

Campus Life and Safety and Security Task Force
MINUTES

Thursday, August 20, 2009, 2 p.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Chancellor Glen D. Johnson welcomed the attendees and began introductions. Other members in attendance were: Lee Bird, Oklahoma State University; Kay Martin, Francis Tuttle Technology Center; Kerry Pettingill, Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security; Janet Cunningham, Northwestern Oklahoma State University; and Tom McDaniel, Oklahoma City University. Others in attendance were: Ike Sloas, Oklahoma City Community College; Norman Nieves, University of Central Oklahoma; Brett Campbell, Tulsa Community College; Kelsey Kemp, eCapitol; and Marcia Clifton, Kurt Snodgrass, Sheri Mauck, Bob Anthony, Ben Hardcastle, Rebecca Richardson, Hollye Hunt and Tony Hutchinson, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 9 MEETING: Johnson asked task force members to review the minutes of the June 9, 2009, meeting. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.

OPENING REMARKS: Johnson said the task force had made significant progress since its creation but that the group hadn't been able to achieve all it wants to accomplish, mainly because of lack of funding. He said the group would discuss its funding request that day.

DISCUSSION OF 2010-11 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA: Johnson asked Hollye Hunt to provide information on recommendations for funding the Oklahoma School Security Grant Program and planning for possible concealed weapon legislation.

Hunt reminded the group that, during the last legislative session, the task force requested \$16 million for the grant program to be administered through the Office of Homeland Security, but that because of the tight budget situation, funding was not received. She said there was support at the Capitol but just not the available funding. She asked if the task force wanted to discuss different strategies for the next legislative session or if they wanted to continue with the current framework.

After discussion, group agreed to use same process as last year and hope that funding would be available.

Pettingill noted that if there had been proposals with levels of what could be accomplished – good, better, best – perhaps there would have been a better chance at funding if legislators could have seen what the return on investment would be.

Johnson suggested breaking proposals down by category, not levels, for concern that only the low level would be funded.

Hunt suggested talking with CLASS supporters in the Legislature before the next task force meeting so that the issue starts being discussed early.

Johnson said that legislators may pose the question: What are we getting for the \$16 million?

Hardcastle noted that much had already been accomplished without additional funding.

McDaniel asked if it would help to already have grant proposals in hand when asking for the funding so that task force would have something concrete to present. He suggested that

institutions ask for start-up costs and then show how they would take over the continuing maintenance.

Bird noted that some projects would have one-time costs only, while others would have ongoing costs.

Johnson asked if McDaniel's suggestion was realistic and if proposals could really be available by October.

Bird suggested a template, preferably one page, to encourage consistency.

Johnson asked about the logistics. Hardcastle stated that the grant criteria were pretty tight.

Johnson asked if November would be a possibility. Hardcastle said the group would need to evaluate the proposals and could probably have a finished product available by the beginning of the year. He suggested that the broad request be made in October with details to follow.

Pettingill said OHS has a program that could be adapted for that purpose, but that it would still take time and cooperation on the part of the task force and the institutions.

Cunningham said she thinks the campuses have a good idea of their needs and could verbalize them easily if requested. She said campuses have been doing what they can with what they have but know what more they could do if the funding was available.

Campbell said TCC could have a proposal available fairly quickly.

Bird said she was concerned about the time needed to complete the application. Also, she noted the importance of thinking globally – systemic needs v. individual campus needs.

Johnson asked Hunt to move on to discussion of the concealed weapons legislation. She said it was hard to predict what might happen with the issue in the next session because of the dynamics of what occurred during the last session. She asked that presidents talk with their legislators to let them know that the issue remains one they feel strongly about, and she suggested that the task force take the same steps as last session to oppose any new pro-guns-on-campus legislation that might be introduced in the next session.

Johnson said no additional action was necessary regarding the legislative agenda that day. He said the task force's official 2010-11 legislative agenda would be formally adopted at the group's October meeting.

REPORT ON MENTAL HEALTH COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS: Johnson asked Hardcastle to report on ongoing collaborations with the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, specifically the mental health first aid training. Hardcastle said the first training was held July 20-24 and that 10 out of 25 slots were filled. He said the classes are designed take non-mental-health professionals and show them how to recognize and assist during a mental health crisis. He said the trainings are not a solution to the lack of counselors on postsecondary campuses but just one way to address the problem. He added that three additional trainings would be held.

Hardcastle said that preparations were also continuing for the regional collaborative meetings in spring 2010, where campuses will learn about mental health resources in their areas and find

ways to collaborate and share opportunities. He said a report of the findings would be prepared and distributed following the weeklong event.

Bird suggested that the report not only list resources but also specific details about those resources, such as intake procedures, insurance requirements, etc., so that it can serve as a valuable guide to campuses. Hardcastle agreed that would be a great outcome.

REPORT ON NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS) STATEWIDE COMPLIANCE PLAN AND KICKOFF: Johnson reminded the group that full NIMS compliance at all postsecondary campuses is a key recommendation adopted by the task force as part of its final report issued in January 2008. He said that the task force had been working closely with OHS on a comprehensive plan to accomplish this important goal. He asked Hardcastle to provide an overview of the planning and the Sept. 21 kickoff of the initiative.

Hardcastle said a formal invite to the kickoff would be distributed in the next week and that a booklet had been produced to assist campuses with pursuing and achieving compliance. He added that training would be held in the fall to assist NIMS campus contacts in understanding the compliance objectives. Hardcastle said the target date for full NIMS compliance of all postsecondary campuses was set for Dec. 1, 2010 and that the State Regents office would provide all the assistance possible to help campuses in achieving the goal.

Johnson entertained a motion for the task force to officially adopt the date of Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2010, as the goal for full NIMS compliance. Kay Martin made the motion, and Pettingill seconded. The motion passed by a voice vote.

DISCUSSION OF 2009 ANNUAL REPORT: Johnson asked Hardcastle to report on the task force's 2009 Annual Report and the process to update the notification/response and counseling surveys.

Hardcastle said the governor's executive order called for the task force to submit annual reports evaluating the current status of Oklahoma campus safety and security and updates on the progress made toward the recommendations of the task force's 2008 final report. He noted the accomplishments that had taken place so far in 2009, even with a lack of funding. He said the original surveys set the benchmark and that the updated surveys would help demonstrate steps the campuses have taken to increase safety and security and how campuses are indeed safer than before the creation of the task force.

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

Notification: No report.

Response: No report.

Counseling: Bird said the committee had been working on updating the counseling survey. She said one issue they had considered was the importance of the right person on campus receiving and submitting the survey so that the most accurate information would be gathered.

Laws and Policies: No report.

Funding: No report.

OPEN DISCUSSION: Bird said she hoped people were paying attention to recent gun violence on campus, including the incident at Langston University. McDaniel asked if someone from LU, specifically President Haysbert, could talk to the task force about what was learned from the incident. Johnson said an invitation could be extended to Haysbert, and he asked Hardcastle to handle.

FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE: Johnson asked Hardcastle to announce information on upcoming meeting dates. Hardcastle said the next meetings would be Wednesday, Oct. 14 at 2 p.m. and Thursday, Dec. 10 at 2 p.m. He suggested that meetings in 2010 be held in February, April, August, October and December and asked for input. Bird suggested that the discussion on specifics be handled via e-mail and approved at the October meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.