicians locally. Bachelor of Science graduates who are waiting a year to reapply to a professional school can use the Master of Science in Biological Sciences (Health Sciences option) to help them not only be more competitive for admission but to also join a professional program armed with knowledge and academic capability above that achieved at the undergraduate level. Other target populations for the Water Science track include Biology graduates who are interested in careers as professional scientists in the field.

**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	6	2028-2029

**Duplication and impact on existing programs.** There are currently no Master of Science in Biological Sciences programs in Oklahoma. A system wide letter of intent was communicated by email on March 7, 2024. None of the State System institutions notified State Regents' staff of a protest to the proposed program. Due to the uniqueness of the program, approval will not constitute unnecessary duplication.

**Delivery method and support services.** The proposed Master of Science in Biological Sciences program will be offered via traditional and electronic delivery. ECU will use a hyflex format for the proposed program, which allows for remote flexibility on a case-by-case basis to improve robust delivery and retention. Hyflex does not subtract from seat time but does layer on top of the live and recorded lectures. The laboratories will match field and career metrics such that most will be offered with either face-to-face bench work or field work, as applicable. The library, classrooms, and equipment may also be used 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. ECU 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.

# Meeting of the OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

June 27, 2024

# **AGENDA ITEM #13-a (2):**

New Programs.

**SUBJECT:** East Central University. Approval to offer the Master of Business Administration in

Business Administration.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve East Central University's request to offer the Master of Business Administration in Business Administration, 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.

• Master of Business Administration in Business Administration. Continuation beyond Fall 2026 will depend upon meeting the following criteria:

Majors enrolled: a minimum of 25 students in Fall 2025; and Graduates: a minimum of 8 students in 2025-2026.

# **BACKGROUND:**

#### **Academic Plan**

Institutional Academic Plans are submitted annually to the State Regents, with acknowledgment of receipt, not endorsement. East Central University's (ECU) 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, ECU has taken the following program actions in response to APRA:

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

# **Program Review**

ECU offers 56 degree and/or certificate programs as follows:

13	Certificates
0	Associate in Arts or Science Degrees
0	Associate in Applied Science Degrees
28	Baccalaureate Degrees
14	Master's Degrees
1	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 ECU'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**

ECU's faculty developed the proposal, which was reviewed and approved by institutional officials. ECU's governing board approved delivery of the Master of Business Administration in Business Administration program at their April 18, 2024 meeting. ECU is currently approved to offer 22 degree and certificate programs through electronic delivery. ECU 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:

## **Master of Business Administration in Business Administration**

**Program purpose.** The proposed Master of Business Administration in Business Administration ECU will encourage students to develop entrepreneurial skills to meet community needs, align the curriculum with Oklahoma's prevalent industries, integrate modern business technology, provide leadership development opportunities, and foster essential soft skills for success in any business environment.

**Program rationale and background.** The proposed Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Business Administration program is designed to provide working professionals in the south-central portion of Oklahoma the knowledge and abilities necessary to further their careers in executive, managerial and administrative roles in business, healthcare, state and local government entities, tribal governments, and nonprofit organizations. Currently ECU offers the Master of Management in Management (102) and a Master of Science in Accounting (097). Having these accredited programs gives ECU a set of classes that

can be used to minimize the number of courses that would need to be added in order to offer a competitive MBA program. Currently, all but one class needed for the proposed program is already offered. ECU alumni and community members have expressed interest in the proposed program and feel as though it would fill a programmatic gap in the region.

**Employment opportunities.** Demand for an MBA program exists in Pontotoc County and amongst ECU's alumni. ECU's proposed MBA in Business Administration program would be the only one in Southeast Oklahoma that is offered with an on-ground component. For many students, this will be desirable because of the intangible learning experience of face-to-face interactions with the other students and faculty members. Currently, there are 233 job postings on Indeed.com that either require or prefer an applicant with an MBA, with many of those opportunities located within a 50-mile radius of Ada. An MBA offering in Ada will help fill these types of positions and meet the needs of the surrounding community. After the program is established, ECU plans on incorporating electives to suit the needs of particular employers such as the Chickasaw Nation, banks, and the local hospitals in need of more healthcare leadership training.

**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	25	Fall 2025
Minimum Graduates from the program	8	2025-2026

**Duplication and impact on existing programs.** The proposed MBA in Business Administration may share similar content with the following programs:

Institution	Existing Program
University of Oklahoma	MBA in Business Administration (025)
Oklahoma State University	MBA in Business Administration (035)
Cameron University	MBA in Business Administration (630)
Northeastern State University	MBA in Business Administration (056)
Northwestern Oklahoma State University	MBA in Business Administration (088)
Rogers State University	MBA in Business Administration (213)
Southeastern Oklahoma State University	MBA in Business Administration (075)
Southwestern Oklahoma State University	MBA in Business Administration (086)
University of Central Oklahoma	MBA in Business Administration (008)

A system wide letter of intent was communicated by email on March 7, 2024. None of the State System institutions notified State Regents' staff of a protest to the proposed program. Due to the expected growth in the field, approval will not constitute unnecessary duplication.

**Delivery method and support services.** The proposed MBA in Business Administration program will be offered via traditional and electronic delivery. ECU uses Blackboard as its learning management system to deliver program content for online courses. 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. The library, classrooms, and equipment

may also be used 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. ECU 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.

# Meeting of the OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

June 27, 2024

### **AGENDA ITEM #13-b:**

**New Programs.** 

**SUBJECT:** Rogers State University. Approval to offer the Master of Science in Cybersecurity Policy,

Governance, and Training.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve Rogers State University's request to offer the Master of Science in Cybersecurity Policy, Governance, and Training, via 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.

• Master of Science in Cybersecurity Policy, Governance, and Training. Continuation beyond Fall 2027 will depend upon meeting the following criteria:

Majors enrolled: a minimum of 15 students in Fall 2026; and Graduates: a minimum of 10 students in 2026-2027.

# **BACKGROUND:**

## **Academic Plan**

Institutional Academic Plans are submitted annually to the State Regents, with acknowledgment of receipt, not endorsement. Rogers State University's (RSU) 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, RSU has taken the following program actions in response to APRA:

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

# **Program Review**

RSU offers 37 degree and/or certificate programs as follows:

2	Certificates
10	Associate in Arts or Science Degrees
2	Associate in Applied Science Degrees
20	Baccalaureate Degrees
3	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 RSU'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**

RSU's faculty developed the proposal, which was reviewed and approved by institutional officials. RSU's governing board approved delivery of the Master of Science in Cybersecurity Policy, Governance, and Training program at their March 12, 2024 meeting. RSU is currently approved to offer 13 degree and certificate programs through electronic delivery. RSU 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:**

# Master of Science in Cybersecurity Policy, Governance, and Training

**Program purpose.** The proposed Master of Science in Cybersecurity Policy, Governance, and Training will provide coursework and practical application in preparing learners to become information/cybersecurity professionals. Additionally, this degree will prepare learners to bridge the communication gap between IT security professionals and key business stakeholders while cultivating strategies based on ethical principles and balancing organizational policies with government regulations to develop and implement necessary training programs to protect against and respond to internal and external threats.

**Program rationale and background.** The proposed degree is a distinctive and rigorous program of study designed to provide students with academically strong and diverse required courses. The program will prepare students for immediate employment in information/cyber security occupations in government, educational, and service organizations. It will provide practical application in preparing learners to become

information/cybersecurity professionals. The proposed program is a 10-course, non-thesis program that allows learners to gain the tools and skills required to manage critical and emerging cybersecurity issues confronted in private industry, academia, and governmental agencies. Furthermore, it is designed to prepare information/cybersecurity technology leaders by developing skills and competencies in technical aspects of cybersecurity as well as to assume responsibilities for the management of cybersecurity projects, organizational training programs, and coordination of cyber operations teams. Additionally, it will prepare learners to bridge the communication gap between IT security professionals and key business stakeholders. Graduates will be able to cultivate strategies, based on ethical principles, while balancing organizational policies and government regulations to develop and implement necessary training programs to protect against and respond to internal and external threats. It also provides preparation for students desiring to pursue doctoral studies or teach cybersecurity courses in 2 and 4-year colleges and universities. In an applied learning environment, learners will identify, assess, and manage risk as well as develop and implement a proactive information/cyber security strategy to defend, mitigate, and ultimately recover from an attack or loss of data.

Employment opportunities. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), 18 percent of all jobs required a master's degree by the end of 2022. Current data available from ONET (BLS) for Computer and Information Systems Managers and Digital Forensics Analysts are listed as "Bright Outlook" occupations. Every Bright Outlook occupation matches at least one of the following criteria: Projected to grow faster than average (employment increase of 5 percent or more) over the period 2022-2032 for the US nationwide or projected to have 100,000 or more job openings over the period 2022-2032 for the US nationwide. Additionally, each are "New & Emerging" occupations which are expected to grow rapidly according to the BLS. Oklahoma Works, Top 100 Critical Occupations, lists Computer and Information Systems Managers as having an average salary of \$120,016, more than double the state average, and an expected 7 percent growth over the next 10 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	15	Fall 2026
Minimum Graduates from the program	10	2026-2027

**Duplication and impact on existing programs.** The proposed Master of Science in Cybersecurity Policy, Governance, and Training may share similar content with the following programs:

Institution	Existing Program
Oklahoma State University	Master of Science in Management Information
	Systems with option in Cybersecurity (412)
Oklahoma State University	Master of Science in Business Analytics and Data
	Science with option in Cybersecurity Analytics (505)
University of Central Oklahoma	Master of Science in Cybersecurity (252)

A system wide letter of intent was communicated by email on March 27, 2024. 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 Cybersecurity Policy, Governance, and Training program will be offered via electronic delivery. RSU uses Blackboard as its learning management system and ISSA Series Cloud Labs to deliver program content for online courses. The following features in Blackboard facilitate student learning: discussion boards, assignment submission, resources, and direct messaging between instructors and students. Cloud Labs provide immersive mock IT infrastructures with live virtual machines and real software, where students will exercise cybersecurity best practices. Unlike simulations, these hands-on virtual labs reproduce the complex challenges of the real world without putting an institution's assets at risk. The library, classrooms, and equipment may also be used 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. RSU 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.

# Meeting of the OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

June 27, 2024

# **AGENDA ITEM #13-c (1):**

New Programs.

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

Learning and Instruction.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve Southwestern Oklahoma State University's request to offer the Bachelor of Science in Learning and Instruction, 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 Learning and Instruction.** Continuation beyond Fall 2027 will depend upon meeting the following criteria:

Majors enrolled: a minimum of 40 students in Fall 2026; and

Graduates: a minimum of 20 students in 2026-2027.

# **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: <a href="https://okhighered.org/admin-fac/academic-forms/">https://okhighered.org/admin-fac/academic-forms/</a>.

## **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:

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

# **Program Review**

SWOSU offers 80 degree and/or certificate programs as follows:

7	Certificates
8	Associate in Arts or Science Degrees
5	Associate in Applied Science Degrees
42	Baccalaureate Degrees
17	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 Learning and Instruction program at their April 18, 2024 meeting. SWOSU is currently approved to offer 27 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 Learning and Instruction**

**Program purpose.** The proposed Bachelor of Science in Learning and Instruction will provide students with a traditional student teaching experience but in a non-traditional setting.

Program rationale and background. The demand for teachers has continued to grow within the State of Oklahoma, as well as all other states for several years. The number of alternatively certified teachers has also continued to grow each year, and recently the State of Oklahoma has needed to provide school districts with an "adjunct" pathway, so that schools could fill necessary teaching positions, when there are no "certified" or "alternatively certified" applicants. Currently, all traditional education degree programs require a student teaching semester, in which students are required to complete the associated block of courses and then complete the student teaching hours. This traditional design prevents students from maintaining full-time employment while they are completing the student teaching semester. This design

also prevents paraprofessionals, who are full-time employees of a school system, from being able to complete the traditional education degree programs. Consequently, many potential education students and future teachers never begin a program of study that will lead to employment within a K-12 school system, due to this traditional design structure competing with their current life and work schedules. The proposed program will allow students to receive similar training and coursework, without completing the traditional student teaching semester, along with preparing them for future positions in a classroom, and allowing them to maintain their full-time employment during completion of the program. It is anticipated that this program will significantly increase the number of graduates from SWOSU who are trained and prepared to fill the high-need positions in education within the State of Oklahoma.

**Employment opportunities.** The growing demand for teachers in the State of Oklahoma has led to the need for the development of additional pathways for potential teachers. Training alternatively certified teachers has become crucial to the success of K-12 classrooms. From June to December 2023, the State Department of Education (OSDE) issued 4,676 emergency teacher certifications. This is an all-time high. Ten years ago, OSDE issued 189 for the entire school year. According to area superintendents, teaching positions that used to attract 40 or more applications now draw two or three. In March 2022, the National Centre for Education Statistics (NCES) reported that 44 percent of public schools had reported teaching vacancies. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, approximately 67,100 openings for high school teachers and 42,200 openings for middle school teachers are projected each year, on average, over the next 10 years. This degree will provide new pathways that will ensure the quality of the applicant pool increases.

**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	40	Fall 2026
Minimum Graduates from the program	20	2026-2027

**Duplication and impact on existing programs.** There are currently no Bachelor of Science in Learning and Instruction programs in Oklahoma. A system wide letter of intent was communicated by email on April 22, 2024. None of the State System institutions notified State Regents' staff of a protest to the proposed program. Approval will not constitute unnecessary duplication.

**Delivery method and support services.** The proposed Bachelor of Science in Learning and Instruction program will be offered via traditional and electronic delivery. SWOSU uses 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 used 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.

# Meeting of the OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

June 27, 2024

# **AGENDA ITEM #13-c (2):**

New Programs.

SUBJECT: Southwestern Oklahoma State University. Approval to offer the Associate in Science in

Emergency Management.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve Southwestern Oklahoma State University's request to offer the Associate in Science in Emergency Management, 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 Emergency Management. Continuation beyond Fall 2029 will depend upon meeting the following criteria:

Majors enrolled: a minimum of 25 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: <a href="https://okhighered.org/admin-fac/academic-forms/">https://okhighered.org/admin-fac/academic-forms/</a>.

# **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:

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

# **Program Review**

SWOSU offers 80 degree and/or certificate programs as follows:

7	Certificates
8	Associate in Arts or Science Degrees
5	Associate in Applied Science Degrees
42	Baccalaureate Degrees
17	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 Associate in Science in Emergency Management program at their April 22, 2024 meeting. SWOSU is currently approved to offer 27 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:**

## Associate in Science in Emergency Management

**Program purpose.** The proposed Associate in Science in Emergency Management will provide a mechanism for students to obtain a degree for the hours spent as a first responder.

**Program rationale and background.** Many students that work as first responders need an Associate's degree to apply for supervisor positions. The proposed program will also be a good stepping stone for those wanting to pursue a Bachelor's degree in related fields. SWOSU has seen a growing demand among high school students to maximize the amount of dual-credit and general education courses completed before pursuing a four-year degree at SWOSU. The Associate in Science in Emergency Management program will provide an opportunity to students seeking this pathway.

Employment opportunities. According to Oklahomaworks.gov/Oklahoma-workforce-data, statistics support the need for the proposed program based on the increase need for first responders. Data show the following projected increases for the state of Oklahoma over the next 10 years: 8 percent increase for law enforcement; 11 percent increase for Paramedics; 8 percent increase for Firefighters. According to Oklahomaworks.gov., there were over 9,583 law enforcement jobs, 5,113 fire fighter jobs and 1,811 Paramedics jobs currently in Oklahoma. The proposed program will help to fill the industry gap currently in the state.

**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	25	Fall 2028
Minimum Graduates from the program	5	2028-2029

**Duplication and impact on existing programs.** There are currently no Associate in Science in Emergency Management programs in Oklahoma. A system wide letter of intent was communicated by email on April 22, 2024. None of the State System institutions notified State Regents' staff of a protest to the proposed program. Approval will not constitute unnecessary duplication.

**Delivery method and support services.** The proposed Associate in Science in Emergency Management program will be offered via traditional and electronic delivery. SWOSU uses 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 used 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.

# Meeting of the OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

June 27, 2024

### **AGENDA ITEM #13-d:**

New Programs.

SUBJECT: University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma. Approval to offer the Bachelor of Science

in Computer Science.

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma's request to offer the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, 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 Computer Science.** 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. The University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma's (USAO) 2023-2024 Academic Plan is available at: <a href="https://okhighered.org/admin-fac/academic-forms/">https://okhighered.org/admin-fac/academic-forms/</a>.

# **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, USAO has taken the following program actions in response to APRA:

0	Degree and/or certificate programs deleted
0	Degree and/or certificate programs added

# **Program Review**

USAO offers 24 degree and/or certificate programs as follows:

0	Certificates
0	Associate in Arts or Science Degrees
0	Associate in Applied Science Degrees
24	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 USAO'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**

USAO's faculty developed the proposal, which was reviewed and approved by institutional officials. USAO's governing board approved delivery of the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science program at their April 10, 2024 meeting. USAO is currently approved to offer one degree program through electronic delivery. USAO 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 Computer Science**

**Program purpose.** The proposed Bachelor of Computer Science will provide students with a focus in graphic design, gaming, and data analytics.

**Program rationale and background.** The proposed program will enable students to expand their knowledge and skills within the field of computer science and increase their marketability to future employers. Students will have the opportunity to participate with professional associations via internships, attendance, and networking at national industry events and conferences. USAO plans to make the proposed program unique by adding components of graphic design, gaming, and data analytics. USAO previously offered a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science degree, which was deleted in 2012 due to low productivity; however, the courses were maintained in order to offer a computer science minor. With the advances in the discipline and employment demand, USAO wants to re-establish the computer science program with current technology. The career paths in this STEM field are enormous and fully aligned with

Oklahoma Workforce needs. Many jobs in the Top 100 Critical Jobs list include some form of computer science training necessary.

Employment opportunities. According to the Oklahoma Department of Labor, computer science is a fast-growing field with an expected 15 percent increase in job opportunities over the next 10 years. Jobs in computer science are growing faster than average and are a very viable career path. Career opportunities are available in multiple areas, especially in the medical and scientific areas as well as any business-related field. The Department of Labor and Statistics shows that overall employment in computer and information technology occupations is projected to grow much faster than the average for all occupations from 2022 to 2032. About 377,500 openings are projected each year, on average, in these occupations due to employment growth and the need to replace workers who leave the occupations permanently. The median annual wage for this group was \$104,420 in May 2023, which was higher than the median annual wage for all occupations of \$48,060.

