

Campus Safety and Security Task Force

MINUTES

Wednesday, June 5, 2024, 1:00 p.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Chancellor Allison Garrett welcomed members and guests Kelly Vongnarath, Carl Albert State College; Diana Watkins, Northern Oklahoma College; Ron Ramming, Connors State College; Chad Wiginton, Western Oklahoma State College; Mike Fike, Oklahoma Department of Public Safety; Norman Nieves, University of Central Oklahoma; Aaron Collins, Metro Technology Centers; Bo Hannaford, Northwestern Oklahoma State University; Kendra Brown, Southwestern Oklahoma State University; Curtis Stewart, Langston University; Joe Batt, Rogers State University; Eli Zucksworth, Redlands Community College; Scott LaPlant, Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City; John DeBoard, Cameron University; Jeana Rae Conn, Rogers State University; Mike Zozula, Eastern Oklahoma State College; Rick Koontz, University of Oklahoma – Tulsa; Laura Hutchison, Oklahoma Panhandle State University; Monica Trevino, University of Science & Arts of Oklahoma; Bert Miller, East Central University and Angela Caddell, Jarrett Jobe and Emelia Ross, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 3, 2024 MEETING MINUTES: Chancellor Garrett asked task force members to review the minutes of the April 3, 2024 meeting. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Dr. Jarrett Jobe, OSRHE Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations, updated the task force on outcomes of the 2024 legislative session. He highlighted the passage of key bills addressing scholarships for students with intellectual disabilities, deferred maintenance on college and university campuses, and funding for concurrent enrollment, teacher education scholarships and employment incentives, and property insurance cost relief. He also confirmed that no changes were made to law pertaining to weapons on campus.

PROTECTOK INITIATIVE: Mike Fike, Director of the Threat Response Preparedness Division for the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety, outlined the free ProtectOK safety app, which allows Oklahomans to easily and anonymously report suspicious activity to law enforcement and offers several personal safety features. ProtectOK is a program of the “See Something, Say Something” campaign of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Fike asked members to encourage students, personnel and the communities they serve to download and use the app.

Fike also explained that DPS offers free services for campus teams, including training courses, drill exercises, and emergency responder training, as well as four mobile units equipped to provide Run, Hide, Fight training, which are available for campus use. Curtis Stewart noted that Langston University’s police department is also equipped to offer Run, Hide, Fight training for campuses. Angela Caddell said she would share the ProtectOK resources and contact information for Fike and Stewart with the task force and campus presidents.

CASE STUDY: CAMPUS LOCKDOWN EXERCISE: Norman Nieves, Director of Emergency Management at the University of Central Oklahoma, provided a case study of a UCO campus lockdown exercise conducted in September 2023. The purpose of the exercise was to test UCO’s lockdown/shelter-in-place procedures and engage students, faculty, staff, and visitors to practice those procedures. Nieves outlined the communication procedures and the exercise

evaluators, which included representatives from the city offices for Edmond, Midwest City, and Oklahoma City, as well as from Edmond Public Schools, the Oklahoma City-County Health Department, Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma City Community College, various UCO departments, and Veoci, a partner service provider. Nieves shared successes and lessons learned, noting UCO estimates an 80% participation rate from faculty, staff, students, and visitors.

FY25 TASK FORCE MEETING DATES: Members were asked to review the meeting dates for the coming fiscal year. Caddell said a Zoom option would be available for each meeting.

OPEN DISCUSSION: Caddell said that a meeting of the Campus Emergency Managers Consortium would be held in late June at UCO, and that all campuses were encouraged to participate. She also asked members to reach out if they can offer a campus case study for a future task force meeting.

WRAP UP AND COMMENTS: Garrett thanked members for their attendance. She said the next task force meeting would be held Sept. 11 in the conference room or via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 2:08 p.m.