

Campus Life and Safety and Security Task Force
MINUTES

Tuesday, February 3, 2009, 2 p.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Chancellor Glen D. Johnson welcomed the attendees and began introductions. Other members in attendance were: Janet Cunningham, Northwestern Oklahoma State University; Phil Berkenbile, Oklahoma Department of Career Technology Education; Lee Bird, Oklahoma State University; Doug Major, Meridian Technology Center; Tom McDaniel, Oklahoma City University; Anil Gollahalli, University of Oklahoma; Kerry Pettingill, Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security; Carrie Slatton-Hodges for Terri White, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; and Brett Campbell for Tom McKeon, Tulsa Community College. Others in attendance were: Richard Braley, Murray State College; Shelby Jay Blundell, Rose State College; Jarrett Jobe, University of Central Oklahoma; Ike Sloas, Oklahoma City Community College; Kelly Bounds, ecapitol.net; Julianna Parker, Norman Transcript; Brian Smith, Cisco; and Pam Boatright, Katharine Gaddis, Bob Anthony, Ben Hardcastle, Hollye Hunt, Kermit McMurry and Rebecca Richardson, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 8 MEETING: Johnson asked task force members to review the minutes of the Dec. 8, 2008, meeting. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.

REPORT ON CLASS ANNUAL REPORT AND JANUARY 14 PRESS CONFERENCE: Johnson referred task force members to the hard copies of the annual report in their packets. He said the press conference to present the report was held Jan. 14 in the Blue Room of the State Capitol. He added that media coverage about the event was excellent and that some news clips were also included in the packets. He said that reaction from the Legislature and others had been very positive.

UPDATE ON 2009-10 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA: Johnson noted the \$16 million legislative funding request submitted by the Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security and pointed out that the request was a cornerstone of the task force's legislative agenda approved last year. He asked Kerry Pettingill to provide an update on the funding request. Pettingill said the request had been presented to a joint Senate/House committee and that the reception was good but that it was going to be a tight budget year and that everyone would just have to wait and see what the session would bring. He added that Sen. Todd Lamb's bill regarding a state grant program for campus security may also tie in to the request.

Johnson asked Hollye Hunt to provide an update on two other components of the CLASS legislative agenda: exempting emergency plans from open records laws and the concealed carry strategy. Hunt said that the bill for exempting the plans had support in the Senate from Sen. John Ford that it needed a House author as well. She said staff would continue to monitor the progress of any related bills.

As for the "guns on campus" issue, Hunt said Rep. Jason Murphey had introduced HB1083, which would allow people holding valid concealed handgun licenses who are also either CLEET-certified or a faculty member with classroom responsibilities to carry concealed handguns on college campuses. She added that institutions would be allowed to ban weapons in secured areas or events where every person is subject to the same screening. She said the bill didn't have a Senate author and that there were indications that the Senate may not move

forward on it. Tom McDaniel asked if private institutions were included in the bill, and Hunt stated it only applied to public institutions.

Anil Gollahalli informed the group that there was another bill introduced in a committee where it wouldn't be expected. He said the bill was similar to Murphey's but only allowed for the CLEET provision. Hunt said she would check into it.

Johnson stated that no further action was required from the task force that day, but that State Regents' staff would keep the members informed throughout the legislative process and may request support on some of the items. He added that, if necessary, the task force would revisit its gun strategy from last year and pursue a collaborative effort to oppose such bills once again.

Lee Bird noted that the Oklahoma Student Government Association had already voiced its opposition to this year's "guns on campus" efforts in the Legislature, and she suggested that the task force request letters and resolutions from other advisory councils, student groups and others now so that they would be readily available if needed. McDaniel asked if a letter from the task force should be prepared as well. Johnson asked for a motion, and McDaniel moved that the task force draft a letter or resolution of opposition and also request them from councils and groups as well. Bird seconded, and Johnson asked for a vote. Gollahalli asked if the task force was opposing any and all measures that would allow guns on campus. Bird stated that campuses are not generally opposed to active-duty military and members of law enforcement carrying guns on campus since they have much more training than the concealed carry license provides. She suggested that as a counteroffer if needed. McDaniel stated that Oklahoma City University has specific exemptions for employees of the FBI, ATF and similar organizations who take classes on campus. He added that the employees must have a supervisor's letter that states the person must carry the weapon. Gollahalli suggested that the task force research the issue further before taking an official position. Hunt pointed out that the current law allows public institutions to make such exemptions also. Johnson asked members how they wanted to move forward with the motion on the table and if they wanted to vote to oppose any concealed carry measures in the Legislature. The motion was approved by a voice vote. Johnson said State Regents' staff would draft the language for task force approval.

REPORT ON JANUARY 15-16 THREAT ASSESSMENT CONFERENCE: Johnson asked Bird to discuss the Threat Assessment Conference held Jan. 15-16, 2009, at Oklahoma State University. Bird stated that 80 people participated in the conference, where they benefited from training from Margolis, Healy & Associates and Dr. Gene Deisinger, leaders in the field of threat assessment. Bird thanked Johnson, Phil Berkenbile and Kermit McMurry for their help and support and said that even more advanced training was being planned for the future.

