

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

**Lance Newbold, Chair, Presiding**  
**December 14, 2023**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**MINUTES**

**1. Welcome and Introductions** – Lance Newbold

Chair Newbold called the meeting to order at 10 am and welcomed new COSA member Jeana Rae Conn, JD, Interim Vice President of Student Affairs, Rogers State University.

**2. Approval of November 8, 2023 Minutes** – Lance Newbold

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

**INFORMATION OF INTEREST TO THE COUNCIL**

**3. Concurrent Enrollment Update** - Angel Icenhour, Director of Concurrent Enrollment Programs, OSRHE

Angel reported the Concurrent Enrollment Committee groups met on December 11, 2023. She gave a brief update of a few topics discussed during the subcommittee meetings to include current Oklahoma practices aligning with the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) standards. How to increase student support was discussed with the possibility of extending the course withdrawal period for students who need to elect out of a class, recommendations to lower the GPA for admission purposes, and including high school sophomores in the concurrent enrollment program. The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) updates were discussed to potentially offer a coach mentor model. Institutions will need to ensure their policies and practices handbooks support this model. The next committee meeting is scheduled for January 3, 2024. Chair Newbold thanked Angel and mentioned Rose State College has seen the amount of concurrent enrollment students increase over the years.

**COUNCIL BUSINESS**

**4. Student Leadership Retreat Update** – Lindsay Echols, Executive Director of Campus Compact and Director of Student Affairs, OSRHE

Lindsay reminded the council the Student Leadership Retreat will be held Thursday, February 29, 2024, at Oklahoma City Community College and the online registration link is open. She encouraged the council to start registering themselves and their students. She said she shared this information at the Council of Presidents meeting yesterday.

Lindsay recently attended the Complete College of America annual convening and attended a session on internships. This gave her an idea to incorporate an internship fair at the SLR. She said a few Oklahoma companies could be invited to present a workshop by sharing internship opportunities, or possibly setting up tables during lunch for students to visit employers, and also offer student resume assistance, etc. She asked the council to let her know if they would like to add this to the event. Kristin Partridge (OU) said students are showing a general terror with the word “career”. She feels internships are critical and more accessible. Brandon Hill (ECU) said he feels not many students would arrive with a prepared resume. He suggested a workshop on the steps to take in the next two months if they are close to graduating. Matt Ingram (TU) said his students would be very interested and getting a resume critique from someone in the industry would be beneficial. Liz McCraw (SEOSU) would like to focus on freshman and sophomores who may not have a full resume to be critiqued. She would be interested in providing an opportunity to tell students what to include on a resume. Jerrett D. Phillips (CU) echoed Liz’s suggestion of focusing on younger students and also including the employer connection because students can affirm what is academically desired and expected from a certain employer. Lance Newbold (RSC) asked what the likelihood would be of students submitting resumes in advance to be reviewed and get quality feedback in that amount of time. Lindsay said she can create a portal for students to submit their resume and then schedule those students with reviewers. Wendy Yoder (SWOSU) would like the workshops separated into student affairs professionals for beginners, internships for beginners, and having hiring professionals host a workshop for those closer to graduation so students can leave with a business card or point of contact.

Lindsay reminded the council the SLR workshop proposal information will be emailed no later than January 12, 2024, with a due date of February 1, 2024. She encouraged the council to forward this to their staff. She would also love to see peer-to-peer facilitation from student groups involved in student development, etc. Lindsay said there will be a legislative panel with Jarrett Jobe, OSRHE Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations, and Halli Humphrey, OSGA President, facilitating student questions to legislators.

Lindsay reminded the council the dress code is casual, school pride, t-shirts and jeans so the students are comfortable moving throughout the day, as some students may not have business professional attire. We want all students to feel welcome.

#### **5. Oklahoma Student Advisory/Government Association Update – Lindsay Echols, Executive Director of Campus Compact and Director of Student Affairs, OSRHE**

Lindsay said there will be a new student government group created, as OSRHE cannot legally advise OSGA as the current language is written. She asked the council to send names of staff that are involved with Student Government Association on their campus that would be willing to help advise how to form this new group of student government to Debbie Myrick (OSRHE). Lindsay would like representation from research, private, regional and 2-year institutions. She said proposals will be sent to Dr. Placido (OSRHE), council members, and then Chancellor Garrett will give the final approval. The new student government group will ultimately comprise of SGA presidents from each institution.

She said the most recent OSGA Fall Congress was much more successful than in past years with approximately 130 students attending.

## **6. Transcript Holds and Developmental Course Policy Changes** – Dr. Robert Placido, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, OSRHE

Robert stressed he could not give legal advice today. He asked the council to speak with their cabinets as to how their legal departments are interpreting these policy changes. The Biden-Harris Administration released two significant changes that will be effective July 1, 2024:

- Institutions can no longer hold student transcripts for credits paid for with federal aid.
- Institutions must, by program, release information to students about the return on investment for a particular degree.

