

# OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Research Park, Oklahoma City

## MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE

Thursday, May 28, 2015

1. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF FILING OF MEETING NOTICE AND POSTING OF THE AGENDA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETING ACT.** The Committee-of-the-Whole met at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 28, 2015, in the Regents Conference Room at the State Regents' offices in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Notice of the meeting was filed with the Secretary of State on October 10, 2014. A copy of the agenda had been posted as required by the Open Meeting Act.
2. **CALL TO ORDER.** Participating in the meeting were Regents Toney Stricklin, Ron White, Jody Parker, Ann Holloway, Ike Glass and Jimmy Harrel. Regent Stricklin called the meeting to order and presided.
3. **EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Mr. Robert Anthony, General Counsel for the Oklahoma State Regents' for Higher Education, advised Regents that there was not a need to go into executive session.
4. **COMPLETE COLLEGE AMERICA.** Chancellor Glen Johnson stated that all institutions have been asked to give a brief presentation on their 2014-2015 Institutional Degree Completion plans at the spring 2015 Committee-of-the-Whole meetings. The institutions presenting at the May meeting were: Northeastern State University, Langston University, Northern Oklahoma College and Western Oklahoma State College.
  - a. Northeastern State University (NSU). President Steve Turner gave a brief presentation on NSU's Complete College America (CCA) initiatives. President Turner began by stating that NSU kicked off the CCA initiative in March 2012 with a one-day forum with NSU employees to discuss how to improve internal processes without additional revenue to enhance services to students. One of the ideas produced was the "I Complete" program. This program eliminates impediments for students such as, parking fines on their record prohibiting them from enrolling for the next semester. Another effort is the "NSU Destination 2023," a ten-year roadmap to meeting CCA's degree completion goals. This program focuses on investing and maintaining facilities, anticipating regional population trends, expanding international student recruitment strategies, increasing funding for scholarships and providing intrusive advisement. President Turner finished by stating that NSU is part of a real solution for struggling students.
  - b. Langston University (LU). President Kent Smith gave a brief presentation on LU's CCA initiatives. President Smith began by stating that to meet their CCA goals, LU has been working on better understanding their student needs, reviewing institutional practices, redefining the university brand, and updating the recruitment process with an online application and a cell phone application. President Smith stated that currently, one-third of the applications they receive are submitted via cell phone. In 2015, LU received over 10,000 college applications, the highest ever in the history of the university, as well as the highest freshman class of 629 students. President Smith finished by stating that LU is also working on early assessment strategies, modifications to math coursework and how students remediate and updating their mission statement to include degree completion.

- c. Northern Oklahoma College (NOC). President Cheryl Evans gave a brief presentation on NOC's CCA initiatives. President Evans began by stating that NOC has been working on updating their mission and unifying the university branding. NOC is Oklahoma's oldest college and is a land grant institution with three campuses in Tonkawa, Enid and Stillwater. NOC was chosen as one of the top 150 community colleges in the nation by The Aspen Institute and also ranked #2 in the nation by SmartAsset for their graduation and transfer rates. President Evans stated that NOC has 42 degree options and partners with Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Oklahoma State University, high schools and career technology centers. NOC has an increased emphasis on remediation, intrusive academic advising, enhanced advisor training and promotion of reverse transfer. President Evans finished by stating that NOC's CCA goal is to add an additional 21 degrees each year and they are right on track to meet that goal.
- d. Western Oklahoma State College (WOSC). President Phil Birdine gave a brief presentation on WOSC's CCA initiatives. President Birdine began by stating that WOSC is focused on improving math outcomes, investigating the need for adult education, working on remediation strategies with revised courses and alternative formats, and working one-on-one with students who need remedial courses. WOSC is also focused on increasing the number of students in both their Nursing and Aviation programs by building cooperative agreements with technology centers, identifying the Reach Higher target population, reviewing all online classes and improving retention rates.

5. **ACADEMIC STANDARDS.** Dr. Bill Radke, Executive Director of Oklahoma Standards Steering Committee, gave a brief update on the Oklahoma academic standards. Dr. Radke began by stating that the steering committee composition is a broad representation of the state including state agencies, parents and teachers. The committee has created their "Guiding Assumptions" to lead the group, including the assumption that the standards must meet the mandates of HB 3399 and must have certain characteristics and outcomes. The committee created two groups, English and math, and the members of each group were appointed by Superintendent Joy Hofmeister and Chancellor Johnson. Each group should have their first draft of the standards completed by June 2015.

Dr. Radke stated that so far, the English group has created eight overarching standards: 1) speaking and listening, 2) reading process/writing process, 3) vocabulary, 4) critical reading/critical writing, 5) language, 6) research, 7) multiple literacies, and 8) independent reading /independent writing. Individual standards will then be created for each grade level building upon these. The math group is still working on their report and will be submitted in June.