**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 Computer Science may share similar content with the following programs:

Institution	Existing Program
University of Oklahoma	Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (233)
Oklahoma State University	Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (052)
Cameron University	Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (415)
East Central University	Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (051)
Langston University	Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (045)
Northeastern State University	Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (100)
Northwestern Oklahoma State University	Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (049)
Southeastern Oklahoma State University	Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (052)
Southwestern Oklahoma State University	Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (088)
University of Central Oklahoma	Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (027)
Langston University  Northeastern State University  Northwestern Oklahoma State University  Southeastern Oklahoma State University  Southwestern Oklahoma State University	Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (045)  Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (100)  Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (049)  Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (052)  Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (088)

A system wide letter of intent was communicated by email on November 7, 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 Bachelor of Science in Computer Science program will be offered via traditional and electronic delivery. USAO uses Blackboard as its learning management system to deliver program content for online courses. They also use 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 used 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. USAO 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.

# Meeting of the OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

June 27, 2024

### **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:**

Redlands Community College (RCC) requests authorization to delete the program listed below:

• Certificate in Documentary Film Making (002)

Rose State College (RSC) requests authorization to delete the program listed below:

• Certificate in Digital Forensics (319)

#### **POLICY ISSUES:**

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

#### **ANALYSIS:**

RCC requests authorization to delete the Certificate in Documentary Film Making (002), effective immediately. This program was approved at the February 14, 2023 State Regents' meeting. RCC reports:

- Deletion of the degree program is due to low enrollment and the dissolution of the MOU partnership tied to the documentary film production focus.
- There are currently 5 students enrolled in the program with the last student expected to graduate by Spring 2025.
- The teach-out plan will include substitution of relevant courses from the newly-approved Certificate in Film and Video Production.
- No courses will be deleted.
- No funds are available for reallocation.

RSC requests authorization to delete the Certificate in Digital Forensics (319), effective immediately. This program was approved at the June 29, 2017 State Regents' meeting. RSC reports:

- Deletion of the degree program is due the focus of the program moving towards cybersecurity.
- There are no students enrolled in the program.
- No courses will be deleted.
- No funds are available for reallocation.

# Meeting of the OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

June 27, 2024

# **AGENDA ITEM #15-a:**

Policy.

**SUBJECT:** Posting of revisions to the Distance Education and Traditional Off-Campus Courses and

Programs policy.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

This item is for posting only.

### **BACKGROUND:**

In 1988, the State Regents adopted the Educational Outreach General Policy to provide guidance for institutions to offer courses and programs off campus. Since that time, the policy has been continually updated to stay current with Oklahoma's growing higher education needs, the constantly evolving accreditation and regulatory environment, and ever emerging new technologies in delivering learning opportunities to students outside the traditional on-campus model.

Among recent updates to the now Distance Education and Traditional Off-Campus Courses and Programs policy is the addition of policy section 3.17.6, State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA), first approved at the May 29, 2015 State Regents' meeting.

SARA is an agreement among the regional education compacts and 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. Currently, 49 states (California is the only non-member state), the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are members.

All member states and participating institutions agree to conduct their activities related to their SARA membership or participation according to the standards and requirements approved by the regional education compacts and the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements, and set forth in the SARA Policy Manual. OSRHE policy section 3.17.6 establishes OSRHE policy for Oklahoma institutions to participate in SARA according to the requirements of the SARA Policy Manual.

# **POLICY ISSUES:**

The proposed revisions will update OSRHE policy section 3.17.6 State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA).

### **ANALYSIS:**

Since its original establishment, multiple modifications to SARA policy have been implemented. Therefore, the following revisions are proposed to keep OSRHE SARA policy consistent with the SARA Policy Manual.

# 3.17.6 State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA)

- Correct the name of the policy section from "State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement" to "State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements" to be consistent with SARA usage.
- Revise policy language throughout to improve clarity, re-establish consistency with SARA policy, replace language that constitutes procedures with references to the SARA Policy Manual and the Academic Affairs Procedures Handbook, and reflect changes in OSRHE academic affairs processes since this policy was last revised.
- Correct an outdated link to the SARA student complaints page of the OSRHE website.
- Reflect changes to the OSRHE Institutional Accreditation and State Authorization policy and correct the reference to it.

Attachment

# [POLICY EXCERPT]

# 3.17.6 State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (SARA)

As authorized through 70 O.S. § 3206, the OSRHE is Oklahoma's SARA State Portal Entity (SPE), responsible for establishing and maintaining Oklahoma state membership in SARA, approving the participation of all Oklahoma degree-granting institutions, public and private, monitoring participating institutions' compliance with SARA policy standards and requirements, and removing from participation institutions that do not comply from participation.

Additionally, the OSRHE accepts the oversight of the SPEs of other SARA member states, districts, and territories whose institutions offer distance education to students located in Oklahoma within the limits of and consistent with SARA policy. policies and standards.

To establish and maintain participation apply for OSRHE approval to participate in SARA, public and private Oklahoma institutions must submit annually a completed <u>SARA</u> application form to the OSRHE office, pay the associated application fees, and agree to operate according to the requirements in the application form and the <u>SARA Policy Manual</u>. All references to the SARA Policy Manual or SARA policies refer to the <u>version of the SARA Policy Manual most recently version approved by the four regional compacts and the NC-SARA Board according to the SARA Policy Modification Process currently in <u>effect</u>. All references to the SARA application form refer to the application form the institution has most recently submitted to the OSRHE for approval.</u>

# A. Eligibility

### 1. All Institutions

In order to be eligible <u>for approval by the OSRHE</u> to participate in SARA, an institution must:

- a. Be a degree-granting institution, awarding associate's degrees or higher;
- b. Be physically located in Oklahoma with its principal campus or central administrative unit domiciled in Oklahoma;
- c. Hold proper authorization from Congress, the state of Oklahoma, or a federally recognized Indian tribe to award degrees; <u>and</u>
- d. Hold accreditation as a single entity from an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) for the purposes of accrediting institutions, and whose scope of recognition, as specified by the USDE, includes distance education.

# 2. Financial Responsibility for Private Institutions

In addition to the above, to demonstrate financial responsibility sufficient for SARA participation, all private institutions must shall maintain SARA's minimum required federal financial responsibility composite index (CFI) score ("composite score" or "score") as detailed in the SARA Policy Manual. Institutions with a score below the minimum required by SARA are ineligible for SARA participation. For institutions owned and controlled by a parent entity, the relevant score will be that of the parent entity, as identified by the

USDE. Composite <u>Ss</u>cores requirements are <u>may be found</u> in the SARA Policy Manual.

Private institutions that do not participate in federal Title IV funding programs may shall demonstrate financial stability by submitting a comparable composite score according to the requirements in the SARA Policy Manual. that is:

- a. Calculated using the institution's (or institution's parent company's if appropriate) most recent audited financial statement;
- Calculated by a certified, independent accountant acceptable to the OSRHE; and
- Calculated using the methodology prescribed by the USDE for the institution type.

# B. Participation

To maintain participation in SARA, institutions must maintain accreditation, compliance with federal regulations regarding distance education, and compliance with the standards and requirements provided in the <u>institutional</u> SARA application form and the SARA Policy Manual.

# C. Provisional Participation

Oklahoma institutions may be admitted or renewed for SARA participation on provisional status subject to the requirements and limitations described in the SARA Policy Manual. Additionally, institutions participating in SARA under provisional status will be subject to any additional oversight measures the OSRHE considers necessary to ensure SARA requirements are met regarding program quality, financial stability, and consumer protection.

## D. Non-Compliance

If a participating institution falls out of compliance with the participation requirements described above, the OSRHE will take appropriate action. Appropriate action will depend on the extent and severity of the compliance issue and may include but is not limited to assisting the institution to regain full compliance, placing the institution on provisional status, or removing the institution from participation consistent with the requirements and provisions in the SARA Policy Manual.

# E. Removal from Participation

An institution that has been removed from participation shall follow SARA policy regarding enrollment and teach-out of students under SARA. The institution may reapply for participation when it has regained compliance with SARA policy, including eligibility requirements in effect at the time of its reapplication.

The OSRHE may remove institutions from participation at any time for loss of eligibility, violation of or non-compliance with SARA policies or the SARA renewal process, or the institution's voluntary request to withdraw.

### 1. Loss of Eligibility

Institutions that do not maintain compliance with all eligibility requirements throughout their period of participation will be removed from participation. Institutions that have been removed due to loss of eligibility may reapply for

participation when they have regained compliance with requirements.

# 2. Violation of or Non-Compliance with SARA Policies

In the event of an alleged institutional violation of or non-compliance with SARA policies, the OSRHE will notify the institutional president of the allegations in writing and open an investigation. The institution(s) involved will supply to the OSRHE upon request all information relating to the alleged violation or non-compliance, including, if required, temporary access to specific distance education courses. At the conclusion of the investigation, the Chancellor will provide a SARA compliance report to the institution's president providing the findings of the investigation and the determination of the institution's SARA participation status. Determinations available may include but are not limited to:

## a. Continued Participation

The institution may continue participation uninterrupted.

### b. Provisional Status

The institution may continue participation under provisional status according to the SARA Policy Manual. The SARA compliance report provided to the institution's president, will include information on actions the institution must take to regain compliance, how it may demonstrate compliance, and any deadlines. If the institution does not regain full compliance within the period set by SARA policy, it will be removed from participation.

### c. Removal or Non-renewal of Participation

The institution will be removed from SARA participation or not renewed.

An institution removed due to violation of or non-compliance with SARA policies may reapply for participation when the violation has been addressed and/or the institution has regained compliance, providing the institution meets the eligibility requirements.

### 3. Non-Compliance with the SARA Renewal Process

Institutions that do not submit a complete renewal application within 5 business days of their renewal date or fully comply with all renewal processes within 5 business days after expiration of their grace period will be subject to removal from participation. Such institutions may not reapply for participation until the end of the period of time specified in the SARA Policy Manual.

## 4. Voluntary Withdrawal

Institutions may voluntarily withdraw from participation at any time. Institutions that do so may not reapply for participation until the end of the period of time specified in the SARA Policy Manual.

### 5. Removal or Non-Renewal of Participation

Institutions that are removed from participation may no longer enroll additional students under SARA. Institutions may continue SARA operation for students enrolled under SARA at the time of the removal or non-renewal for 90 days

from the date of removal or non-renewal, or until the students have completed work for that term, not to exceed six months from the date of removal or non-renewal.

# F. Appeals

Institutions may appeal denial, non-renewal, or removal of <u>SARA</u> participation that is based on violation of or non compliance with SARA policies. <u>Institutions</u> that wish to submit an appeal shall follow procedures found in the <u>Academic Affairs Procedures Handbook</u>. To initiate an appeal, the institutional president must submit to the Chancellor a written request that details the reason why the institution believes the basis of the denial, non renewal or removal is unsubstantiated. To be considered, the request to appeal must be received by the Chancellor's office by the date specified in the SARA compliance report previously provided to the institution. On receipt, a process and schedule for review of the appeal will be established and communicated to the institutional president. During the appeal process the institution's status as SARA participating or non-participating will remain unchanged. When the review is complete, the institutional president will be notified of the results in writing. The results of the appeal review will be final.

If the results of the appeal review uphold the determination of denial, non-renewal, or removal of participation, the institution may reapply for participation when the violation has been addressed and/or the institution has regained full compliance, providing the institution meets the eligibility requirements.

Institutions may not appeal denial, non-renewal, or removal based on failure to meet eligibility requirements.

# G. Post SARA Activity

Oklahoma SARA-participating institutions that have been removed <u>from</u> or non-renewed <u>forfrom</u> SARA participation <u>must meet non-SARA state requirements in states where any new students are admitted after removal or non-renewal. <del>comply with all state authorization laws, regulations, requirements and/or policies of the state in which each out of state student is located.</del></u>

# H. Student Complaints

Students attending an institution under SARA-policies that who wish to submit lodge a complaint against the institution must <u>first</u> pursue the complaint with the institution they are attending, including any appeals process, to the highest institutional administrative level available. If the <del>complaint is still not resolved at the final conclusion student feels the institution has not adequately addressed the <u>complaint at the conclusion</u> of the institution's process, the student may proceed as follows:</del>

1. Oklahoma Students Attending an Out-of-State Institution

For complaints not resolved at the institutional level, the student should contact the SPE of the institution's home state and follow its student complaint procedures. A list of the SPE contacts for each SARA member state can be found on the NC-SARA website.

2. Out-of-State Students Attending an Oklahoma Institution

For complaints not resolved at the institutional level, the student should contact

the OSRHE by following the student complaint procedures that can be found on the SARA Student Complaints page of the OSRHE website.

I. Courses and Programs Offered in Oklahoma by Out-of-State Institutions

Out-of-state, non-SARA participating institutions-planning must be authorized by OSRHE to offer courses for credit operate as a degree-granting institution in Oklahoma by any modality, including offering degree-related courses and programs by online-only distance education. may do so after satisfying the conditions contained in the State Regents' See OSRHE policy section 3.1 Institutional Accreditation and State Authorization-policy.

# Meeting of the OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

June 27, 2024

# **AGENDA ITEM #15-b:**

Policy.

**SUBJECT:** Posting of revisions to the Functions of Public Institutions policy.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

This item is for posting only.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) set forth policy that provides State System institutions with guidance on various academic areas. Since initial approval, the State Regents' staff and advisory committees have reviewed and revised polices to incorporate current APA rules and increase clarity and readability. Some policies have been substantively revised as needed to reflect updates to state statute and to reflect current best practices. Policy revisions typically occur through a collaborative process within the Council on Instruction and the Council of Presidents before they are recommended to the State Regents for adoption.

# **POLICY ISSUES:**

The proposed revisions amend the Functions of Public Institutions policy.

### **POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The proposed revisions are the result of the annual policy review process to ensure accuracy, clarity of language, and relevancy to institutions. Following the internal review by OSRHE staff, the policy was distributed to the Council of Presidents and Council on Instruction for review. The recommendations for revisions are outlined in the table below.

Policy			Substantive Recommendation
3.2 Functions of (Attachment	Public Institutions )	•	Moved language from one section to the Common Functions section to clarify all institutions are authorized to offer concurrent enrollment to high school students.  Added language to accurately define the two-year function of offering transfer degree programs.

Attachment

# [POLICY EXCERPT]

## 3.2 FUNCTIONS OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

# 3.2.1 Purpose

The Constitution of Oklahoma (Article XIII-A, Section 2) directs the State Regents to determine the functions and courses of study in each of the institutions of the State System. There are currently 25 institutions in the State System, including 2 research universities, 2 statewide universities, 9 regional universities, and 12 community colleges.

#### 3.2.2 Common Functions

State system institutions may engage in any or all of the following common functions:

- A. Participate in programs of economic and community development independently or in cooperation with public and private entities.
- B. Provide general education for all students.
- C. Provide micro-credentials, certificates, and degrees to prepare individuals to enter the <del>labor market</del> workforce.
- D. Responsibility Responsible for institutional and applied research in those areas related closely to their programs of study and effectiveness of operation.
- E. Responsibility Responsible for public service in the geographic regions in which they are located.
- F. Provide formal and informal programs designed to serve Oklahomans with continuing education and professional enhancement opportunities.
- G. Provide developmental education co-requisite and supplemental instruction for students who lack required high school academic requirements for college admission or competency in the basic academic skills areas.
- H. Perform other special programmatic activities as authorized by the State Regents.
- I. Provide concurrent enrollment opportunities for area high school students.

## 3.2.3 Research Universities

University of Oklahoma Oklahoma State University

The functions of the research universities include:

- A. Both lower-division and upper-division undergraduate study in a number of fields leading to the baccalaureate or first-professional degree.
- B. Graduate study in any field of advanced learning leading to all degree levels, including terminal degrees.
- C. All aspects, fields, and depths of research.
- D. Carry out programs and projects on a statewide, national, and international scale.

# 3.2.4 Statewide Universities

Langston University: As explained in 70 O.S. § 4666, Langston University has a statewide plan and mission due to its "historical significance and future potential."

University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma: USAO has a special function as the state's public liberal arts and sciences college.

#### Functions include:

- A. LU offers associate level degree programs.
- B. Both lower-division and upper-division undergraduate study fields leading to the baccalaureate degree.
- C. Programs leading toward professional master's and doctoral degrees when appropriate to the institution's strengths and the needs of the state.

# 3.2.5 Regional Universities

Cameron University

East Central University

Northeastern State University

Northwestern Oklahoma State University

Oklahoma Panhandle State University

Rogers State University

Southeastern Oklahoma State University

Southwestern Oklahoma State University

University of Central Oklahoma

The functions of the 9 regional universities include:

- A. OPSU, SWOSU, CU, and RSU offer associate level degree programs.
- B. Both lower-division and upper-division undergraduate study fields leading to the baccalaureate degree.
- C. Programs leading toward the first-professional master's and doctoral degrees when appropriate to an institution's strengths and the needs of the state.

NOTE: OPSU, SWOSU, CU, and RSU are also authorized to offer associate level degree programs.

#### 3.2.6 Community Colleges

Carl Albert State College

Connors State College

Eastern Oklahoma State College

Murray State College

Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College

Northern Oklahoma College

Oklahoma City Community College

Redlands Community College

Rose State College

Seminole State College

Tulsa Community College

Western Oklahoma State College

The functions of the 12 public community colleges include:

## The Common Functions applicable to all State System institutions.

A. Provide one- and two-year programs of technical and occupational education to prepare individuals to enter the labor market work force.

# B. Provide two-year transfer degree programs.

#### 3.2.7 Exceptions to Functions of Public Institutions

Exceptions to functions and associated degree programs may be considered by the State Regents for very unique and specific purposes, such as unmet workforce needs that cannot be achieved any other way or though collaboration. All requests must be approved by the governing board prior to consideration by the State Regents. Institutions seeking exceptions to functions must address the specific purpose of the function exception and associated degree program and address all criteria required in this policy, as well as the required criteria in the 3.4 *Academic Program Approval* policy and procedures. Each institution is allowed only one functional exception. To request additional exceptions, the institution must apply for a complete change of function and demonstrate that their initial exception has been successful.

