

STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD
to the
OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Meeting Minutes

Sunday, April 22, 2007 – 1:30 p.m.
State Regents Office
Library Conference Room

Call to Order - Notice that meeting has been filed and posted in accordance with Open Meetings Act

The meeting was called to order by Chair Markesha Polk at 2:10 p.m.

Announcement of Quorum - Members present: Markesha Polk, Chelsea Masters, Mark Tannehill, Jacqueline Samuels. Members absent: DruShea Dear, Mason Long (one position representing two-year institutions vacant).

Chairperson Kesha Polk welcomed the visiting persons who were elected to the SAB for 2007-08. Those in attendance were: Olaf Standley, Jason Hines, Justin Huff, Jeremy Bennett. She asked everyone to go around the room and introduce themselves. In addition to the current SAB members and members-elect listed, Dr. Kermit McMurry and Ms. Debbie Terlip with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education were in attendance.

State Regents Public Hearing on Tuition and Fees – Chairperson Polk drew attention to the information posted on the State Regents website regarding the public hearing for tuition and fee limits scheduled for Thursday, April 26, 2007. Ms. Terlip explained the statutory structure and mechanics for the limits on tuition and fees. Ms. Polk stated she planned to attend the hearing and would like to speak. Ms. Terlip noted that several members of the Oklahoma Student Government Association (OSGA) had requested to speak at the hearing, and mentioned that while the deadline set to register had passed (April 20th), anyone wishing to speak may call the Chancellor's office Monday to find out if it was at all possible to still be registered.

Dr. McMurry briefly touched on the students' concerns, expressed by the OSGA, with the inconvenience of the timing of the State Regents tuition hearing. The students would prefer the hearing be scheduled at night or on the weekend when students are freer to attend, instead of during the business day. He encouraged the SAB members also to make the State Regents aware of any concerns they may have. He went on to express some disappointment in the members of the 2006-07 SAB who have been unable to take the responsibility of serving on the board seriously by not attending the scheduled meetings. A round table discussion on tuition and fees followed, with the general consensus seeming to be that if the State Regents are appropriated the full amount which they requested, any tuition and/or fee increases should be held to a minimum. No vote was taken.

Following some discussion on the background of the issues listed below, the SAB agreed to format its recommendations to the State Regents in the form of joint resolutions with the Oklahoma Student Government Association, which were adopted March 10, 2007. All recommendations were proposed by the Chairperson, Kesha Polk. The following votes on the SAB recommendations to the State Regents occurred:

State Regents FY 2008 Budget Request

The SAB voted 4 – 0 in favor of supporting the State Regents budget request of \$171.03 million from the state, as stated in OSGA Resolution #003.

Textbook Cost

The SAB voted 4 -0 in favor of recommending the provisions of OSGA Resolution #005, which states that institutions within the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education should adopt a policy requiring that textbook costs, name and edition of the books, ISBN numbers, authors, and course material prices as offered at the campus bookstore be printed on syllabi or comprehensive course materials lists for all sections, and that the syllabi be available no less than 14 days prior to the start of class. The SAB also added that the information should include a description of the extent that any books required will be used in the course, and to require that all of the information be posted on the schools website, sent out by email to the students enrolled in the course, or otherwise communicated to the students in the manner most commonly used to meet the needs of the students on each individual campus.

Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program (OHLAP)

Following a review of SB 820, the members noted that while they were not opposed to an increase in the required high school and college gpa's, they thought that 2.75 was too high for college retention. They did not think a 2.75 gpa was too high for high school eligibility. They supported securing a dedicated source of funding for the program, and inclusion of home schooled students in the OHLAP program. The SAB did not address the OSGA resolution #007.

Marketing for Student Credit Cards on Campus

The SAB discussed SB 496 and OSGA resolution #010. It was noted that this is an issue addressed individually by the colleges, and that many institutions already do not sell the student data to credit card marketers. The SAB did not get a vote in favor of the issue, then following further discussion, voted again on the issue, voting 4 – 0 in favor of supporting OSGA resolution #010.

Tuition-Setting Authority

The SAB voted 4 – 0 in favor of keeping the tuition-limit setting authority with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

Dr. McMurry asked Ms. Polk to put the resolutions in the form of a letter to the Chancellor as soon as possible. Ms. Polk confirmed she would draft the letter Monday, April 23, 2007. He said the annual report could be oral. The important thing was to get the students opinions to the State Regents in a timely manner.

Chelsea Masters made a motion to adjourn at 4:10 p.m. Jacqueline Samuels seconded the motion, which passed 4 – 0.

Debbie Terlip, Student Relations Liaison
Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education