

Student Advisory Board of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

University of Central Oklahoma, NUC Ballroom

Sunday, January 29, 2017, 1:00 p.m.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order on Sunday, January 29, 2017 at 1:05 p.m. SAB members present were Mr. Tyrance Billingsley, Chair; Mr. Caleb L. Power, Vice Chair; Ms. Kimberley Bishop; Mr. Michael Nunez; Ms. Betsy Waller; Mr. Dillon Johnson. Others present were Ms. Debbie Terlip, Student Relations Liaison, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education; Mr. Bryce Fair, Associate Vice Chancellor for State Grants and Scholarships, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education; Mr. Andrew Hocutt, President of the Oklahoma Student Government Association.

Mr. Fair handed out his report and talked about state funding for student aid.

- Everything except for Oklahoma's Promise was cut by about 16% for the current year.
- This year there was an 8% increase in tuition
- Concerning legislators' thought processes: There seems to be the idea that "Higher Education can take large cuts because the cost can be offset through increased tuition for students"
- Note that the money that universities get for the purposes of building new buildings on campus comes from private donors, and can't be used for tuition-offsetting purposes
- Noted that the state should look into diversifying the economy (moving away from oil and gas) so that the oil busts don't keep affecting Higher Education
- Discussion occurred concerning how people tend to view Higher Education as a privilege (through process that "the students receiving education directly profit"), when in reality society as a whole benefits.

Brief discussion concerning several bills that will be going through the State Legislature ensued. Special attention is paid to legislation concerning Oklahoma's Promise.

- Ms. Waller (concerning the Oklahoma's Promise 2014-2015 Year End Report): "What is the cause of the loss of enrollment in Oklahoma's Promise, as seen on the fourth page?"
 - Mr. Fair: people are probably losing grants because their family income is increasing through inflation, but the grant cap is staying the same.

Note that legislation concerning firearms on campus is also going to be seen in the Oklahoma State Legislature.

Mr. Hocutt speaks on behalf of the Oklahoma Student Government Association.

- Mr. Hocutt has assumed the role of President, as the previous President has stepped down to study abroad this semester.
- Rogers State University (Claremore, OK) will be hosting the next Congress.
- Congress will be held on March 24 and 25 (Friday and Saturday).
- The website will be available and up to date before February 1st. Mr Power will work with Mr. Hocutt to ensure that this is accomplished.

Mr. Johnson moved to adopt the minutes for the previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Waller. The motion passed without objection.

Discussion concerning individual visits to different colleges in Oklahoma took place.

- Mr. Power will resend the link to the spreadsheet tracking the visits to Mr. Billingsley.

Ms. Terlip announced that Daniel Archer, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, was scheduled on today's agenda to discuss academic advising, prior learning assessment, and accreditation of for-profit institutions, but was unable to attend due to a family emergency, and would be rescheduled.

The Student Advisory Board discussed topics for the next meeting and decided that it would like to hear about sexual assault on campus and accessibility on campus. Discussion occurred about the scope of what the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education was able to control in regards to colleges in Oklahoma.

Note that it is almost time to begin writing recommendations to send to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. The Student Advisory Board has decided that members will be focusing on the following topics:

- Accessibility regarding physical disabilities: assigned to Ms. Bishop
- Academic advisors: assigned to Ms. Bishop and Ms. Waller
- Student health care: assigned to Ms. Waller
- Sexual assault on campus: assigned to Mr. Power
- Concurrent enrollment: assigned to Mr. Johnson and Mr. Nunez
- Oklahoma's Promise: assigned to Mr. Johnson and Mr. Billingsley
- Gun laws: assigned to Mr. Power

The next meeting will be on February 26, 2017 at 1:00 PM in the Nigh University Center Ballroom.

Mr. Power moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Johnson. The motion passed by unanimous consent.