

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL ON STUDENT AFFAIRS
Regents' Conference Room
655 Research Parkway

Joshua Busby, Chair, Presiding
April 13, 2023
10:00 a.m.

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introductions – Joshua Busby

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

2. Approval of March 9, 2023 Minutes – Joshua Busby

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

INFORMATION OF INTEREST TO THE COUNCIL

3. Legislative Update – Dr. Jarrett Jobe, Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations, OSRHE

Jarrett advised the council there are approximately six weeks left in the legislative session. He mentioned the following bills:

- SB93 (requiring FAFSA completion) passed out of the house committee 9-0. The bill will be heard on the house floor next week.
- SB550 (standards for private and out-of-state institutions) passed out of the house committee 9-0 and passed the Senate floor 43-1. This will help with consumer protection.
- Senate bills 316, 415 and 416 (institutions maintain funds from selling assets of property) passed through committee this week and should get through the House floor next week.
- HB2559 (Inspire to Teach scholarship) passed through the House committee.
- HB2885 (National Guard tuition and fees from last year) passed the House and Senate floors unanimously this week.

Jarrett said there is no legislation specifically targeting higher education institutions regarding guns on campus. The State Regents are partnering with the Greater OKC Chamber (collaborating with hospitals and businesses) on limiting any changes in the current law.

Jarrett said common education is the focus with HB2775 teacher pay raise and HB1935 school voucher. The State Regents have asked for an 11% increase, \$104 million dollars. Jarrett said appropriation meetings in the Senate have stalled until the common education and budgetary request is developed and determined. The amount of money given to common education will determine what is available for higher education and other state agencies.

Jarrett thanked the council for participating in Oklahoma's Promise Day at the state Capitol to show appreciation to the governor, Legislature and state Board of Equalization for their ongoing support of the scholarship program. He said Representative Cyndi Munson, Senator John Michael Montgomery and Mike Jackson, executive director of the Legislative Office of Fiscal

Transparency, are all Oklahoma Promise alumni and that they shared their personal stories with students to make sure the Oklahoma Promise message continues.

Chairman Joshua Busby asked if resolutions in support of maintaining the current law regarding weapons on campus are still being requested. Jarrett said they are accepting resolutions if they can be received in the next week. The legislative team received many resolutions and campus police, local police agencies and groups are helping with the message that they oppose legislation to allow more guns on campus.

Joshua asked Jarrett if he could give an update on the overall budget. Jarrett mentioned Panasonic and Volkswagen chose not to build manufacturing plants in Oklahoma and that April 15, 2023, is the deadline for the incentive funds to be spent, which is two days from now. These funds will be returned to the general revenue fund after that date. Jarrett said Governor Stitt has asked for more support and that means the legislature would need to allocate more dollars. Jarrett said he does not think asking for more dollars would be received positive due to the nature of current budget conversations. He said he has been told by both chairs that the higher education budget will not remain flat and additional dollars will be received.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

4. Update COSA Bylaws – Joshua Busby

Joshua reminded the council of the request from OSRHE Communications Department to update the COSA bylaws. Upon motion duly made and seconded, removal of the language North Central Association from the COSA bylaws was approved as written.

5. COSA Workplan Discussion – Joshua Busby

Joshua asked for volunteers to develop a new workplan and to have a draft available by the June 8th COSA meeting. The following council members will serve on this committee:

Liz McCraw, Southeastern Oklahoma State University

Dr. Jerrett Phillips, Cameron University

Dr. Doug Hallenbeck, Oklahoma State University

Dr. Jason K. Johnson, Oklahoma City Community College

Monica Trevino, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma

Michael McClendan (TU) asked if a working draft can be emailed to the council prior to the June 8th COSA meeting. Joshua said the draft will be emailed as soon as it is available. Liz McCraw (SEOSU) asked the council to email items they want included in the new workplan to any of the committee members, Debbie Myrick or Lindsay Echols.

6. State Regents' Update – Dr. Robert Placido, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, OSRHE

- Robert thanked Dr. Brandon Hill and Mary Meeks for inviting him to the East Central University military veteran event.
- Robert said he has been reviewing the Academic Affairs section of the OSRHE Policy and Procedures Manual at the request of Chancellor Garrett. He shared the process of streamlining the policy manual and anticipates completion by the summer.

- Robert said the State Regents are in the process of submitting a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a scholarship management system and an event management system, as well as automating the academic program approval process through Smartsheet. He also explained Chat GPT, an artificial intelligence tool, and gave a demonstration. He is hoping a subcommittee of the working group will be able to set up a Chat GPT specifically for student training materials, i.e., code of conduct, academic course catalog, etc. This would allow a student to access the Chat GPT and find answers for specific questions. Robert advised the council that nominations for the working group are still being accepted and to contact Lindsay if they are interested in participating.

Joshua thanked Robert for his efforts in reviewing the policy manual and the automation of program approvals.

7. Affinity Groups – Joshua Busby

Joshua spoke about restarting the Affinity Groups. These various discussion groups were created in 2021. He said facilitators are still needed for specific topics. Lindsay will email the council the Affinity Group information.

8. Announcements – Joshua Busby

- Lindsay shared that six institutions will be awarded the matching Hunger-Free Campus grants of \$26,667. She said the State Regents will vote and formal letters will be sent to the recipients. A kickoff celebration will be held in the future.

Kristin Partridge asked if OU's food pantry needs to be doing anything in particular to be considered for funds in the future. Lindsay said to continue the great work they are currently doing. She said the State Regents are looking at other funding opportunities that could possibly be open to research entities in the future. Robert clarified the State Regents will be looking at funds to be used statewide. He would also like to see funds for students who mature out of the foster care system.

- Joshua advised COSA does not meet in the month of May. The next meeting will be June 8, 2023. He would like to start a new annual tradition of the council gathering for lunch after the June meeting. More information will be emailed regarding the logistics of this meeting.
- Joshua mentioned the annual National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) conference was held last week in Boston, MA. He said Oklahoma was very well represented. He reminded the council he will be the regional conference chair of the NASPA IV West Regional Conference in Oklahoma City at the Sheraton Oklahoma City Downtown Hotel November 6-8, 2023. The planning team still needs a local chair who is based in Oklahoma City. Joshua mentioned Dr. Robert Goltra, III, (RSU) is the Oklahoma membership chair. Joshua said a local committee can be established with an Oklahoma-based team. Joshua asked Jerrid Freeman to speak on his experience as a past regional director. Jerrid said this conference is a good gateway for new professionals to make connections. Ina Agnew (OSUIT), Doug Hallenbeck (OSU), Christopher Lynch (UCO) and Monica Trevino (USAO) volunteered to help where needed.

- June 8th COSA Meeting Presentation: Beyond Therapy Walls: A Holistic Approach to Student Mental Health at Two Small Universities
Dr. Kimberly Blea, Dean of Students, New Mexico Highlands University
Dr. Michael McClendon, Dean of Students, University of Tulsa
- Joshua invited council members to share their presentations at future COSA meetings.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 11:14 am.

Upcoming Events of Interest to the Council

- April 21, 2023 – Oklahoma Student Government Association Spring Congress, Oklahoma State Capitol
- June 21, 2023 – Breaking Barriers, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Summit, Oklahoma City Community College
- October 17, 2023 – 2023 Oklahoma Statewide Transfer Student Success Conference, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
- November 6-8, 2023 – NASPA IV West Regional Conference, Oklahoma City
- November 7, 2023 – 2023 Campus Safety & Security Summit, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond