

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Student Advisory Board

to the

Oklahoma State Regents
for Higher Education

May 2004

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Purpose. The purpose of the Student Advisory Board is to communicate to the State Regents the views and interests of all Oklahoma college and university students on issues that relate to the constitutional and statutory responsibilities of the State Regents. In representing students, the Student Advisory Board shall combine the opinions of student with good, sound research to develop the best proposals and recommendations for The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

Creation. The creation of this board is consistent with provisions of House Bill Number 1801 of the 1988 Oklahoma legislature. Seven members are elected annually by delegates to the Oklahoma Student Government Association. Members represent public tier and independent colleges, and they serve a one-year term (May through April).

MEMBERS

Asher Killian, Chair, University of Oklahoma

Melissa Fansler, Vice Chair, Oklahoma State University- Oklahoma City

Cora Suter, Oklahoma State University

Brandy Williams, Langston University

Ryan Fenska, Northeastern State University

Chad Lee, Rose State College

Jamee Telford, Saint Gregory's University

Student Advisory Board Recommendations and Counsel to the State Regents

Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program (OHLAP): The Board and the Faculty Advisory Council jointly submitted a resolution to the State Regents urging them to request legislative OHLAP funding early in the 2004 session and to find and announce a dedicated and sufficient source of revenue for the OHLAP scholarship program.

Adjunct Faculty: The Board and the Faculty Advisory Council jointly submitted a resolution to the State Regents encouraging institutional creativity (such as training and mentoring) that will enhance quality at a time of increased enrollment demand and budget constraints and to include in their study of institutional benefit plans an analysis of benefits, or lack thereof, offered to Oklahoma part-time faculty.

Economic Development Generating Excellence: The Board and the Faculty Advisory Council jointly submitted a resolution to the State Regents commending the Governor, State Regents, Chancellor, Department of Commerce and the Steering Committee for the joint EDGE effort and encouraging a continued reliance on faculty and student input in the implementation of key EDGE recommendations.

Retention and Graduation: The Board and the Faculty Advisory Council jointly submitted a resolution to the State Regents asking that efforts to improve and reward retention and graduation rates be carefully implemented and monitored to ensure that students and institutions serving under prepared, first-generation, and disadvantaged students receive appropriate assistance.

K-16: The Board and the Faculty Advisory Council jointly submitted a resolution to the State Regents urging the State Regents to continue to set clear postsecondary academic preparation goals for K-12 students and that the State Regents continue efforts with the State Department of Education, K-12 schools, business groups, and other governmental agencies involved in student preparation to ensure a common message and expectations on how students can be academically prepared to succeed in college and the world of work.

Nationally Competitive Educational Quality: The Board and the Faculty Advisory Council jointly submitted a resolution to the State Regents urging the State Regents and the State System to secure and focus funding at levels sufficient to ensure competitive faculty compensation and a quality higher education system. In addition, that state leaders be informed of the urgency of competitive faculty compensations in light of the state's Brain Gain 2010 goals, the increased higher education demand, and the potential crisis associated with the pending wave of faculty retirements.

Debt Management: The Board and the Faculty Advisory Council jointly submitted a resolution to the State Regents asking the State Regents to encourage individual campus policy limiting the activity of credit card marketers on college campuses and

support a greater emphasis on debt management education within freshman orientation programs. The resolution also called on the Council on Student Affairs to explore the creation of an introductory personal finance class open to all students.

VOICE/Civic Engagement: The Board and the Faculty Advisory Council jointly submitted a resolution to the State Regents urging the State Regents to continue to strongly support the work of Campus Compact and the VOICE initiative on college campuses statewide, including continued funding for the VOICE initiative after the grant expires.

Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR-UP): The Board and the Faculty Advisory Council jointly submitted a resolution to the State Regents urging the State Regents to continue to make all students aware of the OHLAP and GEAR UP programs through funding and marketing on middle school and high school campuses across the state. In addition, that students who complete the OHLAP program be expected, during their first year of college, to return to the middle school or high school they graduated from in order to mentor and promote the OHLAP program.

Student Advisory Board Activities

Monthly Meetings. Members of the Board met monthly to discuss work plan items and prepare resolutions.

Faculty Advisory Council. Members of the Board met with the Faculty Advisory Committee in the spring to discuss and create resolutions on several topics including all topics listed above.

Student Leadership Retreat. Members of the Board worked in conjunction with the Council on Student Affairs and the Oklahoma Student Government Association to host the 3rd annual Oklahoma Student Leadership Retreat that took place September, 25-26, 2003.

Oklahoma Student Government Association Conference. Members of the Board attended the annual OSGA conference February 27-28, 2003 and presented all nine resolutions listed above for OSGA consideration.

Higher Education Day at the Capitol. Members of the Board participated in the Higher Education Alumni Council's Higher Ed Day on March 9, 2004.

Semester Meetings with Chancellor. Members of the Board met once a semester at Chancellor Paul Risser's house to discuss current issues and network with members of the OSGA.