# 3.2.8 Change of Function

In exceptional instances, a full institutional reclassification may be considered by the State Regents. As defined in 70 O.S. § 3208, all functions and courses of study of State System institutions shall stand as they now are until changed with the approval or by order of the State Regents. Institutions seeking a full reclassification must provide a proposal and impact study to the State Regents. Institutions must receive approval from the State Regents before starting a function change impact study. Once the proposal and impact study are received by OSRHE staff, the documents will be presented at the next State Regents' Board meeting to provide public notice. Proposing and any affected institutions will then have an opportunity at the following State Regents' Board meeting to present their arguments and briefs in support of or in opposition to any such proposed change. The State Regents' encourage institutions to resolve differences before the public hearing.

# 3.2.9 Constituent Agencies (70 O.S. § 3103)

**OU Health Sciences Center** 

**OU Law Center** 

OU Geological Survey

OU-Tulsa

OSU College of Veterinary Medicine

OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine

OSU Agricultural Experiment Station

OSU Agricultural Extension Division

OSU Center for Health Sciences (70 O.S. § 3423)

OSU-Oklahoma City

OSU Institute of Technology

The functions of OSU's two technical constituent agencies (OSU-OKC and OSUIT) include:

- A. Provide lower division education in several fields of technical study and Associate in Science degree programs.
- B. Offer bachelor in technology degree programs as authorized by the State Regents that build on Associate in Applied Science programs and enhance workforce preparation.
- C. Provide certificates and undergraduate technical and occupational educational degree programs, such as AAS degrees, that prepare individuals for immediate entry into the labor market work force, including both credit and non-credit

programs designed to enhance job skills, promote workforce readiness and provide professional development.

D. Evaluate opportunities for providing technical education, service and/or training consistent with the statewide technical mission of these constituent agencies.

# 3.2.10 Branch Campuses

The Oklahoma Legislature has created the following branch campuses:

```
CASC-Sallisaw (70 O.S. § 4423.1(A))
CSC-Muskogee (70 O.S. § 3405.1(B))
CU-Duncan (70 O.S. § 3404.3)
EOSC-McAlester (70 O.S. § 3511.1)
LU-Tulsa (70 O.S. § 4667)
MSC at Ardmore (70 O.S. § 3213)
NOC-Enid (70 O.S. § 3707)
NSU-Broken Arrow and Muskogee (70 O.S. §§ 4668 and 3405.1(C))
NWOSU-Woodward and Enid (70 O.S. §§ 3517.1 and 3517.2)
OSU-Tulsa (70 O.S. § 4662)
RSU-Bartlesville and Pryor (70 O.S. § 4669)
SEOSU-McCurtain County (70 O.S. § 3514.1)
SWOSU-Sayre (70 O.S. § 4428)
OU College of Medicine-Tulsa (70 O.S. § 3312)
```

# A. Branch campuses should:

1. Assess the community's higher education needs.

- 2. Provide courses and programs that are part of the institution's assigned functions within limits of available resources.
- 3. Offer community services through programs of continuing education and public service.
- 4. Provide concurrent enrollment opportunities for area high school students.
- 5. Coordinate and facilitate the delivery of courses and programs from other institutionally accredited colleges and universities.

# B. Branch Campus Individual Functions

Colleges and universities may offer any courses or programs approved by the State Regents at both the home campus and branch campus without seeking State Regents' further approval, except as noted in this section.

The following branch campuses have site-specific functions:

```
EOSC-McAlester (70 O.S. § 3511.1)

LU-Tulsa (70 O.S. § 4667)

NSU- Broken Arrow (70 O.S. § 4668)

NSU-Muskogee (70 O.S. § 3405.1(C))

NWOSU-Enid (70 O.S. § 3517.2)

NOC-Enid (70 O.S. § 3707)

OSU-Tulsa (70 O.S. § 4662)

MSC at Ardmore (70 O.S. § 3213)
```

# Meeting of the OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

June 27, 2024

## **AGENDA ITEM #15-c:**

Policy.

**SUBJECT:** Posting of revisions to the Program Approval policy.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

This item is for posting only.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) set forth policy that provides State System institutions with guidance on various academic areas. Since initial approval, the State Regents' staff and advisory committees have reviewed and revised polices to incorporate current APA rules and increase clarity and readability. Some policies have been substantively revised as needed to reflect updates to state statute and to reflect current best practices. Policy revisions typically occur through a collaborative process within the Council on Instruction and the Council of Presidents before they are recommended to the State Regents for adoption.

# **POLICY ISSUES:**

The proposed revisions amend the Program Approval policy.

#### **POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The proposed revisions are the result of the annual policy review process to ensure accuracy, clarity of language, relevancy to institutions. Following the internal review by OSRHE staff, the policy was distributed to the Council of Presidents and Council on Instruction for review. The recommendations for revisions are outlined in the table below.

	Policy		Substantive Recommendation
3.4	Program Approval (Attachment)	•	Modified language to clarify that certificates do not require State Regents' approval.  Clarified that modifications to existing programs require notification only to the State Regents.  Updated language to better define the process for protests for new letters of intent or new program proposals.  Eliminated approval needed for digital badges.

Attachment

# [POLICY EXCERPT]

# Academic Program Approval

# 3.4.1 Purpose

The State Regents recognize the primary role of institutional faculty, administrators, and governing boards in initiating and recommending needed changes in educational programs. Institutional faculty are discipline experts responsible for developing and teaching the curriculum. The institutional administrators and governing board view the proposed program in light of the institution's resources and priorities. The State Regents provide the system perspective and consider the need for each new program request. The State Regents ensure that requests and mandates are applied consistently.

#### 3.4.2 Instructional Programs and Courses

Instructional programs that result in the awarding of a degree require State Regents' approval. Minors, micro-credentials, stand-alone certificates, and embedded certificates are a coherent set of courses in a discipline or interdisciplinary grouping other than a student's degree program, and are exempt from this policy.

The terminology for the aggregation of courses into different levels of academic offerings varies from institution to institution. For clarity, this policy will use the following terminology in referring to different levels of aggregation levels of courses.

# A. Levels of Instructional Programs

1. Level I is the aggregation of courses that culminate in the awarding of an academic degree and defines the overarching degree designation. These are (inclusive): Certificate, Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, Associate in Applied Science, Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of (Specialty), Graduate Certificate, Master of Arts, Master of Science, Master of (Specialty), Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of (Specialty), and First Professional Degree.

Aggregation of courses that culminate in the awarding of an academic degree and defines the overarching degree designation. These are (inclusive): Certificate, Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, Associate in Applied Science, Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of (Specialty), Graduate Certificate, Master of Arts, Master of Science, Master of (Specialty), Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of (Specialty), and First Professional Degree.

2. Level II is the aggregation that appear in the institutional catalog or on the student's diploma that specifically defines the academic degree designation. These may vary greatly from institution to institution and include, but are not limited to: Certificate, Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Master of Education, Associate in Applied Science and Doctor of Engineering.

Aggregation of courses that appear in the institutional catalog or on the student's diploma that specifically defines the academic degree designation. These may vary greatly from institution to institution and include, but are not limited to: Certificate, Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Master of Education, Associate in

# Applied Science and Doctor of Engineering.

3. Level III is the aggregation of courses with an institutionally-unique instructional program code, as listed in the State Regents' inventory of degree programs, appear in the institutional catalog, and may be listed on the student's diploma. The nomenclature defines the discipline area and may be referred to as the major. Examples include: Horticulture, English, Physical Science, Cybersecurity Technology, Secondary Education, and Engineering.

Aggregations of courses with an institutionally-unique instructional program code, as listed in the State Regents' inventory of degree programs, appear in the institutional catalog, and may be listed on the student's diploma. The nomenclature defines the discipline area and may be referred to as the major. Examples include: Horticulture, English, Physical Science, Cybersecurity Technology, Secondary Education, and Engineering.

4. Level IV is the aggregation of courses under an umbrella degree program (Level III) that reflect an area of study within a larger discipline, as listed in the State Regents' inventory of degree programs as options, appears in the institutional catalog, and may be listed on the student's diploma. These courses will usually share a common core of related required courses or credit hours (approximately 50 percent) exclusive of general education, as well as having objectives consistent with the objectives of the Level III program. For example, a Bachelor of Business Administration in Business might have the following Level IV options: Finance, Management, Accounting, Information Systems, and General Business; or the Bachelor of Arts in English might allow options in Literature, Creative Writing, and English Education.

Aggregations of courses under an umbrella degree program (Level III) that reflect an area of study within a larger discipline, as listed in the State Regents' inventory of degree programs as options, appears in the institutional catalog, and may be listed on the student's diploma. These courses will usually share a common core of related required courses or credit hours (approximately 50 percent) exclusive of general education, as well as having objectives consistent with the objectives of the Level III program. For example, a Bachelor of Business Administration in Business might have the following Level IV options: Finance, Management, Accounting, Information Systems, and General Business; or the Bachelor of Arts in English might allow options in Literature, Creative Writing, and English Education.

All four levels of courses of study Levels I, II, and III, excluding all certificates, require approval from the institutional governing board and the State Regents. Substantive changes in modifications to existing programs requirements require approval from the institutional governing board and the Chancellor and ratification by notification to the State Regents.

B. Addition, Modification, and Deletion of Courses

The State Regents recognize the primary role of the institution in initiating, reviewing, and authorizing course additions, modifications, and deletions.

# C. Deletion, Suspension, and Reinstatement of Programs

Deletion of existing programs requires institutional governing board and State Regents approval. Requests for deletion must include: 1) the reason for the deletion, 2) a summary of the teach-out plan, if applicable, and 3) the number of students enrolled, when applicable, and an expected graduation date for the last cohort of students. Any request for an exception to this policy must be made in writing to the Chancellor.

The institution's President must notify OSRHE staff when a program is being suspended. While suspended, the program may not be advertised, no students may be recruited or admitted to the program, and the program will not be listed in the institutional catalog. Suspended programs will be noted in the State Regents Program Inventory and not displayed on the website. The institution's President must notify OSRHE staff prior to reinstating a suspended program, so that the State Regents Program Inventory can be updated.

#### D. Uniform Course Numbering

Pursuant to 70 O.S. § 3206.1, in order to provide for a more effective and efficient system of the transfer of student's credits among institutions of Oklahoma higher education, the State Regents adopted the following uniform system of numbering for identification of courses offered at all institutions in the State System. A course number will consist of four digits as follows:

- 1. The first digit will denote the course level.
- 2. The second and third digits will be used to identify the course within a department.
- 3. The fourth digit will denote the number of semester hours credit of the course.

All courses offered at institutions should be numbered consistent with the course numbering system unless they are exempt by State Regents' action.

## 3.4.3 Program Request Procedures

A. The following procedures will be followed by the submitting institution for the State Regents to consider a new academic program:

#### Letter of Intent

#### 1. New Program Requests

The institutional President or designee must submit a Letter of Intent ("LOI") to initiate a new program to OSRHE staff, using the approved submission form.

OSRHE staff will then distribute the LOI as a notice to the other institutional Presidents and Chief Academic Officers. The institutions will have 14 calendar days (excluding holidays and breaks) from the date of the notice to provide comments, ask questions and/or protest.

#### 2. Letter of Intent Protests

- a. A protest must be made by a State System institutional President, or if delegated, by the Chief Academic Officer.
- b. If a protest is received in the allowable timeframe, the requesting

institution and protesting institution will be asked to work with senior OSRHE staff together to mediate in good faith. Mediation must take place within 30 calendar days, or longer if mutually agreed and approved by OSRHE staff, of the receipt of the protest. The outcome of the mediation must be reported to OSRHE staff within 5 days after the mediation process is complete. If the protestor fails to respond to mediation requests, the protest is deemed moot. If resolution cannot be made through mediation fails or is not scheduled in the timeframe, the protest will be elevated to senior OSRHE staff to facilitate a meeting between the requesting institution and protesting institution. If a resolution cannot be determined through mediation with OSRHE staff, the protest will be considered by the Chair of the State Regents Academic Affairs Committee to determine if the requesting institution should develop a full proposal, collaborate with another institution, or discontinue efforts toward that program.

- Protests cannot be made from an institution within the same governing board system as the institution submitting the program.
   Protests from the same governing board system should be resolved before submitting the LOI to the State Regents.
- d. Protests will only be considered based on:
  - i. Unnecessary duplication; or
  - ii. Workforce demand; or
  - iii. Student needs in the state.

Personal grievances about the program or faculty will not be considered.

The LOI does not entail a commitment on the part of an institution to establish the program or on the part of the State Regents to approve the program.

- 3. Contents of the Letter of Intent:
  - a. Official degree designation and name of the program as it will appear on the transcript.
  - b. A short description of the program.
  - c. A summary of the market demand.
  - d. A short narrative on how the program addresses an unmet need in the state.
  - e. Indication of the locations or campuses where the program will be offered and the delivery method.
- B. Governing Board Approval

The institutional governing board does not need to approve the LOI prior to submission to the State Regents. The institutional governing board must approve the program request prior to OSRHE staff formally submitting the program proposal to the Chancellor for the State Regents' consideration.

C. Submission of a New Program Proposal

A New Program Proposal ("NPP") must be submitted to OSRHE staff and signed by the institution's President, using the approved submission form. The NPP does not entail a commitment on the part of an institution to establish the program or on the part of the State Regents to approve the program.

OSRHE staff will then distribute the NPP as a notice to all State System institutional Presidents and Chief Academic Officers. The institutions will have 14 calendar days (excluding holidays and breaks) from the date of the notice to provide comments, ask questions or protest.

Program requests must be completed using the provided Academic Program Request form on the State Regents' website, which contains the following required sections:

- 1. Description of the Program
- 2. Demand for the Program
- 3. Unnecessary Duplication
- 4. Program Review and Assessment Plan
- 5. Indication of Modalities
- 6. Location

# D. Program Proposal Protests:

- 1. A protest must be made by a State System institutional President, or if delegated, by the Chief Academic Officer.
- 2. If a protest is received in the allowable timeframe, the requesting institution and protesting institution will mediate in good faith. Mediation must take place within 30 days of the receipt of the protest, or longer if mutually agreed and approved by OSRHE staff. The outcome of the mediation must be reported to OSRHE staff within 5 days after the mediation process is complete. If the protestor fails to respond to mediation requests, the protest is deemed moot. If resolution cannot be made through mediation the protest will be elevated to senior OSRHE staff to facilitate a meeting between the requesting institution and protesting institution. If a resolution cannot be determined through mediation with OSRHE staff, the protest will be considered by the Chair of the State Regents Academic Affairs Committee to determine if the requesting institution should develop a full proposal, collaborate with another institution, or discontinue efforts toward that program.
- 2. If a protest is received in the allowable timeframe, the requesting institution and protesting institution will be asked to work with senior OSRHE staff to mediate. Mediation must take place within 30 calendar days, or longer if mutually agreed, of the receipt of the protest. If mediation fails or is not scheduled in the timeframe, the protest will be considered at the next State Regents Academic Affairs Committee meeting to determine if the proposal can be considered for approval.
- 3. Protests may not be made by an institution within the same governing board system as the institution submitting the program. Protests in these cases should be resolved at the governing board level before being submitted to the State Regents.

- 4. Protests will only be considered based on:
  - a. Unnecessary duplication; or
  - b. Workforce demand; or
  - c. Student needs in the state.

Personal grievances about the program or faculty will not be considered.

- E. State Regents' Staff Review of the Program Request
  - 1. OSRHE staff will review the institution's program request and submit a recommendation for State Regents' action. The State Regents may take one of four actions:
    - a. Disapprove the program;
    - b. Defer the program request until the institution meets specified criteria or provides additional information;
    - c. Provisionally approve the program subject to specific criteria that must be met in order for the program to continue beyond a specified date; or
    - d. Approve the program without qualification.

If the State Regents defer or disapprove the program, the institution may resubmit a program proposal for reconsideration at a future date.

2. Institutions must notify OSRHE staff of new certificates, in a timely manner, so they may be added to the official degree inventory.

## 3.4.4 New Programs Request Criteria

A. Demand for the Program

The institution should demonstrate demand for the program.

1. Student Demand

Evidence of student demand should be adequate to expect a reasonable level of enrollments and degree production.

2. Employer Demand

Evidence of employer demand shall be provided. Such evidence may include employer surveys, labor market analyses, and future workforce projections.

## B. Unnecessary Duplication

Preventing and eliminating unnecessary program duplication is a priority of the State Regents. Where other similar programs may serve the same potential student population, evidence must demonstrate that the proposed program is sufficiently different from the existing programs or that access to the existing programs is sufficiently limited to warrant a new program. Where appropriate, technology will be used to reduce or eliminate duplication of effort and use existing resources more efficiently.

Normally, proposed programs in undergraduate core areas would not be considered unnecessarily duplicative. Unnecessary duplication is a more specific concern in vocational/technical, occupational, and graduate and professional programs which

meet special manpower needs. The institution submitting the new program request shall provide evidence that the proposed program is not unnecessarily duplicative of similar offerings in the state.

In considering a program whose title or content implies duplication, the proposed program will be examined to determine the extent to which it duplicates existing programs. If duplication is found to exist, then the proposed program will be evaluated to determine whether the duplication is necessary. In making this determination, the following criteria will be evaluated:

# 1. Demand for the Program

Evidence should be presented demonstrating that there is sufficient unmet demand for the program in one or more of the following areas to justify duplication:

#### a. Student Demand

Present evidence demonstrating how the new program will meet student demand not being served by existing programs.

# b. Employer Demand

Present evidence demonstrating how the new program will meet employer demand not being served by existing programs.

# 2. Alternative Forms of Delivery and Consortial, Dual, or Joint Degree Programs

The new program request should address the feasibility of meeting the demand for the program through alternative forms of delivery, including electronic and on-site delivery of the program. When duplication is evident, the new program request should address the feasibility of consortial, dual, or joint degree approaches, including through electronic means.

#### C. Program Review and Assessment

The institution must provide program evaluation procedures, which may include evaluation of courses and faculty by students, administrators, and departmental personnel as appropriate, and review of enrollment data and graduation data.

# 3.4.5 Micro-credential or Digital Badge

Institutions may create and issue micro-credentials for completing a specific set of activities and/or courses or digital badges to represent a student's completion of a micro-credential, certificate or degree. Institutions wanting to include a micro-credential on the statewide inventory must adhere to the following process:

#### A. Micro-Credential Authorization

Institutions seeking to participate in the micro-credentials and digital badges statewide inventory must first be authorized as having met the State Regent quality criteria listed in the Academic Affairs Procedures Handbook.

