

**Minutes of the
Economic Development Council
Meeting**

September 11, 2012
Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

Members present:

Arun Tilak, CU (via-video); Nina Ritchie, CASC (via video); Ryan Blanton, CSC; Rick Wetherill, ECU; Janet Wansick, EOSC; Linda Tillman, LU; Cecil Carter, MSC; Sheri Snyder, NOC; Greg Gardner, OCCC; Diane Murphey, OPSU, (via-video); Jeri Koehler, RSU; Stan Greil, RSC; Lisa Palmer, TCC, (via-phone); Erik Guzik, USAO; Jason Morrison, WOSC

Guests present:

Anita Gordy-Watkins, OSU-IT; Robin Roberts Krieger, OSU-OKC; Renee Williams, OU; Jessika Leatherbury, ODOC; Steven Price, OSU; Daniel Pullin, OU; Connie Lake and Renae Brill, OSRHE staff.

1. Welcome and Introductions of all members and guests

Chairperson Greg Gardner called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. Introductions were made and guests were welcomed.

2. Approval of May 7, 2012 EDC meeting minutes

Upon a motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the minutes of the May 7, 2012, meeting of the Economic Development Council were approved as presented.

3. Best Practice Presentation: Virtual Problem Solving, by Erik Guzik, USAO

Mr. Guzik shared with the EDC that in 2011, the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma piloted a new learning program called MindLink with 12 Oklahoma A+ Schools and 200 USAO students. The purpose of the pilot was to develop a new type of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to help promote and assess the 21st century skills of program participants. Pilot students worked as teams on a variety of projects during the year, engaging in a new type of inquiry- or project- based learning. Submitted work was evaluated for creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, and decision- making abilities.

4. Main Topic: Integration of Corporate Engagement, Tech Transfer, and Business Incubation presented by

a. Daniel Pullin, University Vice President for Strategic Planning and Economic Development, University of Oklahoma

Mr. Pullin with the OU discussed the functions and responsibilities of the Strategic Planning and Economic Development (SPED) division at OU. SPED has 500 plus jobs in the private sector, 300 plus in the government, and the university research area has 900 plus jobs. Mr. Pullin stated that the relationship management is engaging corporations individually, assessing needs and providing

c) Sheri Snyder, NOC

8. OSRHE update and Commerce update by Connie Lake

Ms. Lake shared with the Council about the Economic Development and Making Place Matter conference. Tony Hutchison will be talking to the Presidents council. Tony has run the idea by Chancellor and he really seemed to like it.

Ms. Lake also shared with the Council about the Economic Impact Study. The State Regents are working with the State Chamber who has commissioned this report in partnership with the Business Roundtable and the Oklahoma Department of commerce as well at the State Regents. The State Regents are expecting to be wrapped up by the end of October.

Ms. Lake mentioned the Senator Ford Hearing on the value of certificates. They are working with the OACC (Oklahoma Association Community College) to increase the value of certificates by our community colleges in the Complete College America.

Ms. Lake updated the council on the recent change of her position. Ms. Lake will now be working with the Department of Commerce.

Ms. Lake shared with the council the Legislative Forum will be taking place on September 14th at the Heritage Center in Oklahoma City.

9. Bring Successes! Be prepared to share in two minutes what is happening at your institution

Rick Wetherill – ECU is working with sixth graders to develop entrepreneurship skills, starting with the development of a business plan, including buying materials and building their own lemonade stand. There will be a competition to sell the most lemonade at one of ECU’s football games. Meanwhile, Ada’s Arts District recording studio has started a songwriter performance circle for \$20 a year. Also, the Vintage 22 (bar) in the Arts District has joined with Red Earth Art Supply, a business in the ECU incubator, for “Cocktails and Canvas”. So for \$40 a month you can have cocktails and create a painting.

Mark Kinders – UCO is at their second highest enrollment of 17,200 students. UCO has teams competing at the U.S. Paralympics in London. UCO is a national training site for the Paralympics. Related to this, UCO honored Senator Inhofe with UCO’s first ever Guardian Angel Award for providing funding for the Paralympics program. On September 25, UCO will be kicking off there foundation campaign. Next week, UCO begins the process of the seven year strategic plan. UCO’s Jazz lab has been recognized by the Oklahoman as the best place for Live Jazz and Blues in the metro area.

Linda Tillman – LU is finishing up the farmers market for the grand opening up in October. LU has been approached by the Daily Oklahoman to do a story on the Indian Meridian Marker that LU has been renovating.

Erik Guzik – USAO just completed a wellness center for their students. USAO is also undertaking a feasibility study for a number of new initiatives, including a new type of incubator called ORIK (Oklahoma Rural Innovation Center).

Jeri Koehler – RSU’s enrollment is the highest it has ever been. RSU has two conferences happening this fall. The first one is the Regional Summit on October 30-31 for more information you can go to neokregion.org and the second one is the Oklahoma Gardening Conference on November 15th at RSU.

Stan Greil – RSC is the sponsor of Honor Flights Oklahoma and is sending about a hundred WWII Veterans on their ninth flight to Washington, D.C. On October 6, RSC will host the Global Oklahoma featuring Haiti.

Janet Wansick – EOSC’s has completed renovations on the campus dorms. EOSC will be hosting a Career and Tour Fair on October 25th. If any EDC members have anything unique at their campuses or businesses that you would like to have as a part of the Fair, please contact Janet about booth space.

Robin Roberts Krieger – OSU-OKC’s first-time full-time enrollment is up. OSU-OKC will be breaking ground on a new parking garage hopefully in January. The new daycare center opened on August 6th.

Renee Williams – OU’s graduation rate is up 68% and the full-time freshman enrollment is at an all-time high. OU is currently working on applying for a National Science Foundation grant of \$2 million. The purpose of the grant is to provide STEM training and workshops for ninth through twelve graders in the public school systems in Oklahoma, but would also benefit teachers. The Aviation Festival will be held in Norman at Max Wertheimer Airport, starting at 9 a.m. Saturday, and it is free. Starting on October 4, the Oklahoma, Oil and Gas expo will be held at the State Fairgrounds.

Anita Gordy-Watkins – OSU-IT’s new president started in November of 2011. They have hired a new VP of Business, VP of Academics, and Director of Marketing. OSU-IT will kick off an International Leadership and Faculty Development Institute this fall.

Jason Morrison – WOSC will be breaking ground on the new agriculture building in the coming months.

Diane Murphey – For the past four years, OPSU has increased their Hispanic enrollment from 8% to 15%. Joe Beaver did a roping school at OPSU with 60 participants. OPSU upward bound grant was renewed for five years for \$1.3 million.

Sheri Snyder – NOC has launched their energy savings plan; the total project is \$7.5 million project. NOC had a check presentation from OMPA for the Tonkawa campus where they received a DEET (demand energy efficiency program) rebate check for \$36,789 for lighting upgrades. Next Friday, NOC will host a launch party for their branding identity and rebranding campaign. So look for the logo and tag line.

Cecil Carter – MSC had a ribbon cutting a couple weeks ago.

10. New Business

11. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.