

Campus Life and Safety and Security Task Force

MINUTES

Organizational Meeting

Wednesday, May 23, 2007, 9 a.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Chancellor Glen D. Johnson welcomed the attendees, thanked them for their service and began introductions. Also in attendance were: Stedman Upham, The University of Tulsa; Roger Webb, University of Central Oklahoma; Gene Stephenson, Oklahoma Independent Colleges and Universities; Jeanette Nance and Floy Smith, Office of Gov. Brad Henry; Melissa Houston, Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security; Lee Bird, Oklahoma State University; Doug Major, Pioneer Technology Center; Thomas McKeon, Tulsa Community College; Phil Berkenbile, Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education; Bill Pennington, Murray State College; Kay Martin, Francis Tuttle Technology Center; Joe Wiley, Rogers State University; Clarke Stroud, University of Oklahoma; Phil Moss, Nancy Connally, Kermit McMurry, Debra Stuart, Ben Hardcastle, Rebecca Richardson, Amber Coulter, Amy Goddard, Kurt Snodgrass and Payton Hamlin, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education; and Brenda Jones, Jones Public Relations, Inc.

DISCUSS PURPOSE OF TASK FORCE: Johnson referred attendees to copies of Gov. Henry's Executive Order 2007-17 that created the CLASS Task Force and said that the order and conversations with the governor's office highlighted four major areas of focus for the task force.

1. Review and evaluate current safety and security plans for higher education and career tech.
2. Determine what modifications are needed to improve notification and enhance response in regard to safety and security incidents on campuses.
3. Research best practices for prevention, including recognizing students and employees in need and delivering counseling, substance abuse, and mental health treatment.
4. Make specific recommendations, including sources of funding for new initiatives.

PRESENTATION BY DR. ROGER WEBB: Johnson introduced Webb, who had recently testified before the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs regarding safety on America's campuses. Using a PowerPoint presentation, Webb described various types of events that either have or could have occurred on campuses and outlined four areas whose involvement is vital to campus safety and security: administration, campus police, counseling centers and communications. Webb provided copies of his remarks to the Senate Committee and of a brochure for the May 30 National Campus Security Summit at the University of Central Oklahoma.

DISCUSS ORGANIZATIONAL APPROACH: Ben Hardcastle explained that task force members would find helpful resources in the binders they had been provided and that the CLASS web pages would also provide helpful information and updates about membership, meetings and online resources about campus safety and security issues. He stated that most communication to task force members would be via e-mail.

Hardcastle said State Regents' staff had identified five key emphasis points as potential focus areas for the task force: Notification, Response, Counseling, Laws and Policies, and Funding. He stated that subcommittees would be formed for each area and that OSRHE would provide staff support. He referred members to the draft subcommittee matrix provided in their binders and pointed out that major steps for each subcommittee were included.

ROLE OF TASK FORCE MEMBERS: Johnson said that subcommittees would be chaired or co-chaired by task force members, with membership consisting of other task force members and experts in the individual focus areas. He asked that, in the next couple of weeks, task force members let him know if the five focus areas are sufficient or if others should be added, if they are interested in serving on the subcommittees as a chair or member, and if they have recommendations for experts to serve on the subcommittees.

PROPOSED MEETING SCHEDULE: Johnson asked members to review the proposed meeting calendar included in their binders and make recommendations. He said that the calendar was drafted with the governor's January 2008 deadline in mind. He noted that the May 30 summit at UCO should be added to the calendar and added that it was good that the task force met before the summit and that the governor was pleased that the task force's first meeting was scheduled so soon after the Executive Order was issued.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.