Bird noted that she and Brett Campbell would like to work with Margolis, Healy & Associates to form an associate group for Oklahoma higher education to become a member of the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals. Bird added that an organization has to be nominated to become a member and that the Margolis group could assist with that.

REPORT ON 2009 NOTIFICATION VENDOR FAIR: Johnson noted that a date and location had been set and planning was underway for a vendor fair for notification technology that would provide an opportunity for higher education and career technology centers to see what systems are available to enhance emergency notification. He asked Doug Major to provide more information. Major said the fair would be held April 23 at the Metro Tech Springlake Campus in Oklahoma City and would be a "come-and-go" event in a trade show environment. Bird asked if

the planning committee could distribute a flyer or other information to publicize the event. Johnson stated that he would inform the Council of Presidents about the event.

DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE PRIORITIES FOR 2009: Johnson noted the methodical, business-like approach the task force adopted for the implementation of the recommendations of the Jan. 15, 2008, CLASS Final Report. He said the task force would continue that approach in its discussion of priorities for the next year, and he asked Ben Hardcastle to discuss some possible priorities.

Hardcastle provided an overview of the following possible priorities:

- *On-going training needs:* Many training opportunities are already being provided, such as the annual Campus Safety Summit and threat assessment training. The task force should also look at a more systematic approach to exercises on an institutionwide basis and pursue joint efforts for training.
- *Behavioral threat prevention and response campus/community pilot:* This initiative is part of the task force's original recommendations and is a long-term issue that would require some funding, possibly through grants.
- *Development and enhancement of emergency response plans using templates:* The plan template project is moving along through the Office of Homeland Security. The templates need to be implemented on a statewide basis and the plans subsequently evaluated via a peer review.
- *Advancement of NIMS compliance and other means to provide oversight to campus emergency response plans:* National recommendations have been made and should be evaluated to determine how to make the system work for postsecondary education.
- *Encouragement of campuswide posting of emergency response plans.*
- *Administration of 2009 notification, response and counseling surveys:* It can be assumed from the executive order that the surveys should continue. Suggested date is September 2009.

Johnson asked for discussion and a motion to vote on the priorities.

Gollahalli noted the inconsistency in listing the posting of emergency response plans as a priority when part of the task force's legislative agenda is the exemption of emergency plans from open records. Pettingill pointed out that he thinks the meaning in the priorities refers to how students, faculty, staff, visitors and others should respond to an emergency situation, where they can get information, etc. He suggested using another term for the list of priorities. Bird suggested "emergency notification procedures" instead of "emergency response plans." The task force members agreed.

Bird asked if a timeline for the templates was available, as that might affect the task force's own timeline. Pettingill said he would look into that.

Johnson asked for a motion to adopt the list of priorities, with the edit, and Bird made such a motion. Major seconded, and the motion was approved by a voice vote.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS: Johnson asked subcommittee chairs provide updates on recent activities.

Notification: Subcommittee co-chair Major stated there was nothing further to report.

Response: Subcommittee chair Pettingill stated there was nothing further to report.

Counseling: Subcommittee co-chair Bird said the committee was in the process of reviewing the counseling survey that would be sent to campus counseling directors or equivalent. She said the survey would ask about what local resources campuses use for mental health needs. Bird said collaboration among campuses would be key until more money becomes available for hiring and training more counseling professionals for campuses. Bird also reminded the group that 2010 is the deadline for drug and alcohol counselors to be licensed, rather than just certified. Berkenbile asked if it would be possible to create a resource list for campuses, such as the closest services to campus, etc. Bird said such a tool could be posted on the CLASS Web site for easy access by campuses. Hardcastle said he would handle.

Laws and Policies: Subcommittee co-chair Gollahalli reminded the group of a question McDaniel posed at a past meeting about campuses could legally share information about potentially troubled and/or dangerous students with other campuses. Gollahalli said there was not much that could be done at the time, but in the past couple of weeks, the federal government had clarified some points.

- FERPA is not a hindrance to campuses sharing student information if the situation is life-threatening.
- Institutions are required to document who received student information and why.
- Information can be shared at the enrollment stage and subsequently. This must be documented and only shared with staff on a “need-to-know” basis.
- Disclosure information must be included in the campus FERPA notice.

Gollahalli said the committee would prepare and distribute a memo for campuses to use as a guide. He also suggested that campuses modify admission forms to include questions about past disciplinary measures.

Funding: Subcommittee co-chair Janet Cunningham said the committee had not met since finalizing the results of the funding survey.

OPEN DISCUSSION: Pam Boatright informed the group about a listserve for campus emergency managers. She said there were currently 44 subscribers and that past posts were archived. Bird asked that Boatright send the link to the task force members.

Berkenbile asked about the possibility of submitting the task force’s funding request items as part of the federal economic stimulus package. Pettingill noted that projects must be accomplished in the short-term in order to be eligible for the stimulus funding. Johnson asked Hardcastle to follow up.

Gollahalli noted that the start of a new semester is a good time for campuses to update student, faculty and staff contact information.

FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE: Johnson noted that the next two task force meetings would be Wednesday, April 15 at 2 p.m. and Tuesday, June 9 at 2 p.m. He said dates for the remainder of the year would be e-mailed to the members. He added that if the gun issue came to the forefront before April, the task force would meet before then as needed.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 3 p.m.