# B. New Micro-Credential Process

An institution that has been authorized to participate in the State Regent microcredential or digital badge inventory will notify OSRHE staff of new microcredentials or digital badges to be added to the inventory using the approved online form.

# Meeting of the OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

June 27, 2024

## **AGENDA ITEM #15-d:**

Policy.

**SUBJECT:** Posting of revisions to the Granting of Degrees policy.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

This item is for posting only.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) set forth policy that provides State System institutions with guidance on various academic areas. Since initial approval, the State Regents' staff and advisory committees have reviewed and revised polices to incorporate current APA rules and increase clarity and readability. Some policies have been substantively revised as needed to reflect updates to state statute and to reflect current best practices. Policy revisions typically occur through a collaborative process within the Council on Instruction and the Council of Presidents before they are recommended to the State Regents for adoption.

# **POLICY ISSUES:**

The proposed revisions amend the Granting of Degrees policy.

#### **POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The proposed revisions are the result of the annual policy review process to ensure accuracy, clarity of language, relevancy to institutions. Following the internal review by OSRHE staff, the policy was distributed to the Council of Presidents and Council on Instruction for review. The recommendations for revisions are outlined in the table below.

Policy		Substantive Recommendation
3.14	Granting of Degrees (Attachment)	<ul> <li>Updated title of policy to be more descriptive.</li> <li>Changed requirements for signatures to align with academic year and the rotation of State Regents' officers.</li> <li>Added policy to require reporting of awards given for short courses, non-credit offerings, micro-credentials, basic education courses, and other learning experiences using the Unitized Data System.</li> <li>Added policy section to allow for degree revocation.</li> <li>Clarified institutional and governing board oversight of awarding honorary and posthumous degrees.</li> <li>Corrected the definition for Doctor of Letters.</li> </ul>

Attachment

# [POLICY EXCERPT]

# 3.14 GRANTING OF DEGREES AND OTHER AWARDS

# 3.14.1 Purpose

This policy guides the State Regents and institutions of the State System with respect to the granting and conferral of degrees and other forms of academic recognition.

# 3.14.2 Authorization for Conferral of Degrees

Institutions shall confer only those degrees and other forms of academic recognition as authorized by the State Regents. Authorization for conferral of a particular degree will be given at the time the State Regents approve the program containing the prescribed course of study and requirements for graduation.

# 3.14.3 Diplomas

All diplomas awarded shall be conferred with authorization of the State Regents by the institution where the student has completed requirements for a degree program. Diplomas awarded shall be in a uniform format prescribed by the State Regents as described below.

- A. Diplomas awarded shall bear the names of officers of the State Regents serving in the current fiscal academic year, and the chancellor.
- B. For the institution, the diploma shall bear the signatures of the chairman of the governing board, the president of the institution, and one academic officer.

Sample diplomas for use in each the current upcoming fiscal academic year will be provided each December 1 to the State Regents' office.

# 3.14.4 Reporting

Degree conferrals shall be reported as an integral part of the procedures under the State Regents' UDS. The *Data Request Manual* will prescribe reporting procedures. A list of each degree and recipient will be validated annually by the president of each institution on forms provided by the State Regents' office. <u>Awards given for completion of short courses, non-credit offerings, micro-credentials, basic education courses, or other experiences shall be submitted to the State Regent staff for record keeping using the UDS system.</u>

#### 3.14.5 Degree Revocation

- A. Once conferred, an earned degree may be revoked only after an institution following its established procedures and affording lawful due process makes a
  finding supported by clear and convincing evidence that a graduate committed a
  serious violation of academic integrity or academic misconduct including, but not
  limited to, a significant misrepresentation related to admission or other act of fraud
  in obtaining the degree. After adoption of such a finding, the institution's
  governing board may then recommend revocation of that graduate's degree to the
  State Regents through its board chair or president.
- B. The State Regents will review the institution's recommendation but not perform a de novo review of the record. The State Regents will approve the recommendation to revoke unless there is substantial evidence in the record that the institution acted in an arbitrary and capricious manner during the degree revocation process. The graduate may submit new or previously undiscovered evidence to the State Regents that the institution did so act, but it must be received by the State Regents

within thirty (30) days of the graduate's receipt of notice from the institution of the governing board's recommendation to revoke their degree. The institution will have thirty (30) days to submit a written response to any new or previously undiscovered evidence submitted by the graduate.

C. The Chancellor will notify the institution's board chair or president of the State Regents' decision to approve or not approve the recommended revocation. The institution may then notify the graduate of that final determination and proceed accordingly.

# 3.14.<del>5</del>6 Honorary Degrees

Institutions in the State System are authorized to confer honorary degrees granted by the State Regents upon individuals who have made outstanding contributions to society through intellectual, artistic, scientific, professional, or public service accomplishments. The following criteria shall guide institutions in the selection of individuals to receive honorary degrees and in the awarding of degrees. Honorary degrees are made at the discretion of the institution's governing board.must be approved by the institution's president and notification be sent to OSRHE staff for record keeping. Notification of all honorary degrees shall be sent to OSRHE staff for record keeping.

- A. An institution shall confer honorary degrees only at the highest level for which it is authorized to award earned degrees.
- B. Any honorary degree conferred shall be distinguishable from earned degrees. Typical examples of current national practice for such degrees are as follows:

Doctor of Fine Arts (D.F.A.) for distinction in the fine arts (painting, architecture, drama, sculpture, etc.).

Doctor of Social Science (Soc.Sc.D.) for distinction, usually in academic life, in the social sciences.

Doctor of Science (Sc.D.) for distinction in any field of science or medicine.

Doctor of Humane Letters (L.H.D.) for distinction in scholarly contributions to the humanities or contributions to the general welfare in any number of fields.

Doctor of Letters (Litt.D.) for distinction <u>and peer recognition through</u> <u>publications, creative works, or scholarly research</u> in the fields of <del>theology or for extraordinary leadership, scholarly or administrative, in the area of religion the arts, humanities, or social sciences.</del>

Doctor of Divinity (D.D.) for distinction in the field of theology or for extraordinary leadership, scholarly or administrative, in the area of religion.

Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) for government and public service or for preeminence in any field.

- C. Institutions may confer a number of honorary degrees not to exceed five during any fiscal academic year. During any five-year period, the number of honorary degrees awarded may not exceed a ratio of one honorary degree to each one thousand earned degrees conferred by the institution during the same period. Notwithstanding these limitations, each institution shall be entitled to award one honorary degree each year.
- D. Institutions shall not confer honorary degrees upon any faculty member, administrator, or other official associated with the institution until those

individuals have been separated from the institution for two or more academic semesters.

- E. Institutions shall not confer honorary degrees upon individuals currently serving in an Oklahoma political position.
- F. Institutions shall not confer honorary degrees based upon quid pro quo arrangements, either for contributions promised or received, or for any other mutually beneficial arrangement between the institution or an official of the awarding institution and a recipient.
- G. Honorary degrees may be revoked by the Board of the institution granting the degree.

# 3.14.67 Posthumous Degrees

Institutions in the State System are authorized to confer posthumous degrees. Such degrees shall generally be unearned, non-academic degrees recognizing the meritorious but incomplete earned work of a deceased student, generally a student who was deceased having has completed at least two-thirds of their academic degree. Decisions to confer a posthumous degree are made at the discretion of the institution's governing board. must be made by the institution's president and n Notification of all posthumous degrees shall be sent to OSRHE staff for record keeping.

#### 3.14.<del>78</del> Other Awards

Awards given for completion of short courses, non-credit offerings, micro-credentials, basic education courses, or other experiences need not be submitted for State Regents' approval, but should be submitted to the State Regent Staff for record keeping using the UDS system.

# Meeting of the **OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION**

June 27, 2024

#### **AGENDA ITEM #16:**

**Grant Funds.** 

**SUBJECT:** Approval of funds granted for the cross-campus collaboration pilot program from the

Mathematical Inquiry Project (MIP).

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve the acceptance of \$38,000 from the Mathematical Inquiry Project for the Cross-Campus Collaboration Project.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

In October 2023, the Mathematical Inquiry Project (MIP) expressed interest in collaborating with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) to explore strategies for enhancing the classroom experience in mathematical courses for concurrently enrolled students.

The MIP initiative, known as the Cross-Campus Collaboration (C3), aims to expand the pool of qualified mathematics instructors by enabling high school mathematics teachers with advanced certifications to teach college-level courses under the mentorship of college faculty. OSRHE will share the application for participation and assist in the selection process to ensure the selection of highly qualified candidates.

The MIP, a federally funded project administered through Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Oklahoma, has offered to support the C3 pilot program. MIP has allocated a stipend of \$38,000 to cover any OSRHE expenses related to the project, contingent upon the approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

## **POLICY ISSUES:**

No policy issues are related to this action.

#### **ANALYSIS:**

The MOU would authorize the OSRHE to accept a stipend of \$38,000 to use for any expenses related to the Cross-Campus Collaboration project.

# Meeting of the OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

June 27, 2024

**AGENDA ITEM #17:** 

ACT.

**SUBJECT:** Approval of the ACT Agreement for 2024-2025.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve the 2024-2025 ACT Agreement.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The State Regents have sponsored the OK EPAS (Oklahoma Educational Planning and Assessment System) as a student preparation initiative since 1993. Initially EPAS consisted of both an eighth-grade assessment, EXPLORE, and a tenth-grade assessment, PLAN. Beginning with four school districts in the 1993 pilot, EPAS grew to include over 98 percent of Oklahoma's public schools. With ACT's retirement of the EXPLORE and PLAN assessments in 2015, EPAS now consists of the PreACT.

Each district voluntarily participates in the PreACT assessment, over and above the state's required testing for K-12 education. The PreACT is given in the fall of the sophomore year as it provides early monitoring of students' college readiness and continued longitudinal data.

Each year approximately 93 percent of Oklahoma's public school districts participate in PreACT testing. In the 2023-2024 school year, approximately 70 percent of all sophomores in Oklahoma public schools were assessed using the PreACT.

#### **POLICY ISSUES:**

There are no policy issues related to this item.

#### **ANALYSIS:**

For the 2024-2025 academic year, it is expected that over 40,000 tenth grade students in both public and private secondary schools will have the opportunity to take the Pre-ACT assessment at a cost not to exceed \$500,000. State Regents' staff have been able to maintain an annual expenditure of under \$500,000 for this program for the past eight years while still serving every school that chooses to participate and test all tenth grade students within the site. A copy of the agreement is attached.

Attachment

#### **ACT®** Master Services Agreement

This ACT Master Services Agreement, including all incorporated Exhibits ("Agreement"), is made as of the date of the last signature hereon ("Effective Date") by and between ACT EDUCATION CORP. ("ACT" or "Contractor"), a Delaware corporation and wholly owned indirect subsidiary of Gateway Impact Corp., a Delaware public benefit corporation, having a principal place of business at 500 ACT Drive, Iowa City, IA 52243 and OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, having an address of 655 RESEARCH PKWY, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73104-6217 ("Customer" or "Regents").

- 1. <u>Purpose</u>. ACT provides a variety of assessments, products, and services to help individuals achieve education and career success (as applicable, "Assessments," Products," and "Services"). This Agreement provides the terms and conditions by which Assessments, Products, and/or Services are offered to Customer by ACT. This Agreement contains the entire understanding between the Customer and ACT with respect to the, PreACT®, Assessment and Services, and supersedes all prior understandings, contracts, or agreements, whether oral or written, related thereto.
- 2. <u>Term.</u> This Agreement shall commence on the date of the last signature here on ("Effective Date") and shall remain in effect through June 30, 2025.
- 3. Payment Terms. Customer agrees to pay ACT the amounts set forth in the Assessment, Products and/or Services Fee Schedule, attached hereto as Exhibit 1, for the delivery of Assessments, Products and/or Services selected by Customer. Customer shall make all payments within forty-five (45) days of receipt of an invoice from ACT. Customer will pay a service fee of one percent (1%) per month or the maximum rate allowed by law, whichever is less, on any fees not paid when due under this Agreement. All invoices shall be sent to the billing address provided by Customer. Customer shall be responsible for any sales, use, or other taxes due as a result of any fees paid to ACT under this Agreement, unless Customer is exempt from tax as evidenced by a valid tax exemption certificate provided to ACT. Customer shall promptly provide ACT with Customer required purchase order, as applicable, prior to the scheduled delivery of Assessments, Products, and/or Services. Any terms that are contained in any Customer purchase order which are inconsistent with, different from, or supplemental to the terms of this Agreement shall be void and of no force or effect. ACT reserves the right to discontinue access to the electronic systems for Assessments, Products, and Services if payments are delinquent. ACT has no obligation to re-issue invoices, provide credits, or issue refunds.
- Ownership of Materials. ACT owns or has license for the Assessments, Products, and Services, including but not limited to, the skill definitions on which assessments are based; paper-based or online assessment documents, paper-based or online testing materials; test questions, answer choice; administration and registration materials; publications; data; text, images, graphics, button icons, illustrations, graphics, photographs, audio clips, music, sounds, pictures, videos; software, code; lookand-feel, design, layout, organization, presentation, user interface, navigation, trade dress, and stylistic convention thereof or contained therein; the score resulting from an assessment; reports; documentation; training materials, course materials; related materials; and all intellectual property rights therein, including any and all derivatives or modifications thereof (collectively included within "ACT Materials"). ACT owns copyrights in the ACT Materials. The ACT Materials are licensed on a limited, revocable, non-exclusive and non-sublicensable manner, not sold to Customer. Except as expressly granted in this Agreement, Customer does not acquire any right, title, or interest in or to the ACT Materials. Customer shall not and shall not assist or permit any third party to (a) use the ACT Materials for any purpose other than as expressly permitted, (b) assign, license, sell, loan, lease, or otherwise transfer the ACT Materials in whole or in part, (c) authorize or allow a third party to use, sell, loan or lease the ACT Materials, (d) copy, reproduce, distribute, email, post, scan, make available, display publicly, transfer, sell, modify, enhance, reverse engineer, decompile, disassemble, make derivative works from, remove information from or make any addition to the ACT Materials, in whole or in part, or allow anyone else to do so, except as permitted in writing by ACT, (e) seek to register or protect, anywhere in the world, the ACT Materials (or seek to register or protect any designation confusingly similar to the ACT Materials), (f) challenge ACT's ownership in or the validity of the ACT Materials, or (g) modify, reverse engineer, decompile, or disassemble any ACT online system. Customer shall promptly notify ACT, in writing, of any known, threatened, or suspected infringement or unauthorized use of the ACT Materials by any third party. Customer's rights to the ACT Materials expressly terminate upon the termination of this Agreement. Customer may not sell, provide access to, or otherwise transfer the ACT Materials to any other person, provided however that Customer may provide the Assessments, Products, and Services to its designated personnel, participating testing sites ("Participating Testing Sites"), and examinees solely for testing and interpretation purposes consistent with the terms of this Agreement and any related agreement for the use of the Assessments, Products, and/or Services.

- 5. Grant and Scope of License. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, ACT hereby grants to Customer a revocable, non-exclusive and non-transferable license during the Term of the Agreement to: (a) access the Assessments, Products, and/or Services, as applicable, solely for the purpose of assessing the authorized examinees, (b) administer the Assessments, Products, and/or Services to the authorized examinees and students, and (c) use any ACT Materials presented to Customer by ACT pursuant to this Agreement, including but not limited to Assessments, Products, and/or Services and other materials as described herein in connection with an authorized use of the Assessments, Products, and/or Services. Customer may administer the Assessments, Products, and/or Services, as applicable, provided Customer abides by the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement.
- Confidentiality. Customer agrees that neither it nor its employees, representatives, or agents shall at any time during or following the Term of the Agreement, either directly or indirectly, publish, display or otherwise disclose to any person, organization, or entity in any manner whatsoever any ACT Materials, except as strictly necessary for Customer to use the ACT Materials as part of the Assessments, Products, and/or Services provided hereunder. Customer shall protect the ACT Materials in accordance with ACT's policies and procedures and using a standard of care appropriate for secure test materials, but in no event less than a reasonable standard of care. All ACT Materials are and remain the property of ACT notwithstanding the subsequent termination of this Agreement. Customer shall not store and must return any unused ACT Materials (and all copies, if any) as directed by ACT and in accordance with ACT's policies and procedures. In the event Customer receives a Freedom of Information Act, public record, or open record request for any confidential information covered by this Agreement, Customer agrees to immediately notify ACT of such request in writing. ACT acknowledges that Customer, as a public body, is subject to the Oklahoma Open Records Act, 51 O.S. § 24A.1 et seq. ("ORA"). The parties agree that any provision of this Agreement that conflicts with the ORA is ineffective. Customer shall immediately notify ACT in writing in the event of any unauthorized use or disclosure of the ACT Materials and assist in remedying such unauthorized use or disclosure, as requested by ACT (which shall not limit other remedies of ACT as provided in this Agreement or by applicable law). Customer acknowledges and agrees that damages may not be adequate to compensate for the breach of this section and accordingly, Customer agrees that, in addition to any and all other remedies available, ACT is entitled to obtain relief by way of a temporary or permanent injunction to enforce the obligations described in this section.
- 7. <u>Trademarks</u>. ACT owns trademarks including, but not limited to, "ACT," "PreACT 8/9," "PreACT," "PreACT Secure," "Mosaic by ACT," "WorkKeys," "NCRC," "National Career Readiness Certificate," and the certification marks, "Platinum," "Gold," "Silver" and "Bronze" (collectively the "Trademarks.") Except as specifically granted in this Agreement, Customer does not acquire any right, title, or interest in or to the Trademarks. The Trademarks may not be used without ACT's prior written consent, and any authorized use of the Trademarks shall be governed by ACT's Trademark Use Guidelines.
- 8. <u>U.S. Government Licenses</u>. The online components of the Assessments, Products, and Services are "commercial items," as that term is defined in 48 C.F.R. 2.101 (Oct. 1995), consisting of "commercial computer software" and "commercial computer software documentation," as such terms are used in 48 C.F.R. 12.212 (Sept. 1995). Consistent with 48 C.F.R. 12.212 and 48 C.F.R. 227.7202-1 through 227.7202-4 (June 1995), all U.S. Government End Users acquire Assessments, Products, and Services with only those rights set forth herein.
- 9. <u>Updates and Modifications</u>. The Assessments, Products, and Services may be modified or updated from time to time at ACT's sole discretion. ACT shall make such modifications and updates available to Customer as they are developed. ACT reserves the right to charge a fee for any new functionalities available through revised Assessments, Products, and Services.
- 10. Computer Requirements, Compatible Platforms and Hardware, and System Maintenance. ACT will provide Customer with computer configuration and other requirements as applicable. Customer acknowledges and agrees that the computer configuration requirements are required to properly access and use the Assessments, Products, and Services and that ACT shall have no liability for matters relating to the failure to comply with these computer requirements. ACT may, in its sole discretion, revise these configuration requirements from time to time. Customer is responsible for obtaining and maintaining an appropriate operating environment with the necessary hardware, operating system software, network configurations, and other items required to use and access Assessments, Products, and Services. ACT is not responsible for any incompatibility between ACT Assessments, Products, and Services and any versions of operating systems, hardware, browsers, inadequate network configurations, or other products not specifically approved by ACT for Customer's use with the ACT Assessments, Products, and Services. Assessments, Products, and Services are subject to recurring maintenance windows, and occasionally unscheduled maintenance, during which servers may be taken offline. ACT shall not be responsible for any damages or costs incurred by Customer, if any, for such down time.