Dr. Radke stated that the stakeholder groups include the PTA and other parent organizations, teacher organizations, the Legislature, the Governor's Office, the Oklahoma State Department of Education and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE). The first draft of the standards will be available in June for the stakeholders to review and the second draft will be available July 7<sup>th</sup> for review at the EngageOK conference.

6. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.** Chancellor Johnson stated that it was a very good legislative session and he distributed the general appropriations bill. The OSRHE received a 3.5 percent cut overall but did receive the \$8.6 million debt service funds bringing the total cut to 2.4 percent.

Ms. Hollye Hunt, Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations, stated that the only remaining legislation regarding higher education was HB 2180 dealing with Oklahoma's Promise and it has been sent to the Conference Committee on Higher Education and CareerTech.

Ms. Hunt also announced that the Distinguished Service Award for Senator Don Barrington will be held on June 12, 2015 at Cameron University and for Senator Mike Schulz at the Quartz Mountain Resort and Conference Center the same day.

7. **BUDGET.** Ms. Amanda Paliotta, Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance, Information Technology, Telecommunications, and OneNet, provided Regents with an overview of the higher education appropriation for FY2016. Ms. Paliotta reviewed the allocations and stated that they closely align with the legislative appropriation. She noted one change regarding the OSRHE's longstanding commitment to Langston University (LU) to give \$2 million each year to build their endowment to \$30 million. Last year, LU only needed \$880,000 to reach the \$30 million goal and this year that money has been reallocated to concurrent enrollment, the Oklahoma Tuition Aid Grant Program and the Oklahoma Tuition Equalization Program (OTEG).

Ms. Paliotta also stated that the OSRHE has \$3 million in one-time funds that is being allocated to concurrent enrollment, Summer Academies, OTEG, Higher Education Telecommunication User Fees, National Guard Tuition Waiver, The University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma's mission enhancement plan, Quartz Mountain and Academic Library databases.

8. **ANNUAL REPORT.** Ms. Angela Caddell, Associate Vice Chancellor for Communications, gave a brief update on the 2014 Annual Report. The report contains an overview of public higher education, the OSRHE public agenda, key initiatives and outlines programs and services in several areas. The report also includes a profile for every public higher education institution in the state and lists some of the most popular fields of study. Ms. Caddell stated that the report also details the cost of tuition and mandatory fees for Oklahoma institutions and shows Oklahoma ranking third lowest for average student cost at a public four-year institution in the nation.

## 9. **TASKFORCE REPORTS.**

- a. **Online Education Task Force.** Dr. Blake Sonobe gave a brief update on the work of the State Regents' Online Education Task Force. Dr. Sonobe stated that at the next meeting the committee will be reviewing the request to participate in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement.

Dr. Sonobe also stated that an RFP has been sent out for online education consulting services to create a faculty development program for online education. This consultant would help the OSRHE create the program and identify low cost or no cost resources for students, for example low cost text books.

- b. **State Regents' Campus Safety and Security Task Force.** Ms. Caddell, gave a brief update on the work of the State Regents' Campus Safety and Security Task Force. Ms. Caddell stated that in July, the State Regents will sponsor a mental health first aid instructor training resulting in a national certification. The training is sponsored by the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and is five day training at no cost.

Additionally, Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City will host a Title IX Training for Campus Professionals on June 2-4, 2015. This training will be a three-day boot camp covering the Clery Act, student conduct, Title IX investigations and will be CLEET accredited.

10. **“BEST OF HIGHER EDUCATION” REPORT.** Regents received the May 2015 update on institutional activities.

**11. CALENDAR OF EVENTS.** Chancellor Johnson discussed several upcoming events this spring:

June 4, 2015 – Employee Recognition Event – 3:30 p.m. – Jim Thorpe Museum and Conference Center

June 24, 2015 – State Regents Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting – 10:30 a.m. at State Regent’s Office in Oklahoma City.

June 25, 2015 – State Regents Regular Meeting – 9 a.m. at the State Regent’s Office in Oklahoma City.

June 25, 2015 – Online Education Task Force – 11:30 a.m. at the State Regent’s Office in Oklahoma City.

No State Regent’s Meetings in July or August.

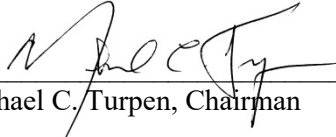
September 2, 2015 – State Regents Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting – 10:30 a.m. at State Regent’s Office in Oklahoma City.

September 3, 2015 – State Regents Regular Meeting – 9 a.m. at the State Regent’s Office in Oklahoma City.

September 3, 2015 – Online Education Task Force – 11:30 a.m. at the State Regent’s Office in Oklahoma City.

**12. ADJOURNMENT.** With no other items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

  
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Michael C. Turpen, Chairman

  
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Toney Strickland, Secretary