

# MEETING OF THE COUNCIL ON STUDENT AFFAIRS

**Dr. Douglas Hallenbeck, Chair, Presiding**  
**Via Zoom Video**  
**January 13, 2022**

## MINUTES

### **1. Welcome and Introductions – Douglas Hallenbeck**

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. Debbie Blanke introduced our special guest, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Chancellor Allison D. Garrett. Dr. Garrett expressed her appreciation of the work Student Affairs personnel does to support Oklahoma students.

### **2. Approval of December 9, 2021 Minutes – Douglas Hallenbeck**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes were approved as written.

## COUNCIL BUSINESS

### **3. 2021-2022 COSA Work Plan – Douglas Hallenbeck**

Doug reminded the council of work plan items that have been completed and those still needing attention. He mentioned the mental health working group and asked for additional volunteers. Doug asked the council to share any speakers they may know of for future COSA meetings. Doug advised there are five Oklahoma institutions participating in the Second-Chance Pell Initiative. Debbie Blanke mentioned the Lantern program with the Department of Corrections is seeking educational partners. This program is designed for incarcerated individuals to increase educational opportunities with the use of a secure tablet. Chancellor Garrett advised the council OSRHE General Counsel is working with DOC to create a template agreement to share with institutions.

### **4. COSA Working Group OSRHE Fiscal Policy Adjustment Discussion – Debbie Blanke**

Debbie asked Brandon Hill (ECU) to discuss the student refund policy he mentioned at the January COSA meeting. Brandon shared a graph and explained the federal government and OSRHE conflicting tuition and aid policies regarding the amount a student may owe if they drop out. Students at public institutions that receive large Pell grants or loans are the ones impacted. Brandon would like COSA to form a working group to put practices in place to help students make fully informed decisions. The group will need to include financial aid personnel, as well as members of the OSRHE Finance Committee. Jerrett Phillips (CU), Lance Newbold (RSC) and Joshua Busby (LU) volunteered for this working group. Doug Hallenbeck (OSU) said this is a valuable conversation to have with student affairs, business office and financial aid personnel. Brandon asked the council to email him if this is a problem at their institution.

## **5. Student Leadership Retreat Update – Lindsay Echols**

Lindsay advised the council that the Student Leadership Retreat will be postponed until the fall of 2022 due to increased COVID cases. The SLR planning committee will determine the new date and an announcement will be made in the future. Lindsay reminded the council to donate their favorite leadership book and to write a personal message and their contact information inside. These books will be used as student prizes during the retreat.

## **6. State Regents' Update – Debbie Blanke**

- Debbie asked if COSA would like to continue to meet via Zoom for the February and March meetings. Brandon asked if the next meeting will be February 10, 2022 since the February 11<sup>th</sup> Student Leadership Retreat has been canceled. A motion was made and passed. The next meeting will be held via Zoom on Thursday, February 10, 2022.
- Higher Ed Day at the Capitol will be February 15, 2022. More details to come.
- Representative Daniel Pae plans to propose legislation for a pilot program, the Hunger Free Campus Act, and will partner with the Regional Food Bank and the State Regents. The State System would receive a \$200,000 grant to be dispersed per pilot site and the funds used for emergency aid, staffing, operations of a food pantry, etc. Requirements would also include an annual student survey on hunger, operation of a food pantry, SNAP benefits promotion and meal-sharing programs with food service vendors.
- ARPA update – The health care proposal has been submitted. The committee is working on teacher ed and online education.
- The Reach Higher Lunch & Learn series will continue this spring and fall. Please watch for the RFP for case study/group learning sessions.
- The Micro-Credential Kick Off will be held virtual on February 16, 2022. Twenty institutions have registered.
- The Coach Connect administrator meeting will be held virtual on January 27, 2022, from 10 am – noon. Registration is required.

Debbie asked the council how institutions handle student speaker stipends. Lindsay mentioned upcoming convenings that will have student speakers. She is wanting to give the speakers a \$50 stipend. Lindsay asked the council to share how they are able to apply funds to students. Joshua Busby said Langston is able to apply funds as a pass through.

Jerrett Phillips (CU) asked Debbie if the tuition waiver cap pilot program that is scheduled to expire this summer will be extended. Debbie said she will check with Sheri Mauck and get back with him.

## **7. Announcements – Douglas Hallenbeck**

- Michael McClendon (TU) announced he is no longer interim and has been named the permanent Dean of Students.
- Jakob Harmon, OSGA President, announced the SGA Presidents Retreat has been cancelled due to increased COVID cases. He will provide Spring Congress information at the February 10<sup>th</sup> COSA meeting.

## **8. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

### **Upcoming Events of Interest to the Council**

- February 15, 2022 – Higher Ed Day at the Capitol, Oklahoma City
- February 16, 2022 – Micro-Credential Kickoff Event, Virtual