11. <u>Username and Passwords</u>. Access to the Assessments, Products, and/or Services shall be granted to only those Customer and Participating Testing Site staff and students that have been authorized to use the Assessments, Products, and/or Services by Customer. Each authorized staff member and examinee will be required to use a unique username and password to access the online platforms provided as part of the Assessments, Products, and Services. Staff and examinees may not share with or otherwise divulge their password to any other person. Access to the online platform is personal to the individual authorized staff member or examinee. Customer and Participating Testing Site staff accessing the online platforms must log in using an email address having a domain affiliated with Customer or Authorized Customer Location and may not impersonate any person or entity or falsely state or otherwise misrepresent to ACT their identity or affiliation with a person or entity.

#### 12. Intentionally Omitted.

- 13. <u>Restrictions</u>. Except as expressly permitted herein or under applicable ACT policies and/or procedures, Customer may not (a) use the ACT Materials for any other purpose; (b) assign, license, sell, loan, lease, or otherwise transfer the ACT Materials in whole or in part; (c) authorize or allow a third party to use the ACT Materials; (d) copy, or allow anyone else to copy, in whole or in part, the ACT Materials; (e) modify, reverse engineer, decompile, or disassemble the Assessments, Products, and/or Services, including the ACT Materials; (f) store the ACT Materials at any location other than a Customer-controlled location; or (g) retain excess paper test booklets after administration of a secure assessment.
- 14. <u>Data</u>. The parties acknowledge and agree that ACT may use and disclose the data collected from the administration of the Assessments, Products, and Services as set forth in ACT's Privacy Policy available at <a href="www.act.org/privacy">www.act.org/privacy</a>, as amended from time to time. Examinees may activate their online account after completion of the testing process and select their data privacy preferences in such account. ACT will honor the data sharing and privacy requests of such examinee.
- 15. <u>Limitation on Damages</u>. ACT's liability for damages arising out of or in connection with this Agreement shall not exceed the amount Customer has paid ACT during each annual Term. In no event shall ACT be liable to Customer for special, indirect, incidental, punitive, exemplary, or consequential damages.
- 16. Warranty and Limitations. EXCEPT FOR WARRANTIES EXPRESSLY SET FORTH HEREIN, ACT EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ANY AND ALL REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES OF ANY KIND OR NATURE, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION WARRANTIES REGARDING GUARANTEED UPTIME, WARRANTIES ARISING BY STATUTE OR OTHERWISE IN LAW OR FROM A COURSE OF DEALING OR USE OF TRADE, AND WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR PURPOSE. CUSTOMER SHALL HAVE THE SOLE RESPONSIBILTY FOR ASSURING THAT ITS USE OF THE ASSESSMENTS, PRODUCTS OR SERVICES COMPLIES WITH FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS AND ALL LABOR, EMPLOYEE, OR OTHER CONTRACTS OR PRACTICES TO WHICH IT IS A PARTY.
- 17. Termination and Cancellation. Either party may terminate this Agreement upon written notice to the other party in the event that other party breaches its obligations under this Agreement and fails to cure such breach within thirty (30) days after receiving written notice of such breach. This Agreement may also be terminated without cause at any time by either party giving thirty (30) days written notice to the other. Notwithstanding the above, if Customer fails to provide student registration information and organizational files to ACT by the deadline required by ACT, Customer's participation in the Assessments, Products, and/or Services, as applicable, will be automatically cancelled and this Agreement will be deemed terminated without further notice. Customer shall pay ACT for all Assessments, Products, and Services delivered through the date of termination. Upon termination of this Agreement for any reason, Customer shall immediately discontinue use of the ACT Materials and shall immediately return all copies of the ACT Materials in its possession. Upon the expiration or termination of this Agreement, the obligations set forth in the following provisions of the Agreement shall survive: Payment, Ownership of Materials, Confidentiality, Testing Procedures, Data, Limitation on Damages and Warranty and Limitations.
- 18. Force Majeure. ACT shall not be liable to Customer for any delay or failure to perform, which delay or failure is due to causes or circumstances beyond its control, including, without limitation, the actions of Customer, national emergencies, fire, flood, inclement weather, epidemics, or catastrophe, acts of God, governmental authorities, or parties not under the control of ACT, insurrection, war, riots, or failure of transportation, communication, or power supply. ACT shall exercise commercially reasonable efforts to mitigate the extent of the excusable delay or failure and its adverse consequences; provided, however,

that should any such delay or failure continue for more than sixty (60) days, this Agreement may be terminated by either party upon notice to the other.

- 19. <u>Assignment</u>. This Agreement may not be assigned by Customer without the express prior written consent of ACT. No permitted assignment shall relieve Customer of its obligations under the Agreement.
- 20. <u>Relationship of the Parties</u>. The parties to this Agreement are independent contractors. Neither party shall have the right or authority or shall hold itself out to have the right or authority to bind the other party, nor shall either party be responsible for the acts or omissions of the other.
- 21. <u>No Third-Party Beneficiaries</u>. The parties agree that there are no third-party beneficiaries to this Agreement and that no third party shall be entitled to assert a claim against either of the parties based upon this Agreement.
- 22. <u>Severability; Headings; Governing Law.</u> Should any provision of this agreement be held by a court to be unenforceable, such provision shall be modified by the court and interpreted so as to best accomplish the objectives of the original provision to the fullest extent permitted by law, and the remaining provisions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. Headings used in the Agreement are for reference purposes only and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Oklahoma.
- 23. Entire Agreement. This Agreement, including all incorporated Exhibit(s), constitutes the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the Assessments, Products, and/or Services, as applicable, and supersedes all other prior agreements and understandings, both written and oral. The terms and conditions contained in this Agreement are the only conditions applying to the delivery of the Assessments, Products, and Services. Except as may be incorporated in this Agreement, ACT expressly objects to and rejects any different or additional terms included in any request for proposal, quotation, purchase order, acknowledgment form, or other documents provided by Customer that purport to bind the parties. Certain Assessments, Products, and Services may be subject to additional or different terms and conditions as set forth below as supplemental terms and conditions. No waiver, consent, modification, or amendment to this Agreement shall be binding unless in writing and signed by both parties.
- 24. Notices. Notices under this Agreement shall be deemed to be adequate and sufficient notice if given in writing and delivered via (a) registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, in which case notice shall be deemed to have been received three business days following deposit to U.S. mail; or (b) a nationally recognized overnight air courier, next day delivery, prepaid, in which case such notice shall be deemed to have been received one business day following delivery to such nationally recognized overnight air courier. All notices shall be sent to ACT at the following address: ACT, 500 ACT Drive, P.O. Box 168, Iowa City, Iowa 52243-0168, Attention: General Counsel. All notices to Customer shall be sent to the address provided in the first paragraph of the Agreement.
- 25. Certification Regarding Boycott of Israel. Pursuant to 74 O.S. § 582, ACT certifies that it is not currently engaged in a boycott of goods or services from Israel that constitute an integral part of business conducted or sought to be conducted with the State of Oklahoma.
- 26. <u>Certification Regarding Boycott of Energy Companies</u>. Pursuant to 74 O.S. § 12005, ACT certifies that it is not currently, nor will be during the term of this Agreement, engaged in a boycott of energy companies.
- 27. Certification of Non-collusion. Pursuant to 74 O.S. § 85.22, neither ACT nor anyone subject to ACT's direction or control has paid, given or donated or agreed to pay, give or donate to any officer or employee of the State of Oklahoma any money or other thing of value, either directly or indirectly, in procuring this Agreement.
- 28. <u>Certification Regarding Services</u>. Pursuant to 74 O.S. § 85.42, the Parties to this Agreement certify that no person who has been involved in any manner in the development of this Agreement while employed by the State of Oklahoma will be employed to fulfill any of the Services provided for under this Agreement.

- 29. Protection of Confidential Data. To the extent applicable to this Agreement, Contractor agrees to abide by the limitations on redisclosure of personally identifiable information from the Regents' education records as set forth in The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") (34 CFR § 99.22(a)(2)) and with the terms set forth below. 34 CFR §99.22(a)(2) states that the officers, employees, and agents of a party that receives education record information from the Regents, the educational institution, may use the information, only as permitted by law.
- 30. <u>Data Security</u>. Contractor agrees to the Data Security terms as follows:
- a. <u>Definition</u>: Covered data and information (CDI): is defined to mean all paper and electronic student education record information supplied by Regents to the Contractor. For the purposes of this Agreement, CDI provided to Contractor by students or students' parent/guardian is not subject to the Agreement.
- b. Acknowledgement to Access to CDI: Contractor acknowledges that the Agreement allows the Contractor access to CDI.
- c. <u>Prohibition on Unauthorized Use or Disclosure of CDI</u>: Contractor agrees to hold CDI in strict confidence. Contractor shall not use or disclose CDI received from Regents except as permitted or required by the Agreement, or as required by law. Contractor agrees not to use CDI for any purpose other than those permitted by law or this Agreement. Contractor is permitted to honor data requests of students and/or student's parents/guardians.
- d. <u>Return or Destruction of CD</u>I: Except as permitted or required by this Agreement, upon termination, cancellation, expiration or other conclusion of this Agreement and upon Regents' request, Contractor shall return all CDI to Regents, or if return is not feasible, destroy any and all CDI. If the Contractor destroys the information, the Contractor shall provide Regents with a certificate confirming the date of destruction of the data.
- e. <u>Remedies</u>: If the Family Policy Compliance Office of the U.S. Department of Education determines that the Contractor improperly disclosed personally identifiable information obtained from Regents' education records, Regents may not allow the Contractor access to its education records for at least five (5) years.
- f. <u>Maintenance of the Security of Electronic Information:</u> Contractor shall develop, implement, maintain, and use appropriate administrative, technical, and physical security measures to preserve the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of all electronically maintained or transmitted CDI received from, or on behalf of, Regents or its students. These measures will be extended by contract to all subcontractors used by Contractor.
- g. Reporting of Unauthorized Disclosures or Misuse of Covered Data and Information: Contractor shall report to Regents any use or disclosure of CDI not permitted or required by this Agreement or permitted or required by the Oklahoma Security Breach Notification Act or other applicable law. Contractor's report shall include all information required by the Oklahoma Security Breach Notification Act or other applicable law.

Assessments Supplemental Terms and Conditions. The following supplemental terms and conditions for the PreACT®, Assessments, Products, and Services are incorporated into the Agreement, as applicable:

- 1. Testing Procedures. Customer and its Participating Testing Sites agree to administer the Assessments in accordance with all policies and procedures established by ACT, as may be updated from time to time. Customer agrees to store ACT Materials in secure location(s) defined and described by ACT. Customer agrees that all used and unused ACT Materials (and copies, if any) will be returned to ACT, in accordance with the policies and procedures established by ACT. In the event of a test security incident or use of the ACT Materials that conflicts with the requirements of this Agreement or ACT policies and procedures, Customer and its Participating Testing Sites agree to fully cooperate with ACT, and shall cause those individuals involved in the preparation, administration, or the return of the Assessments to fully cooperate with ACT. In the event ACT identifies testing irregularities, which may include but are not limited to the use of a compromised test form, falsification by an examinee of his or her identity, impersonation of another examinee (surrogate testing), unusual similarities in the answers of examinees at the same test center, or other indicators that the test scores may not accurately reflect the examinee's level of educational development, ACT reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to cancel all related or impacted test scores and notify Customer of that cancellation.
- 2. <u>Invoicing.</u> ACT will charge Customer the applicable unit price per examinee as defined in the Fee Schedule, attached hereto as Exhibit 1. Customer will be charged for the total number of paper answer documents processed. The Customer will be charged for each assessment if an examinee starts an assessment regardless of whether the assessment is completed in full. If an examinee starts any one of the sub-tests within an assessment, the unit price for the entire battery of the sub-tests within the assessment will be charged to Customer, regardless of whether the entire battery is completed. The quantity and total cost provided in the Fee Schedule are estimates and for planning purposes only. Customer will be invoiced for the Assessments and Services provided upon the conclusion of testing, or on the invoicing frequency identified in herein.

<u>Authorization</u>. Each party represents and warrants (a) that it has the requisite authority to enter into this Agreement; and (b) that the individual(s) signing this Agreement on behalf of such party is (are) authorized to do so.

ACT EDUCATION CORP.	Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
Name: Patrick Milano	Name: Allison D. Garrett
Title: Chief Financial & Transformation Officer	Title: Chancellor
Date:	Date:
Name: Janet E. Godwin	Name: Allison D. Garrett
Title: Chief Executive Officer	Title: Chancellor
Date:	Date:
	Approved as to Form:

# EXHIBIT 1 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education PreACT Fall 2024 School Year

Fall 2024 (FY25) Fees Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education				
Product Name	Grade Level	Test Mode	Per Unit Cost (per processed assessment)	Number of Students Tested*
PreACT <sup>TM</sup>	10	Paper	\$14.50	Up to 34,482
PreACT <sup>TM</sup>	10	Paper	\$13.50	34,483 – 37,037
PreACTTM	10	Paper	\$12.50	37,037 – 45,000
Fall 2024 TOTAL Cost of Student Test (not-to-exceed)				\$500,000.00

# Meeting of the OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

June 27, 2024

## **AGENDA ITEM #18-a:**

**Temporary Assistance to Needy Families.** 

SUBJECT: Approval of the contract modification between the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher

Education and Oklahoma Human Services relating to the Temporary Assistance to Needy

Families Program.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve the attached contract modification in the amount of \$3,636,767 which includes a 90-day budget extension in the amount of \$751,225.82.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Since the 1996 Welfare Reform Act was legislated, short-term training programs at the community college tailored for recipients of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) have been operational through funding provided through a contract between Oklahoma Human Services (OKDHS) and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE).

#### **POLICY ISSUES:**

This action is consistent with the State Regents' commitment to the enhancement of educational opportunities, and coordination and cooperation between State System institutions and other state agencies. There are no policy issues related to this item.

#### **ANALYSIS:**

The attached contract modification between the OSRHE and OKDHS in the sum of \$3,636,767 is to be approved by the OSRHE at the June 2024 meeting, respectively to fund the TANF employment training programs at the community colleges for an additional 90 days.

## MODIFICATION

The State of Oklahoma Department of Human Services (hereinafter "DHS") and Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) (hereinafter "Contractor") hereby mutually agree to amend the current contract PO#8309025627.

This modification serves extend the current contract through 9/30/2024 to allow for time for a new contract to be developed. The budget will increase by \$751,225.82 for a new budget total of \$3,636,767.00. There is no change to the scope of work.

All terms, conditions and provisions of the contract enacted shall remain in full force and effect except as modified by this amendment.

Approval:	Approval:
OK Dept of Humans Services	OSRHE
	Approved as to Form:

## Attachment A

# Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education TANF Contract

FY24 Budget Extension (July 1, 2023-Sepember 30, 2024)

Institutional Allocations	\$3,511,767
Administration	125,000
Total:	\$3,636,767

<sup>\*</sup>Includes 3-month allocation to institutions for the 3-month budget extension

# Meeting of the OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

June 27, 2024

## **AGENDA ITEM #18-b:**

**Temporary Assistance to Needy Families.** 

SUBJECT: Allocation of funds to Oklahoma community colleges participating in the Temporary

Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Program pursuant to the contracts with Oklahoma

Human Services.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve the community college TANF allocations in the amounts set forth herein pursuant to the contract between Oklahoma Human Services and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Since the 1996 Welfare Reform Act was legislated, employment training programs at the community colleges tailored for recipients of TANF have been operational through funding provided through a contract between Oklahoma Human Services (OKDHS) and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE). Ten community colleges have programs at 15 sites. There is also a TANF program at Oklahoma State University's (OSU) two technical branches, OSU Institute of Technology (OSUIT) and OSU-Oklahoma City (OSU-OKC).

Starting July 1, 2023, nine community colleges with twelve sites, and one technical branch, OSUIT, with two sites, in McAlester and Atoka are operational through funding provided through a contract between OKDHS and OSRHE. Murray State College and one technical branch, OSU-Oklahoma City (OSU-OKC) did not renew their programs.

Starting October 1, 2024, the OSRHE and OKDHS will enter into a new contract. A 90-day contract extension was granted from July 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024 for fiscal year 2024. The amounts below reflect the funds allotted for the 90-day extension.

#### **POLICY ISSUES:**

This action is consistent with the State Regents' commitment to the enhancement of educational opportunities, and coordination and cooperation between State System institutions and other state agencies. There are no policy issues related to this item.

#### **ANALYSIS:**

A 90-day contract extension for FY24 was granted through September 30, 2024 for the community college TANF programs. The State Regents' staff recommend the amounts listed:

# INSTITUTIONAL ALLOCATIONS

College	Amount
Carl Albert State College*	\$98,722
Connors State College	\$39,622
Northeastern Oklahoma A& M College*	\$56,615
Northern Oklahoma College-Enid	\$53,524
Oklahoma City Community College	\$79,935
Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology - Okmulgee	\$49,439
Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology- McAlester	\$32,518
Redlands Community College	\$87,245
Rose State College	\$49,675
Seminole State College*	\$98,742
Western Oklahoma State College	\$32,986
* two sites	
Total Institutional Allocations	\$679,023

# Meeting of the OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

June 27, 2024

#### **AGENDA ITEM #19-a:**

Scholars for Excellence in Child Care.

SUBJECT: Approval of contract between Oklahoma Human Services and the Oklahoma State Regents

for Higher Education to continue the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care program.