Robert asked the council to provide thoughts on how these policy changes will be handled at their institutions. Liz McCraw (SEOSU) asked if the State Regents would be putting out any best practices or recommendations how an institution is to move forward on the gainful employment or return on investment piece before they get too deep in creating them at individual campuses. Robert said he will let the Chancellor know there is a request for guidance documents. Calleb Mosburg (NWOSU) asked about retention practices with students who have an account balance owed and walk out the door. He asked if he should try to retain that student because they will be “school hopping”. He also said retention practices may need to look at students with a certain dollar amount owed to allow them to enroll in the next semester. Calleb also mentioned those with enrollment management duties are under pressure to maintain retention rates at a high rate and graduate students. Eunice Tarver (TCC) said they have pulled a group of key stake holders that are responsible for each piece of the report, i.e., financial aid, bursar, academic affairs, and institutional research, to see which parts of the report can really be completed from their current data. She said she is waiting for clarification on how many years back they have to go for this data. Eunice said Mackenzie Wilfong, TCC General Counsel, has done an excellent job interpreting and guiding staff on this policy. She provided a link in the chat [Gainful Employment & Financial Responsibility](#) to a video clip that breaks down the gainful employment report.

Robert mentioned the change in policy that occurred this summer to eliminate remedial education. He clarified corequisite and supplemental instruction are still in the policy for students that are not ready to start college, but this does not mean adult basic education. He mentioned recently attending a session at the Complete College America conference where a state put an end to their remedial courses. He said the data showed the longer outcome was students completed classes but never went on to earn credit in the subject or a credential of value.

He shared Council on Instruction’s concerns were community colleges do this pretty well in Oklahoma. He pulled the data and it showed Oklahoma was a few points worse (15) than the National data (17). The assumption with the policy change was that the correct corequisite supplemental instruction move has been within the last seven years, but old processes were being maintained in large scale. Many universities needed more time for this change, therefore, the policy will be implemented by Fall of 2025.

Jerrid Freeman said NSU shifted to at least 50% of classes using the corequisite model and set standards on where students test. He asked if the population of students that test low or do not have high school grades to test into the regular curriculum were discussed with this policy change. Robert said the best option for students is the corequisite and supplemental instruction no matter where they test. He said it seems like there should be some alternative that students go back into remedial courses, but the data shows this does not work. He said there are always a handful of students that are not ready for college and adult basic education programs are offered, but this is not part of an admission decision.

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

Robert said expanding the adult completion plan will be presented to the legislature to ask for funding. He gave statistics on Oklahomans with no degree. Calleb Mosburg (NWOSU) said he also attended the CCA conference and mentioned a presentation on adult learners and what institutions need to do to have students see the value in coming back and earning a degree and also how institutions can reduce barriers. He said he spoke with Stephanie Beauchamp (OSRHE) at the conference about the ability to see data showing how many students have started a degree but did not finish. The presenter mentioned they were able to see this data in their area. Calleb would like to know how to find this data for Oklahoma students.

Robert said the new scholarship management system is in the works to include all scholarships offered by OSRHE. He also announced Dr. Colbi Beam is returning to OSRHE as the Associate Vice Chancellor of State Grants and Scholarships. He mentioned she is a recipient of Oklahoma's Promise and wrote her dissertation on this program.

#### **8. Announcements** – Lance Newbold

- Lance shared that Dr. Alicia McCullar has left Mid-America Christian University and thus there is a vacancy on the Executive Committee for a private institution. He asked the council to email Debbie Myrick (OSRHE) if they would like to serve on the Executive Committee in this vacant position.
- Lance also mentioned the recent Executive Order by Governor Stitt regarding diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) programs. He opened the floor for discussion. Many council members expressed their concerns, emotions, questions and their own experiences. Lance said he has no doubt the people attending the COSA meeting will do their very best to take care of all students, especially those who have relied upon safe spaces and those helping in addition to this group. He said a way will be found to take care of students. He worries about the message students receive and how they feel their state perceives them.
- The next COSA meeting will be Thursday, January 11, 2024.
- Liz McCraw (SEOSU) reminded the council of the Fair Labor Standards Act implications, if the proposal goes through, and how this might impact student affairs and front-facing student services on campuses. Debbie Myrick has scheduled a tentative speaker for the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Liz asked the council to send questions they may have on this subject to her.

- Lance reminded the council of the holiday lunch today at the Collective and wished everyone a great holiday and to enjoy their time off.

## **9. Adjournment**

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

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

- February 29, 2024 – Student Leadership Retreat, Oklahoma City Community College