

**Minutes of the  
Economic Development Council  
Meeting**

November 11, 2013

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

Members present:

Arun Tilak, CU; Kathy Harrell, CASC; Rick Wetherill, ECU; Janet Wansick, EOSC; Cecil Carter, MSC; Sheri Snyder, NOC; Steve Bloomberg, OCCC; Diane Murphey, OPSU, (via-video); Arlie Schroder RCC; Stan Greil, RSC; Kathy Hendrick, SOSU, (via-video); Mark Kinder, UCO

Guests present:

Anita Gordy-Watkins, OSUIT; Mackenzie Britt, OU; Kurt Foreman, OKC Chamber; Drew Dugan, OKC Chamber; Elisa Milburn, OKC Chamber; Vikki Dearing, ODOC; Tony Hutchison, Connie Lake and Renae Brill, OSRHE staff.

**1. Welcome and Introductions of all members and guests**

Chairperson Rick Wetherill called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Introductions were made and guests were welcomed.

**2. Approval of October 8, 2013 EDC meeting minutes**

Upon a motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the minutes of the October 8, 2013, meeting of the Economic Development Council were approved as presented.

**3. Main Topic: Internship Program, Kurt Foreman & Dew Dugan, OKC Chamber**

Mr. Dugan shared with the Council information about the OKC Chamber Internship program. Additionally, he shared the OKC Chamber's Education Division functions: administering the OKC Greater Grads program, promoting education legislative policy, and working closely with the State Regents.

Mr. Foreman provided the Council a few handouts of the chamber's 2013 project pipeline, recent accolades and labor market information. Mr. Foreman shared with the Council information about the OKC Chamber economic development team and what they do at the chamber. Mr. Foreman stated that his team focuses on entrepreneurship, innovation, business recruitment, business retention, and business expansion. He also highlighted many OKC success stories.

**4. 2013-14 EDC Priorities**

**a. EDC Internship Program, Rick Wetherill, committee chair**

Mr. Wetherill stated that the internship program committee was not able to meet and will have something for the next EDC meeting.

b. **Economic Development Reporting Template, Arun Tilak, committee chair**  
Mr. Tilak shared with the council that a survey was sent out to the Council and hopes of getting input back by early December.

c. **Regents Business Partnership Excellence Award ceremony and reception, Sheri Snyder, Committee Chair**

Ms. Snyder shared with the council a walkthrough of the on line registration process of the Regents Business Partnership Excellence Award (REPEA). Ms. Brill handed out letters with pin numbers and a copy of instructions for the online registration. December 11, 2013 will be the deadline for registration. The event will be held at the Oklahoma History Center on March 11, 2014 from 11 am to 1 pm.

**5. OSRHE update by Tony Hutchison**

Mr. Hutchison shared with the council the State Regents' legislative agenda and annual budget request.

**6. Commerce update by Connie Lake**

Ms. Lake shared with the Council that the Department of Commerce (John Chiappe) is working on compiling assets in the state as they relate to the economic ecosystems. Mr. Chiappe has asked higher education institutions to provide information on research, workforce or centers of excellence that relate to economic ecosystems. Ms. Lake went over the RBPEA information with the council and re-stated the December 11, 2013 deadline. Ms. Lake shared with the council feedback about a project she worked with the Department of Commerce. Project Snow which is a health care company project out of Nashville that wants to realign their Human Resource functions. They were creating 200 jobs at an average wage of \$52,000 with an investment of \$10 million. Kansas, Missouri, Utah, Tennessee and two communities out of Oklahoma were among those in the running for the project. Although Oklahoma should have won the project, but lost it based on emotional factors that were out of our control. Ms. Lake also shared that the Georgia Higher Education System has contacted her about the OKHigherEdConnect.org because they would like to duplicate it.

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

Janet Wansick - EOSC reported that the 8<sup>th</sup> grade College and Career Expo had 32 schools attend around the state of Oklahoma with a total of 1,158 students and approximately 50 businesses attended the Expo. The Homecoming Alumni dinner recognized young alumnus and entrepreneur from Marlow, OK.