#### **RECCOMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve the allocation for the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care in the amount of \$4,753,919 and approve execution of a contract, pending receipt of the contract and the Chancellor's signature, with Oklahoma Human Services made pursuant to this allocation.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Since June 2000, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) and Oklahoma Human Services (OKDHS) have contracted to fund the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care (Scholars) program, in an effort to improve the quality of care children receive in licensed child care facilities, increase teacher educational levels, compensation, and improve retention. The annual contract allows community colleges to, among other things, offer specialized academic and support programs and to recruit licensed child care providers as a way to encourage child care professionals to further their education in the field of early childhood and child development.

Given the success of the Scholars program and the desire of OHS to continue to improve the quality of services available to child care staff, the Director of OHS asked the Chancellor to broaden the State Regents' current scholarship offerings, beginning Fall 2004, by assuming responsibility for administering and managing the scholarship program (formerly Teacher Education and Compensation Helps-TEACH) in conjunction with the Scholars program. Therefore, a contract between the two parties was entered into to provide funding for administering the scholarship program.

#### **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 spring 2007, the inception of the Early Education Pathway to Your CDA curriculum, 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 contract will continue through FY25.

Note: Supplements to the contracts are on file in the State Regents' office.

Attachment

# ATTACHMENT A

# Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Scholars for Excellence in Child Care Scholarship Program (356) FY25 Budget

Personnel Costs	\$417,455
Operating Costs	\$56,325
Indirect Cost Rate @ 13.175%	\$62,421
New World Support & Maintenance	\$86,505
Scholarships	\$2,449,250
Institutional Allocations	\$1,681,964
Total:	\$4,753,919

June 27, 2024

# **AGENDA ITEM #19-b:**

Scholars for Excellence in Child Care.

SUBJECT: Allocation of funds to Oklahoma community colleges participating in the Scholars for

Excellence in Child Care Program pursuant to the contract with the Oklahoma Human

Services.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve the community college Scholars for Excellence in Child Care Program FY25 allocations in the amounts set forth below and approve execution of a contract, pending receipt of the contract and the Chancellor's signature, with Oklahoma Human Services made pursuant to this allocation.

# **BACKGROUND:**

Since June 2000, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) and Oklahoma Human Services (OKDHS) have contracted to allow State System community colleges to participate in the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care (Scholars) program. Twelve community colleges and Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City have a Scholars program in place, of which twelve house a scholar coordinator with a program operating budget.

# **POLICY ISSUES:**

This action is consistent with the State Regents' commitment to the enhancement of educational opportunities, as well as coordination/cooperation between State System institutions and other state agencies. No State Regents' policies are impacted by this action.

# **ANALYSIS:**

A review of the community college Scholars program continuation applications by Oklahoma Human Services and State Regents' staff resulted in the following recommendations for FY25:

	FY25
Community College	Allocation
Carl Albert State College	\$165,942
Connors State College	\$86,845
Northern Oklahoma College	\$194,726
Northeastern A&M College	\$83,827
Murray State College	\$93,297
Oklahoma City Community College	\$97,006
Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City	\$83,858
Redlands Community College	\$172,993
Rose State College	\$156,560
Seminole State College	\$87,702
Tulsa Community College	\$257,002
Western Oklahoma State College	\$112,955
<b>Total FY25 Allocation</b>	\$1,592,713

June 27, 2024

# **AGENDA ITEM #20-a:**

State Authorization.

**SUBJECT:** Approval of request from Chamberlain University (Illinois) to be authorized to operate in

Oklahoma.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents authorize an out-of-state institution to operate 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 apply 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
- Asbury Theological Seminary
- ATA College
- Baylor University
- Central Oklahoma College
- Columbia College
- Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
- Heavy Equipment Colleges of America
- John Brown University
- Liberty University
- Marian University
- Miller-Motte College (FKA Platt College)
- New York University

- Newman University
- Park University
- Saint Paul School of Theology
- Southeastern University
- Southwestern Assemblies of God University
- Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology
- Strayer University
- Tulsa Welding School
- Upper Iowa University
- Webster University
- Wichita State University

# **POLICY ISSUES:**

This action is consistent with the Institutional Accreditation and State Authorization policy, which 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:**

Prior to the application deadline for this meeting, State Regents' staff received a complete application for initial authorization from the following institution:

• Chamberlain University

The table below shows the institution's location, type, accreditation, and federal financial responsibility composite (FFRC) score.

# **Institutional Summary Table**

Institution	Home State	OK Locations	For- or Non- Profit	Accreditor	FFRC Score*
Chamberlain University	IL	Tulsa, Enid, OKC (2)	For	HLC <sup>1</sup>	0.2

After reviewing the application and required documentation, State Regents' staff determined that this institution meets the authorization requirements established in the OSRHE Institutional Accreditation and State Authorization policy currently in effect. Therefore, it is recommended that the State Regents authorize Chamberlain University for the 2024-2025 academic year.

- <sup>1</sup> Higher Learning Commission.
- \* The 0.2 score is that of Adtalem Global Education, Inc. which owns Chamberlain University among several other for-profit universities.

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.

June 27, 2024

# **AGENDA ITEM #20-b:**

State Authorization.

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

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents approve re-authorization of Tulsa Welding School and Wichita State 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 apply 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
- Asbury Theological Seminary
- ATA College
- Baylor University
- Central Oklahoma College
- Columbia College
- Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
- Heavy Equipment Colleges of America
- John Brown University
- Liberty University
- Marian University
- Miller-Motte College (FKA Platt College)
- New York University

- Newman University
- Park University
- Saint Paul School of Theology
- Southeastern University
- Southwestern Assemblies of God University
- Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology
- Strayer University
- Tulsa Welding School
- Upper Iowa University
- Webster University
- Wichita State University

# **POLICY ISSUES:**

This action is consistent with 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 Tulsa Welding School and Wichita State 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*
Tulsa Welding School	OK	Tulsa	For	ACCSC <sup>1</sup>	0.2
Wichita State University	KS	OKC	Public	HLC	None <sup>2</sup>

After reviewing the application and required documentation, State Regents' staff determined that the 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 the institutions for the 2024-2025 academic year.

- <sup>1</sup> Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges.
- 2 The USDE does not calculate FFRC Scores for public institutions; for Title IV purposes they are deemed financially stable due to their relationship with their state.
- \* 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.

June 27, 2024

# **AGENDA ITEM #21:**

#### 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:

**April Goode**, director of OneNet Strategic Planning and Communications, earned a "Specialization in Strategy" from Harvard Business School Online. This program provides a global perspective and equips students with creative problem-solving skills for strategy formulation and execution.

Jay Kretchmar, strategic planning and analysis data analyst I, and Matthew Lann-Wolcott, director for Student Performance Data, presented at the Tulsa Higher Education Consortium Convening at OUTulsa. Their session was titled "OSRHE Data Dashboards: Navigating Insights for Data-Informed Decision-Making and Strategic Planning."

**Sara Lorenzen**, outreach specialist III for OCAP's Oklahoma Money Matters initiative, was recently recognized as the Oklahoma Jump\$tart Coalition's Member of the Year. The Member of the Year Award acknowledges individuals who have worked tirelessly to improve Oklahoma families' financial well-being by equipping youth and adults with the knowledge and tools they need to make informed financial decisions.

The Records Department, consisting of **Fariba Williams**, assistant director of Records Management (OCAP), **Sandra Wineberry**, records specialist III (OCAP), **Rhonda Goss**, records specialist III (OCAP), and **Renee Dollar**, records specialist III (OCAP), undertook a special project to scan and preserve all State Regents' agendas and supplements dating back to the inception of the State Regents in 1941 to present, into our Laserfiche software. This high-priority project, which required attention to detail, dedication, and quality checking each document before finalization, took one year to complete. The goal was to ensure the information was not only accurate but also easily accessible for any user research.

June 27, 2024

# **AGENDA ITEM #22-a:**

Chancellor Glen D. Johnson Scholarship in Leadership and Public Service.

**SUBJECT:** Ratification of recipients of the Chancellor Glen D. Johnson Scholarship in Leadership and Public Service for the 2024-25 academic year.

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents ratify the individuals listed below as recipients of the Chancellor Glen D. Johnson Scholarship in Leadership and Public Service for the 2024-25 academic year.

# **BACKGROUND:**

The Chancellor Glen D. Johnson Scholarship in Leadership and Public Service honors Chancellor Johnson's commitment to increasing the number of college graduates in Oklahoma to meet the state's current and future workforce needs in today's knowledge-based, global economy. The scholarship is awarded each year to outstanding college students attending one of Oklahoma's public colleges or universities who demonstrate strong leadership potential, a significant commitment to community engagement activities, and interest in pursuing a career in public service.

#### **POLICY:**

Recipients of the Chancellor Glen D. Johnson Scholarship in Leadership and Public Service shall meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Oklahoma resident:
- Enrolled full-time (minimum of 12 credit hours per semester) at a public institution within the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education;
- In good academic standing with a minimum GPA of 3.0 at the time of nomination; and
- Completed at least 30 hours of college coursework/credits and will be classified as a sophomore, junior, or senior for the academic year in which the scholarship will be received.

Recipients of the Chancellor Glen D. Johnson Scholarship in Leadership and Public Service are selected based on the following criteria:

- Leadership experience;
- Demonstrated interest in public service, community engagement, and civic participation;
- A short essay on the importance and value of public service; and
- A letter of recommendation from an individual who can attest to the student's leadership potential and commitment to public service.

A total of six scholarships are awarded annually, distributed as follows:

• Two scholarships are granted to students attending Oklahoma's public two-year colleges;

- Two scholarships are allocated to students attending Oklahoma's public regional universities, which includes the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma; and
- Two scholarships are presented to students attending Oklahoma's public research universities.

Based on available interest earnings, the scholarship amount for the 2024-25 academic year will be \$1,000.

It is recommended that the State Regents ratify 2024 Chancellor Glen D. Johnson Scholarship recipients as follows:

- Ashley M. Holland, Oklahoma State University
- Brancen M. Redman, Oklahoma State University
- Grace E. Manuel, Northeastern State University
- Ryan J. Moses, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma
- Sadie K. Bridges, Carl Albert State College
- Madilynn J. Campbell, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College

The scholarship award will be transmitted directly to the institution on the student's behalf for the Fall 2024 semester.

June 27, 2024

# **AGENDA ITEM #22-b (1):**

Operations.

**SUBJECT:** Ratification of purchases exceeding \$25,000.

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents ratify purchases exceeding \$25,000 but less than \$100,000 between April 23, 2024, and June 4, 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 April 23, 2024 and June 4, 2024, there were 6 purchases exceeding \$25,000 but less than \$100,000.

# Core

- 1) Shangri-La Hotel Operations LLC in the amount of \$27,506.36 for the 2024 Student Preparation Summer Institute held on June 10-12, 2024. This institute allows PK-12 counselors, administrators, and directors from all over the Oklahoma to collaborate with one another, share best practices, and build professional networking systems. (Funded from 210-Core).
- 2) New World in the amount of \$82,565.00 for software support and maintenance of the Insight Program system. (Funded from 210-Core).

# OneNet

- 3) Copper River Information Tech in the amount of \$93,033.48 for the upgrade of the Oklahoma City Community College site to core 100 Gigabit Ethernet ring. Costs recovered through OneNet user fees. (Funded from 718-OneNet).
- 4) Presidio Network Solutions LLC in the amount of \$44,187.32 for routers to provide new service to Enid Public Schools. Costs recovered through OneNet user fees. (Funded from 718-OneNet).
- 5) Presidio Network Solutions LLC in the amount of \$88,374.64 for routers to replace aging equipment in OneNet huts. Costs recovered through OneNet user fees. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

- 6) Copper River Information Tech in the amount of \$65,709.52 for optical equipment needed to provide service upgrades to Enid Public Schools. Costs recovered through OneNet user fees. (Funded from 718-OneNet).
- 7) Dell Marketing LP in the amount of \$47,976.08 to replace equipment in the field due to end of life and failing units. Costs recovered through OneNet user fees. (Funded from 718-OneNet).
- 8) Copper River Information Tech in the amount of \$65,285.88 for optical equipment to increase the backhaul from 10 gigabit Ethernet to 100 gigabit Ethernet to support the Oklahoma Friction Free Network connection for Rose State College and subscribers at Gordan Cooper Shawnee Campus. Costs recovered through OneNet user fees. (Funded from 718-OneNet).
- 9) Oklahoma Office of Management and Enterprise Services in the amount of \$66,105.00 for the FY24 cybersecurity liability insurance policy premium, which covers security or system failures, including ransomware and vendor security failures. (Funded from 718-OneNet).

June 27, 2024

# AGENDA ITEM #22-b (2):

Operations.

**SUBJECT:** Contract with Attorney General for legal services.

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents ratify a renewal contract (attached) for legal services with the Office of the Attorney General for Fiscal Year 2025.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Since September 2001, the State Regents have contracted with the Office of the Attorney General to provide legal services to unrepresented institutions within the State System. The contract has thereafter been renewed annually. Upon the departure of Assistant Attorney General (AAG) Lisa Davis to become General Counsel to Governor Brad Henry, the contract for full-time services was modified (and approved by the State Regents on February 13, 2004) to substitute for the half-time services of an AAG assigned by the Office of the Attorney General. From 2004 to 2010, the assigned Attorney was AAG Gretchen Harris; from 2010 to 2013, AAG Regina Switzer; and from 2013 to 2014, AAG Julie Ezell. From 2014-2021, the assigned Attorney was AAG Matt Stangl; from 2022-2024, AAG Whitney Herzog Scimeca; and for FY 2025, the new AAG assigned to this contract will be Sohail Punjwani.

# **POLICY ISSUES:**

Contracts for legal services between the Office of the Attorney General and certain named agencies, specifically including the State Regents, are authorized by 74 O.S. § 18*l* as amended. This is a ratification of the renewal of an existing contract.

#### **ANALYSIS:**

The contract provides considerable value to the State Regents and to the State System, particularly to those institutions that do not have their own legal counsel.

The contract has enabled the State Regents to provide legal support to the smaller institutions that do not have ready access to legal services, including:

- 1. Eastern Oklahoma State College;
- 2. Carl Albert State College;
- 3. Murray State College;
- 4. Seminole State College;
- 5. Western Oklahoma State College;
- 6. Northern Oklahoma College;
- 7. Redlands Community College;
- 8. University of Science & Arts of Oklahoma;

- 9. University Center at Ponca City; and
- 10. Rose State College (RSC has own counsel through 20i contract, but assigned AAG is occasionally asked to help, particularly representing faculty appeals board during hearings)

This is consistent with the State Regents' preventive law philosophy.

The contract also provides a strong connection with the Office of the Attorney General, current information about its thinking on a variety of legal issues, and links to its advice to other agencies on issues of common concern.

The annual cost of the contract is \$77,583.96, and will be billed at \$6,053.71 per month. This includes the assigned AAG's salary, benefits, and non-salary costs incurred in connection with the provision of legal services pursuant to the contract. There is no cost increase from FY24. A copy of the proposed contract is attached. The contract provides that the assigned AAG, if requested by the State Regents, shall provide quarterly reports to the State Regents setting forth the work performed by that AAG. The Legal Department has requested and will continue to request such quarterly reports. The contract also provides that the State Regents, acting through the Chancellor or her designee, reserves the right to determine the scope of the assigned AAG's activities on behalf of the State Regents. The contract also provides that it may be terminated by either party upon 60 days written notice. Ratification of the approval of the contract is recommended.

# CONTRACT FOR LEGAL SERVICES FISCAL YEAR 2025

#### 1. PARTIES:

This Agreement is between the Office of Attorney General and the OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ("OSRHE"), and the authorized signatures below bind the parties to the terms set out hereafter.

#### 2. AUTHORITY:

This Agreement is authorized by virtue of 74 O.S. § 181.

#### 3. CONTRACT DURATION:

This Agreement commences July 1, 2024, and covers fiscal year 2025 ending June 30, 2025.

# 4. <u>CONSIDERATION</u>:

- (a) The Attorney General's Office ("AGO") shall provide the legal services of the Assigned Attorney for and on behalf of OSRHE during the contract period, in exchange for payment in the amount of \$77,583.96 annually, with monthly payments in the amount of \$6,465.33. This sum is comprised of the salary and benefits of the Assigned Attorney and non-salary costs incurred in connection with the provision of legal services pursuant to this contract. The OSRHE will be billed monthly for the monthly amount set forth above. Should the OSRHE desire that the Assigned Attorney have additional training, any costs associated with such training shall be paid by the OSRHE. The OSRHE shall reimburse the Assigned Attorney pursuant to the Travel Reimbursement Act for travel undertaken by the Assigned Attorney on behalf of OSRHE, outside the Oklahoma City metropolitan area.
- (b) The scope of legal services to be provided by the Assigned Attorney includes matters pertaining to the OSRHE's official duties, particularly including representation in legal proceedings, provision of legal advice and assistance, appearance at meetings, as necessary, and other legal needs, consistent with the provisions of Paragraph 6.
- (c) The AGO, if requested by the Board at the beginning of the contract period, shall provide quarterly reports to the OSRHE setting forth the work performed by the Assigned Attorney. These reports shall be furnished by October 15, January 15, April 15, and July 15.

1

(d) It is explicitly recognized, however, that the consideration paid herein by the OSRHE is in the nature of a retainer that enables the AGO to employ and ensure the availability of the Assigned Attorney equivalent to .50 FTE for the OSRHE, regardless of whether the Assigned Attorney is in fact utilized. It is agreed by the parties that the Assigned Attorney's obligation to provide legal services to the OSRHE will be fulfilled by the availability of the Assigned Attorney for the purposes provided for in this Agreement, regardless of the number of hours actually used by the OSRHE.

#### **OFFICE LOCATION:**

The Assigned Attorney will maintain an office with the AGO to facilitate the delivery of legal services.

#### 6. SUPERVISION:

The Assigned Attorney will be expected to coordinate his/her activities on behalf of the OSRHE, with the OSRHE General Counsel. The OSRHE, acting through the Chancellor and her designee, reserve the right to determine the scope of the Assigned Attorney's activities on their behalf. However, the supervision of the Assigned Attorney and his/her work product, and its consistency with AGO policies, shall remain the prerogative of the AGO.

#### 7. **TERMINATION:**

This agreement may be terminated by either party upon 60 days written notice.