Arun Tilak, CU partnered with the Oklahoma Small Business Development Center who hosted a Veterans Entrepreneur Conference on November 6, 2013 at CU. A CETES client won first place at a business plan competition at the Entrepreneurial Bootcamp for Veterans and Military Families National Conference held in Dallas. The winner gets \$25,000; the program is run by Syracuse University. CETES has registered to be a partner of Global Entrepreneurship Week-USA and will be organizing events during the Global

Entrepreneurship week which is November 18-24, 2013. Also, CETES has recently opened a co-working space in the Incubator.

Rick Wetherill - ECU is participating in the USDA's four-county community development program called SET (Stronger Economies Together). Thanks, to ECU's School of Business, ECU has a new fundraising venture in which all our schools and colleges can participate-Silver Tigers. For a modest donation that goes to a designated school or college, an alum, faculty, staff, or student with a 25-year affiliation with ECU can become a Silver Tiger and receive a medallion. There is also an option for "Future Silver Tigers". The Ada Chamber of Commerce has hired a Community Development Manager. ECU's new Business and Conference Center is keeping really busy.

Mark Kinders - UCO's Oklahoma Civic Health Index research team of faculty and staff were awarded the 2013 Oklahoma Campus Compact Award. UCO partners with the National Conference on Citizenship every other year to complete a comprehensive survey of civic engagement by Oklahoma Families. The report shows increasing engagement, but the state still ranks 30<sup>th</sup> in the nation for families discussing politics and public policy, 47<sup>th</sup> in voter turnout, and 20<sup>th</sup> in volunteerism. UCO has numerous quality of life events going on throughout the metro area. One recognition of that contribution came to KCSC classical radio host Kimberly Powell. She was recognized with a Governor's Arts Award in part for her statewide broadcast program "Performance Oklahoma." It features music performances by OSRHE institutions from across the state as well as OKC Philharmonic, OK Mozart International Festival, the Armstrong Auditorium series, Brightmusic, Chamber Music in Oklahoma, and Canterbury Choral Society.

Kathy Harrell - CASC's Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Jim Yates has resigned effective December 31, 2013 and Dr. Harrell will assume some of the duties. CASC is continuing with the research on the Medical Laboratory Tech program; they plan to have it ready for the Regents by March.

Jeri Koehler - RSU will be launching Dream Big Oklahoma for 2014 next Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at the Oklahoma Creativity Forum. Dream Big is based on a national award winning competition out of Iowa. RSU is an educational sponsor for the Creativity Forum, and as a sponsor, they are taking RSU students to the event. RSU's business incubator is full and the businesses are creating full-time, high-wage salaried positions.

Diane Murphey - OPSU's Programming Team took 3<sup>rd</sup> place overall in the Association of Information Technology Region 3 Conference recently held in Oklahoma City. There were 300 college students from 19 universities in Mississippi, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, and New Mexico competing in the computer contests. OPSU brought home six awards: 1<sup>st</sup> place - Security Assurance, 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Security Assurance, 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Networking Competencies, 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Web Application Development, 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Penetration Testing/Hacking, Honorable Mention - MS Office Integration. The Team is currently preparing to compete in the National AITP contest in Atlanta, GA in April, 2014.

Cecil Carter - MSC; Back in 2002 the EDC asked about Continuing Education Classes at each of the institutions. Mr. Carter checked and discovered that MSC had none that year. MSC now successfully offers about 40 continuing ed classes each year.

Mackenzie Britt - OU was designated as an Innovation and Economic Prosperity (IEP) University by the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU). This is the first year for the designation and places them among only 16 universities nationwide who received it, including Ohio State, Michigan, Missouri, Georgia, Washington State, and SUNY. Mr. Britt also shared that the OU Research Campus (in Norman) was named the Association of University Research Parks (AURP) Research Park of the Year. Here's a link to the Research Park of the year video: <http://urc.ou.edu/video/>

Stan Greil - RSC hosted a writer's workshop and this brought in national acclaimed writers and agents. RSC will host Cyber Patriot Competition for the 4<sup>th</sup> year.

Steve Bloomberg - OCCC is finalizing negotiations on a new 30,000 sq. ft. facility. OCCC just signed an agreement with Pearson Education.

Arlie Schoder - RCC had a student that was interning at USDA and has been asked to present at the NSF National conferences.

**8. New Business**

**9. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.