#### 8. **AGENCY DESIGNEES:**

The authorized agent and designee for the Office of Attorney General is Niki Batt. The authorized agent and designee for the OSRHE is Allison D. Garrett.

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Allison D. Garrett

Chancellor

By:

Niki Batt

Deputy Attorney General **Legal Counsel Unit** 

DATE: June 7, 2024

By:

**AGENDA ITEM #22-c:** 

Resolution.

**SUBJECT:** Resolution honoring retiring staff.

This item will be available at the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM #23-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 #23-b (1):**

**Annual Reports.** 

**SUBJECT:** Acknowledge receipt of the Inspired to Teach 2023-2024 Year-End Report.

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents acknowledge receipt of the Inspired to Teach 2023-2024 Year-End Report.

# **BACKGROUND:**

The Inspired to Teach Program was created during the 2022 legislative session, with the passage of HB 3564. The purpose of the program is to address the teacher shortage in the state of Oklahoma and provide a pipeline of quality and effective teachers for the public schools of this state. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) was charged with administering and maintaining this scholarship and incentive program to encourage the preparation of public-school teachers (Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade) at all accredited state public and private higher education institutions.

Inspired to Teach allows students who have graduated from high school, including home school graduates and GED earners, and who declare teacher education as a major in college to receive a scholarship over the duration of their matriculation as long as they maintain satisfactory academic progress (SAP), a 2.5 GPA and full-time enrollment. Participants can receive awards up to \$5,500, and if they remain and teach in an Oklahoma (Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade) public school for five consecutive years, they will receive a \$4,000 award each year of service up to five years - not to exceed a total of \$20,000. This program provides an effective, comprehensively prepared teacher for Oklahoma public school students.

# **POLICY ISSUES:**

The Inspired to Teach statute (70 O.S. § 698.1 (B)) mandates the establishment of an advisory committee comprised of 9 individuals, including educators, teacher education faculty, public school representatives, and a representative of the Oklahoma State Department of Education whose purpose is to provide recommendations and help to improve the effectiveness of the Inspired to Teach Program. The advisory committee is charged with submitting a report on the Inspired to Teach Program to the Oklahoma State Legislature on or before July 1 each year.

The 2023-2024 report details the development, implementation and impact of the program on teacher education statewide. Additionally, the report highlights significant effects of Inspired to Teach on enrollments in teacher education programs across the state, including the substantial financial support awarded to students.

# **ANALYSIS:**

OSRHE staff, with assistance from the Inspired to Teach Advisory Committee, has prepared the second annual Inspired to Teach program report, highlighting the outcomes of the program in its first year of implementation. The report provides the following information:

- Background
- Advisory Committee
- Program Development and Implementation
- Program Rule Promulgation
- Program Outcomes
- Marketing Campaign

As of June 1, 2024, 4,536 students have enrolled in the Inspired to Teach program and have received scholarship awards which total \$6.3 million. To date, 35 institutions have active participants in the program. This number continues to increase.

A majority of participants in the program come from public institutions of higher education – 4,119 (80 percent), with the remaining participants from private institutions in Oklahoma. Most of these students attended rural Oklahoma high schools, with only 728 current participants graduating from urban high schools.

During the 2023-2024 academic year, the first two cohorts of graduates participating in the Inspired to Teach Program completed their first year of teaching service, with two additional cohorts graduating and entering the workforce in the academic year. To date, 179 Inspired to Teach participants have completed their first year of teaching service, with \$716,000 in employment incentives paid out thus far.

The scholarship portion of the program is currently comprised of 16 percent Freshmen, 15 percent Sophomores, 30 percent Juniors and 39 percent Seniors. The top five declared majors for Inspired to Teach participants are:

- 1. Elementary Education (1,650)
- 2. Early Childhood Education (680)
- 3. Music Education—including General Music, Instrumental Music, and Vocal Music (302)
- 4. History/Social Studies Education (254)
- 5. English/Language Arts Education (221)

In a continued effort to fill critical shortage areas, the OSRHE also tracks science and math education majors participating in Inspired to Teach. The program currently has:

- 52 Mathematics Education Majors
- 19 Science Education Majors (General)
- 17 Biology Education Majors
- 9 Chemistry Education Majors
- 3 Earth Science Education Major
- 2 Physics Education Major
- 1 Natural Sciences Education Major

There are also 154 Special Education majors currently enrolled in Inspired to Teach, as well as 25 Foreign Language Education majors, and 202 Pre-Education majors. The OSRHE will continue to monitor declared

major trends for a better understanding of the program's impact on resolving the teacher shortage crisis in Oklahoma.

OSRHE staff continues to vigorously promote public awareness to increase the enrollment in the Inspired to Teach program. Continued outreach with key stakeholders and a robust marketing campaign have served to grow the program substantially in its first two years. OSRHE staff will continue these efforts to increase public awareness, program enrollment and participation, and the ultimate goal of resolving the Oklahoma teacher shortage.

Supplement available upon request.

June 27, 2024

# **AGENDA ITEM #23-b (2):**

**Annual Reports.** 

**SUBJECT:** Acknowledge receipt of the Teacher Education Annual Report on Systemwide Review.

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Regents acknowledge receipt of the Teacher Education Annual Report on Systemwide Review.

Research shows that good teaching matters. Knowledgeable teachers who know the art of teaching and use it to motivate students have a great influence on students' intent to work toward postsecondary education. Oklahoma educator preparation programs (EPPs) work to graduate effective practitioners for this very purpose – to affect positive student outcomes.

The value of comprehensive teacher preparation in Oklahoma is reflected in the appropriate content, pedagogical knowledge, dispositions, clinical practice, instructional strategies and skills taught by EPPs. Additionally, EPPs hold their teacher education students to a high standard, exemplified in their ability to produce effective practitioners for P-12 schools. According to the Office of Educational Quality and Accountability (OEQA), Teacher Leader Effectiveness (TLE) data indicates that candidates, who complete their teacher education degrees from Oklahoma public institutions of higher education, are evaluated as more effective or higher in their practice than those teacher candidates who do not.

Legislation supports an Oklahoma teacher induction program for novice teachers that provides support, mentorship and coaching to educators at the beginning of their careers, or as they transition to new roles within a school or district. Teacher education faculty members have opportunities to serve on induction committees, helping novice teachers enhance their professional growth and practice. Additionally, teacher education faculty members partner with school districts, sharing their level of expertise with P-12 faculty and students. Their involvement is crucial with the development of new state standards and assessments.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The State Regents initiated teacher education reform efforts in the summer of 1992 with an External Program Review. The 10-member team conducting the review was charged with assessing the status of teacher preparation in the State System and making recommendations for its enhancement. The team submitted 23 recommendations to establish the state of Oklahoma as a national leader in teacher preparation. The State Regents monitored the implementation of the recommendations with periodic status reports.

In 1995, two members of the original External Team, Chairman J.T. Sandefur and Dr. Larry Clark, returned to the state to visit the system's 12 teacher preparation programs for the purpose of assessing the continuing progress of the institutions in responding to the 23 recommendations. The external reviewers affirmed that the universities were working seriously and conscientiously to comply with the recommendations and that

all had made significant progress. The team recommended that the State Regents formally close the three-year teacher education study with the exception of submitting an annual report.

During the 1995 External Team visit, the number of recommendations to be addressed in the annual report was reduced to 15. In 2002, based on the progress of State System institutions and the fact that many of the recommendations are monitored through other processes, the State Regents further reduced the number of recommendations subject to reporting from 15 to 7.

In April 2010, the number of recommendations were further reduced to 6, after the State Regents Academic Affairs Committee reviewed the GPA requirements for teacher education students and felt this recommendation was properly addressed in practice. Oklahoma public institutions with teacher education programs require that teacher candidates have, among other requirements, a minimum 2.5 GPA in all their coursework (including upper division courses) before successfully exiting a program.

In 2018, further review of the recommendations by the Academic Affairs Committee, along with subsequent meetings with the Office of Educational Quality and Accountability (OEQA), led to modification of the criteria to be addressed in Recommendation 3, Academic Preparation in Elementary Education. Due to the changing accountability measures for EPPs and their ongoing efforts to improve their programs for students, the criteria for this recommendation were modified to address academic preparation for all of their programs. It is important for EPPs to show how data drive programmatic changes to facilitate more effective teaching and learning outcomes for their students.

Similarly, in 2024, the criteria in Recommendation 6, Collaboration with Faculty in Arts and Sciences, were modified to instead focus on reading instruction, a growing area of concern by OEQA and the State Regents. EPPs now report on the results of the assessment of teaching skills in the area of reading instruction as administered to candidates in elementary, early childhood education, and special education programs.

The first annual report was presented to the State Regents at the May 29, 1998 meeting. This, the 26<sup>th</sup> annual report, covers the 2022-2023 academic year and contains a summary of findings for each recommendation. To facilitate reporting efforts, the State Regents' annual reporting requirements are merged with those of the OEQA in order to streamline the reporting from the institutions. In an effort to further improve reporting measures from the institutions, a continual review will be conducted by these agencies in collaboration with higher education deans.

# **POLICY ISSUES:**

As noted above, the information and actions described in this report are consistent with the State Regents' teacher education initiative, the Academic Planning/Resource Allocation (APRA) effort, and the State Regents' commitment to efficiency and excellence.

# **ANALYSIS:**

Over 30 years have passed since the 1992 external review team offered its recommendations to enhance teacher education and position Oklahoma as a national leader in teacher preparation. Since this time, the Associate Vice Chancellor for Teacher Preparation and Special Programs meets regularly with teacher education deans across the State System to maintain the gains in the quality of teacher education programs. Some general findings about the previous year's compiled reports are provided below.

• Graduate programs are still examined for rigor and support. In 2022-2023, EPPs conditionally admitted 56 teacher education graduate students, up from 38 in 2021-2022, but still down from 88 in 2020-2021 and 90 the year prior (2019-2020). Those graduate students who moved forward in

their respective programs completed the required remediation to meet admission requirements. Of the 12 institutions that have EPPs, almost half of them either no longer admit graduate students conditionally, or they do not have graduate programs.

• The 12 universities constantly examine individual program requirements. For 2022-2023, EPPs have continued to align their curricula and assessments with the Interstate Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (InTASC) standards, programmatic standards, Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) standards, as well as the Oklahoma Academic Standards (OAS). EPPs have also focused heavily upon streamlining assessments in an effort to generate quality data for program improvement. One major change that has occurred across all EPPs is the elimination of the Oklahoma General Education Test and the adjustment of the GPA requirement to 2.75, both of which became effective Fall 2022.

Additionally, the colleges are continuing to focus on content knowledge instruction and assessment strategies for teacher candidates. Emphasis is placed on areas such as organizing, collecting, evaluating and monitoring data; providing coursework and clinical experiences that highlight diverse learners, English language learners, and learners with varying abilities; and providing workshops and trainings that support content and pedagogical needs as well as success on certification assessments. Other program changes driven by data analysis include the incorporation of more rigorous and diverse practicum experiences, curriculum changes to better prepare candidates to meet P-12 needs, as well as a focus on instructional strategies for classroom management, math and reading.

Overall, EPPs are using data to streamline course effectiveness and adjust key assessments, preparing pre-service teacher candidates to implement research based instructional strategies for the classroom, improve their abilities to effectively teach diverse student populations, and emphasize professional growth that impacts student learning.

ePPs report continued investment in instructional technology in varying amounts for a variety of needs, ranging from computers and software to technological accessories (i.e. software licenses, instructional subscriptions, lab supplies, etc.) and video/visual/audio equipment (i.e. instructional digital displays, mics, digital cameras, webcams, etc.). The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the importance of effective use of technology in EPPs for academic and instructional use. A number of universities reported purchases of repairs, replacements and upgrades to technological equipment such as computers, printers, laptops, and other hardware. Additionally, investments were made in wireless and fiber optic networks to help facilitate improved connectivity for instruction. Institutions conduct mandatory equipment, software, and infrastructure maintenance and continue to use items such as iPads, Microsoft Tablets, SMART Boards/Tables, lab equipment for instructional technology, and other interactive technology.

Additionally, new technologies have been integrated into institutions to help improve instruction and inform pre-service teachers how to model effective use of technology in K-12 classrooms. Such technology includes the use of touch displays, sensor technology, video observation software to support distance learning, Swivl recorders, Coding Kits, Zoom, and Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies. Some institutions upgraded network infrastructures and included cyber security mechanisms to assist with the protection of their network and operating systems. Emphasis is placed on instructional and technical support, as well as general maintenance which includes funding for IT Support and Technology Specialists.

- Faculty members at all 12 universities report a variety of methods of attaining appropriate professional development. Many participated in college-sponsored activities, as well as attended and presented at local, state and national conferences. Professional development reflected a strong focus on instructional strategies, content knowledge, teaching methodologies, research, and technology. Additionally, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education policy directs that each faculty member spend a minimum of ten clock hours per academic year in the public schools to meaningfully interact with P-12 students, teachers, and administrators.
- EPPs report strong instructional practices in reading and literacy instruction. They use the latest research and evidence-based practices in their courses to equip pre-service teachers with the appropriate resources, tools, and strategies to deliver effective reading and literacy instruction to P-12 learners. Teacher candidates must take the Oklahoma Subject Area Test which includes a reading assessment. Several institutions report 100 percent pass rates on these assessments.

Supplement available upon request.

# **AGENDA ITEM #25:**

# **Proposed Executive Session.**

**SUBJECT:** 

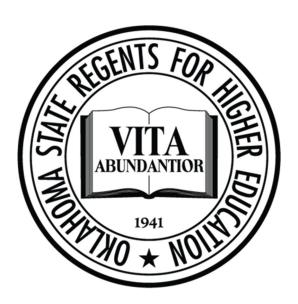
Possible discussion and vote to enter into executive session pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(4) for confidential communications between the board and its attorney(s) concerning: (1) Black Emergency Response Team, et al. v. Drummond, et al., Case No. 5:21-cv-01022-G in the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma; and (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), 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

# **MINUTES**

# **Eight Hundred and Thirty-Eighth Meeting**



#### OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

## Minutes of the Eight Hundred and Thirty-Eighth Meeting May 31, 2024

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#### OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

# Minutes of the Eight Hundred and Thirty-Eighth Meeting of the

#### **Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education**

May 31, 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 9:00 a.m. on Friday, May 31, 2024, at the State Regents Office in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Notice of the meeting had been filed with the Secretary of State on Wednesday, September 12, 2023. 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 9:00 a.m. and presided. Present for the meeting were State Regents Jack Sherry, Dennis Casey, Steven W. Taylor, Michael C. Turpen, Jeffrey W. Hickman, Phillip Mitchell "Mitch" Adwon, Ken Levit and Courtney Warmington. Regent Dustin J. Hilliary was absent.
- 3. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS.** Regent Turpen moved, seconded by Regent Casey, to approve the minutes of the State Regents' meetings in April 2024. Voting for the motion were Regents Sherry, Casey, Taylor, Turpen, Hickman, Adwon, and Warmington. Voting against the motion were none.
- 4. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR. Chair Sherry welcomed new State Regent Ken Levit. He also expressed gratitude to the Legislature and Governor for their investments in addressing deferred maintenance needs at our college and university campuses and for addressing rising property insurance premiums. Additionally, he thanked them for fully funding the Inspired to Teach program and providing concurrent enrollment tuition waivers for participating high school juniors and seniors.

- 5. COMMENTS FROM THE CHANCELLOR. Chancellor Garrett announced the appointment of several new presidents: Diana Watkins as president of Northern Oklahoma College, Mark Rasor as interim president of Rogers State University, and Jeri Askins as interim president of Cameron University. She acknowledged President John McArthur of Cameron University, who is retiring in July, for his dedicated service. Chancellor Garrett also discussed the challenges with the implementation of the new federal FAFSA form and mentioned that there will be additional messaging to address these issues. She played a video created by President Diana Lovell at Southwestern Oklahoma State University to promote FAFSA completion. Additionally, she announced that preliminary reports indicate a very promising increase in enrollment for the fall.
- 6. **STATE REGENT.** Administration of Oath of Office. Chair Sherry extended a warm welcome to Justice Yvonne Kauger from the Oklahoma Supreme Court, expressing gratitude for her presence and participation in administering the oath of office to Ken Levit. Furthermore, Chair Sherry introduced Ken Levit, who was recently appointed and confirmed as a State Regent, acknowledging his new role. Subsequently, Justice Kauger proceeded to administer the official oath of office to Regent Ken Levit.
- 7. CHANCELLOR HANS BRISCH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AWARDS. Presentation of selections for Chancellor's Scholars for the 2024 academic year. This year, Gracey E. Coffelt of Locust Grove High School, Aaron David Mauk, of Coalgate High School and Samuel Keaston Gonzalez of Walters High School were chosen as the Chancellor Hans Brisch Scholars. Voting for the motion were Regents Casey, Taylor, Turpen, Hickman, Adwon, Levit, Warmington and Sherry. Voting against the motion were none.
- 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. Brad Griffith, Associate Vice Chancellor of Innovation, introduced the recipients. They include:
  - The Oklahoma Online Excellence Award for Open Education Impact The Rose 20193

- State College Writing Committee.
- The Oklahoma Online Excellence Award for Accessibility the University of Central Oklahoma Digital Accessibility Coalition (DAC) led by Darren Denham.
- The Oklahoma Online Excellence Award for Teaching Dr. Susmita Hazra, assistant professor at Cameron University.
- The Oklahoma Online Excellence Award for Individual Leadership Dr. Melissa Brevetti, coordinator for teacher education programs for the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.
- The Oklahoma Online Excellence Award for Team Leadership The CACE (Carl Albert State College, Connors State College, and Eastern Oklahoma State College)
   Educational Partnership.
- The Oklahoma Online Excellence Award for Innovation Oklahoma State University's College of Arts and Sciences (OSU CAS) Outreach Team

Regent Taylor moved, seconded by Regent Hickman, to approve the awards. Voting for the motion were Regents Casey, Taylor, Turpen, Hickman, Adwon, Levit, Warmington and Sherry. Voting against the motion were none.

- 9. **E&G BUDGET.** Regent Turpen moved, seconded by Regent Adwon, to approve the allocation of state appropriated operating funds for FY25 appropriations in an amount that totals \$1,023,746,221, as presented in the following schedules. It was also recommended that the State Regents approve \$56.25 million for capital deferred maintenance projects for FY25. Voting for the motion were Regents Taylor, Turpen, Hickman, Adwon, Levit, Warmington, Sherry and Casey. Voting against the motion were none.
- 9.1. **GRANT.** Regent Hickman moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to approve the conditional acceptance of the FAFSA Student Support Strategy Grant in the amount of \$100,000 from the U.S. Department of Education, in partnership with Educational Credit Management Corporation. Under this grant agreement, OCAP, in partnership with Communications and Scholarship Administration, will implement a two-part outreach strategy. OCAP and Communications will run a digital FAFSA completion campaign using social media and

video ads targeting recent high school graduates and influential adults. OCAP and Scholarship Administration will also distribute sub-grants to state schools to support local FAFSA completion events for students and parents. Voting for the motion were Regents Turpen, Hickman, Adwon, Levit, Warmington, Sherry, Casey and Taylor. Voting against the motion were none.

#### 10. TUITION.

- a. Regent Hickman moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to approve the FY2025 Tuition and Mandatory Fee Principles and Guidelines. Voting for the motion were Regents Hickman, Adwon, Levit, Warmington, Sherry, Casey, Taylor and Turpen. Voting against the motion were none.
- b. Regent Hickman moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to approve request from the University of Central Oklahoma to approve an exception to policy to waive specific fees for online and in-person delivery of concurrent enrollment classes beginning with the Fall 2024 semester. The University of Central Oklahoma will offer online concurrent enrollment classes starting Fall 2024. This expansion will provide high-quality, accessible courses to high school juniors and seniors, helping them graduate faster and lower their college costs. UCO estimates the cost of these waivers to be \$75,000 at current enrollment levels. Voting for the motion were Regents Adwon, Levit, Warmington, Sherry, Casey, Taylor, Turpen and Hickman. Voting against the motion were none.

#### 11. CONTRACTS AND PURCHASES.

- a, Regent Hickman moved, seconded by Regent Adwon, to approve contracts exceeding \$100,000 for FY24. Voting for the motion were Regents Levit, Warmington, Sherry, Casey, Taylor, Turpen, Hickman and Adwon. Voting against the motion were none.
- b. Regent Hickman moved, seconded by Regent Adwon, to approve contracts exceeding \$100,000 for FY25. Voting for the motion were Regents Warmington,

Sherry, Casey, Turpen, Hickman, Adwon and Levit. Regent Taylor abstained from the AT&T portion of the item. Voting against the motion were none.

12. **INVESTENTS.** Regent Taylor announced that the Investment Committee met with consultants from Mercer but had not action items to bring forward.

#### 13. **NEW PROGRAM.**

- a. The University of Oklahoma.
  - (1) Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Hickman, to approve the request from the University of Oklahoma to offer the Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence. No institution protested the proposal within the 45-day protest period. Voting for the motion were Regents Sherry, Casey, Taylor, Turpen, Hickman, Adwon, and Warmington. Voting against the motion were none. Regent Levit abstained.
  - (2) Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Hickman, to approve the request from the University of Oklahoma to offer the Bachelor of Science in Software Development and Integration. 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. Voting for the motion were Regents Casey, Taylor, Turpen, Hickman, Adwon, Levit, Warmington and Sherry. Voting against the motion were none.
- b. Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Hickman, to approve the request from Oklahoma State University to offer the Master of Science in Counseling Psychology. No institution protested the proposal within the 45-day protest period. Voting for the motion were Regents Taylor, Turpen, Hickman, Adwon, Levit, Warmington, Sherry and Casey. Voting against the motion were none.

- c. Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Hickman, to approve the request from Northeastern State University to offer the Bachelor of Science in Sport/Recreation Management. 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. Voting for the motion were Regents Turpen, Hickman, Adwon, Levit, Warmington, Sherry, Casey and Taylor. Voting against the motion were none.
- d. Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Turpen, to approve the request from Rose State College to offer the Associate in Science in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Technology. No institution protested the proposal within the 45-day protest period. Voting for the motion were Regents Hickman, Adwon, Levit, Warmington, Sherry, Casey, Taylor and Turpen. Voting against the motion were none.
- e. Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Turpen, to approve the request from Redlands Community College to offer the Associate in Science in Computer Science. 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. Voting for the motion were Regents Adwon, Levit, Warmington, Sherry, Casey, Taylor, Turpen and Hickman. Voting against the motion were none.
- f. Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Hickman, to approve the request from Southwestern Oklahoma State University to offer the Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence. No institution protested the proposal within the 45-day protest period. Voting for the motion were Regents Levit, Warmington, Sherry, Casey, Taylor, Turpen, Hickman and Adwon. Voting against the motion were none.
- 14. **PROGRAM DELETIONS.** Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Turpen, to approve requests from the University of Oklahoma to delete the Bachelor of Microbiology 20197

in Microbiology; from Northeastern Oklahoma A& College to delete the Associate in Arts in Natural Resource Ecology and Management, the Associate in Arts in Native American Studies, the Associate in Arts in Speech and Theatre, the Certificate in Natural Resource Ecology Management and the Certificate in Natural Resource Ecology Management; from Southwestern Oklahoma State University to delete the Bachelor of Science in Public Health; and from Western Oklahoma State College to delete the Associate in Applied Science in Military Studies. Voting for the motion were Regents Warmington, Sherry, Casey, Taylor, Turpen, Hickman, Adwon and Levit. Voting against the motion were none.

- 15. **GRANT.** Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Turpen, to approve a modification to the Interagency Agreement for the Administration of Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools Funds and the proposed GEER II program allocations. Southern Nazarene University (SNU) has opted out of receiving funds for Teacher Micro-Credentials due to their inability to meet course requirements. As a result, these funds will be reallocated to Oklahoma Panhandle State University (OPSU). Initially, OPSU had requested additional funds for scholarships but were informed that none were available. With SNU's withdrawal, OPSU will now receive an extra \$52,480, increasing their total funding for Teacher Micro-Credentials to \$62,976. Voting for the motion were Regents Sherry, Casey, Taylor, Turpen, Hickman, Adwon, Levit and Warmington. Voting against the motion were none.
- 16. SCHOLARS FOR EXCELLENC E IN CHILDCARE. Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Turpen, to approve the Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness contract in the amount of \$110,000. Starting May 1, 2024, financial support for child care providers in the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care program dropped from covering 100% of tuition and fees to 90%. The Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness will cover the 10% gap through December 30, 2024, with the option to extend funding for two more grant cycles until December 30, 2026. This partnership ensures that scholarship participants can still receive free education to pursue their child care credentials. Voting for the motion were Regents Taylor, Turpen, Hickman, Adwon, Levit, Warmington, Casey and Sherry.

Voting against the motion were none.

- 17. **STATE AUTHORIZATION.** Regent Casey moved, seconded by Regent Turpen, to approve requests for re-authorization from 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. After reviewing the applications and required documentation, State Regents' staff determined that these institutions meet re-authorization requirements under policy for the 2024-25 academic year. Voting for the motion were Regents Turpen, Hickman, Adwon, Levit, Warmington, Casey, Sherry and Taylor. Voting against the motion were none.
- 18. **POLICY.** Regent Warmington moved, seconded by Regent Hickman, to approve a new policy section (5.19) establishing the Amanda Winge Study Abroad Scholarship. The Amanda Winge Study Abroad Scholarship provides additional financial support to undergraduate students from Oklahoma's public regional universities who are chosen to study as Brad Henry International Scholars at the University of Wales in Swansea each spring. The scholarship was started with private funds and the fund's corpus continues to grow with support from family and friends. To date, over \$10,900 has been received in donations for the scholarship fund. Voting for the motion were Regents Hickman, Adwon, Levit, Warmington, Casey, Sherry, Taylor and Turpen. Voting against the motion were none.
- 19. **COMMENDATIONS.** Regent Turpen moved, seconded by Regent Taylor, to recognize State Regents' staff for service and recognition on state and national projects. Voting for the motion were Regents Hickman, Levit, Warmington, Casey, Sherry, Taylor, Turpen and Adwon. Voting against the motion were none.
- 20. **CONSENT DOCKET.** Regent Adwon moved, seconded by Regent Turpen, 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.
  - (1) Ratification of purchases exceeding \$25,000.
  - (2) Personnel. Ratification of personnel appointments.

Voting for the motion were Regents Levit, Warmington, Casey, Sherry, Taylor, Turpen, Adwon and Hickman. Voting against the motion were none.

- 21. **REPORTS.** Regent Turpen moved, seconded by Regent Warmington, to acknowledge receipt of the Reports.
  - a. Programs. Acknowledge receipt of the Current Status Report on program requests.
  - b. Annual Reports.
    - (1) Acknowledge receipt of the Faculty Advisory Council Annual Report.
    - (2) Acknowledge receipt of the Chiropractic Education Scholarship Program Year-End Report.
    - (3) Acknowledge receipt of the William P. Willis Scholarship Year-End Report.
    - (4) Acknowledge receipt of the Policy Exception Quarterly Report.

Voting for the motion were Regents Warmington, Casey, Sherry, Taylor, Turpen, Adwon, Hickman and Levit. Voting against the motion were none.

#### 22. 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.
- 23. **PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Mr. Matt Stangl, General Counsel for the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, advised State Regents that an executive session was not needed.
- 24. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING.** Chair Sherry announced that 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. **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

Thursday, May 30, 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 Thursday, May 30, 2024 at the State Regents Office in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Notice of the meeting had been filed with the Secretary of State on Wednesday, September 12, 2023. 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 10:30 a.m. and presided. Present for the meeting were State Regents Jack Sherry, Dennis Casey, Steven W. Taylor, Michael C. Turpen, Phillip Mitchell "Mitch" Adwon, and Courtney Warmington. Regents Jeffrey W. Hickman, Dustin J. Hilliary and Ken Levit were absent.

#### 3. STATE SYSTEM INSTITUIONS.

NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY. President Rodney Hanley of Northeastern a. State University (NSU) provided an update on various aspects of the university, including enrollment, the College of Optometry, and student demographics. He highlighted the progress on the College of Optometry's new multimillion-dollar building, which is set to open in the summer of 2025. President Hanley also discussed NSU's efforts to align with Blueprint 2030, emphasizing collaboration with local businesses to meet workforce demands. With funding from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, NSU is developing a mechanical engineering program and using state funds to retain faculty in critical occupation programs. The university is enhancing workforce connections across all programs and engaging with stakeholders to strengthen these ties. NSU is increasing the number of embedded and stand-alone certificates across its academic programs, with plans to expand from 35 certificates to 50 by the end of the upcoming academic year. To improve student retention and graduation rates, NSU conducts assessments of student support services through educational benchmarking. The university is also developing an enrollment strategic plan to enhance recruitment and retention initiatives. In terms of concurrent enrollment, NSU has devised a plan to encourage concurrent students to enroll as full-time students upon high school graduation. The Provost and Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management have started meeting with high schools to expand concurrent offerings. NSU is also developing and offering certificates to high school students and has begun offering concurrent enrollment courses online.

Regent Jeffrey W. Hickman entered the meeting at 11:13 a.m.

b. **CONNORS STATE COLLEGE.** President Ron Ramming of Connors State College (CSC) provided an update on the institution's composition, enrollment, and retention activities. CSC has experienced notable growth in its nursing program, a key area of

expansion. Additionally, the Scholars Program, which supports students in the Child Development Program, has also seen increased enrollment. President Ramming highlighted the rise in their concurrent enrollment program and the significant growth of the Early College program with Muskogee High School. He also detailed CSC's collaboration with correctional facilities, specifically the Jess Dunn Correctional Center near Muskogee and the Eddie Warrior Correctional Center for women in Taft. The program targets inmates who are likely to be released within five years of enrolling in coursework, providing them with educational opportunities to aid their reintegration into society. Regent Warmington inquired about the eligibility of students in correctional facilities for Pell grants, to which President Ramming confirmed their eligibility through the Second Chance Pell program. He also mentioned that faculty members engage in face-to-face classes with these incarcerated students, ensuring they receive direct, personal instruction. Overall, CSC is making significant strides in expanding educational opportunities, both within the traditional student body and through innovative programs aimed at nontraditional students, such as those in correctional facilities. These efforts reflect the institution's commitment to broadening access to education and supporting student needs. Furthermore, President Ramming discussed CSC's participation in shared services through the OSU A&M Board of Regents, as well as collaborations with entities outside the A&M family of support services.

4. INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS. President Kayla Hale of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma (USAO) and President Jena Marr of Redlands Community College (RCC) provided an update on their partnership, which began in September 2022. President Marr highlighted the success of their shared services in several areas, including Academic Affairs, Enrollment Management, Network Security, Canvas Specialist, Webmaster, and Printing Services. The partnership has facilitated various program collaborations, such as the implementation of an AA to BA pathway in Education and a certificate in Film Studies at RCC that leads to a BA in Digital Media & Technology at USAO. Additionally, they have launched a reverse transfer initiative that allows former USAO students with 64 or more college credit hours to earn an Associate of Arts degree from RCC. President Hale specifically mentioned the significant contribution of Kim Winters from RCC, who has excelled as the Canvas Specialist, designing the electronic framework for instructors. She also expressed gratitude to Chancellor Garrett and the OSRHE staff for their support in implementing these initiatives. Regent Hickman inquired whether USAO and RCC are collaborating to encourage local district teachers to pursue advanced degrees, which would enhance the ability to offer concurrent enrollment in high schools. Both President Hale and Marr indicated that their institutions have pursued this effort.

**LUNCH.** The Regents took a brief recess at 12:00 p.m. for lunch. The State Regents meeting reconvened at 12:25 p.m., and Chair Jack Sherry called the meeting to order and presided. Present for the meeting were State Regents Jack Sherry, Jeffrey W. Hickman, Steven W. Taylor, Michael C. Turpen, Phillip Mitchell "Mitch" Adwon, Dennis Casey, and Courtney Warmington.

#### 5. **BLUEPRINT 2030.**

a. **PRIORITY 1 AND 2 STRATEGIES.** Dr. Kylie Smith, Vice Chancellor for Administration, provided an update on the progress of Priorities 1 and 2 of Blueprint 2030. She highlighted several areas of success, including the development, promotion, and

advertisement of well-defined career pathways in critical workforce sectors through the statewide nursing articulation agreement with CareerTech. Additionally, efforts have been made to remove policy barriers that hinder state system colleges and universities from pursuing academic programs aligned with workforce needs. Other achievements include the creation of a new funding formula and the establishment of the Business and Employer Advisory Council. Further successes include implementation of FAFSA completion as a high school graduation requirement, the concurrent enrollment working group, the increase in micro-credential offerings through the UpskillOK initiative, and the implementation of dashboards. Dr. Smith noted that while significant progress has been made, the completion of many strategies outlined in Blueprint 2030 will take several years.

- b. CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT. Dr. Stephanie Beauchamp, Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, discussed the benefits of concurrent enrollment, highlighting its remarkable growth. Over the past five years, participation in concurrent enrollment has surged by an impressive 37%. In the 2022-2023 academic year, high school students attempted 161,173 concurrent enrollment credit hours, with nearly 92% of those hours successfully completed. Dr. Beauchamp outlined several key priorities for concurrent enrollment, focusing on increasing participation, ensuring quality, and maintaining affordability. Efforts to achieve these priorities include adjusting GPA admission criteria, revising policies, and redefining credit hour allocations. Additional measures are being taken to address quality and affordability concerns including an incentive system for State allocations. As the staff moves forward, the next steps for policy changes include drafting new policies, undergoing a legal office review, obtaining the Chancellor's review, securing approval from the Council on Instruction and the Council of Presidents, and ultimately receiving Regents' approval. The Regents discussed the benefits of moving forward and also expressed concern about sustainability of funding, rigor, and lowering admission standards for the program.
- c. GEOGRAPHIC SERVICE AREAS. Chancellor Garrett gave an update on the use of geographic service areas in the State System of Higher Education. She noted the absence of clear national trends regarding geographic service areas (GSA). She praised the strong collaboration between two-year and four-year institutions in the state. Chancellor Garrett reviewed existing statutes, particularly those pertaining to Tulsa, and highlighted that Langston University is specifically mentioned in 70 O.S. §§ 4666 and 4667, which constitute the "Statewide Plan for Langston University" established by the Legislature in December 1998, which is still in effect. She also shared the current service area maps that have been formalized in policy since 1994. Chancellor Garrett suggested three possible changes to policy: exempting online courses from GSA restrictions, addressing unmet local needs, and aligning GSAs for higher education with those of CareerTech districts, which currently do not match. She also highlighted GSA considerations for concurrent enrollment. Chancellor Garrett asked the Regents for direction moving forward. The Regents instructed the Chancellor to proceed with the three recommended steps and to consider removing the GSA maps from policy. Matt Stangl, General Counsel, emphasized to the Regents that the statewide "Langston Plan" must always be taken into account during discussions that could impact Langston University's position in Tulsa.

**BREAK.** The Regents took a brief recess at 2:05 p.m. The State Regents meeting reconvened at 2:15 p.m., and Chair Jack Sherry called the meeting to order and presided. Present for the meeting were State Regents Jack Sherry, Steven W. Taylor, Michael C. Turpen, Phillip Mitchell "Mitch" Adwon, Dennis Casey. Regent Warmington did not return. Regent Hickman re-entered the meeting at 2:18 p.m.

- 6. **BUDGET REPORT AND REVENUE UPDATE.** Mark Tygret, Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance, presented the Regents with an update on the budget. Tygret announced that the final appropriated operating funds for FY25 appropriations will be \$1,023,746,221, of which \$56.25 million is for deferred maintenance projects for FY25. Senate Bill 1185 also mandates the submission of plan for projects by May 31, 2024. Fiscal will submit a broad view of a plan for allocations to be approved by the Regents.
- 7. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.** Dr. Jarrett Jobe, Vice Chancellor for Government Relations, provided the Regents with an update on legislative proceedings. Dr. Jobe announced that all higher education legislative priority bills were passed and signed by the governor. An unexpected bill, HB 4157 related to the Oklahoma's Promise funding mechanism, was passed and sent to the governor. This bill would change the allocation of funds process, requiring funding to go through the budgetary process once again instead of being automatically allocated off-the-top as has been the practice for over ten years. This could be problematic for the program in lean budget years.
- 8. **PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Matt Stangl, General Counsel, indicated that an executive session is not needed at this time.
- 9. **"BEST OF HIGHER EDUCATION."** Regents received the update on institutional activities via e-mail on May 28, 2024.
- 10. **CALENDAR OF EVENTS.** The calendar of events was distributed in written form to the Regents.
- 11. **ADJOURN.** With no other items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTECT.

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