

**CITIZENS COMMISSION ON
THE FUTURE OF OKLAHOMA HIGHER EDUCATION**

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

RECOMMENDATION	STAFF RESPONSE	TIMELINE
<p>TECHNOLOGY</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assure that distance education services are readily accessible and of high quality. 2. Plan for impact of technology advances on the culture of Oklahoma higher education 3. Change policies relating to institutional geographic service areas, particularly for electronic offerings. 4. Make the degree-granting and credentialing process more flexible in light of new technology options, and develop a way to measure competencies. 5. Set college graduation competency requirements for performing computer-based tasks and managing information technology. 6. Urge institutions to clearly articulate technology goals. 7. Adopt incentive programs for faculty technology training and technical assistance. 	<p style="text-align: center;">–</p> <p>Will require institutions to meet “best practice” standards, develop quality guidelines, and require separate approval for electronic programs.</p> <p>November 1997 Technology 2000 conference and ongoing deliberations of advisory groups will address this matter.</p> <p>Being addressed in OSRHE policy and funding methodology.</p> <p>Addressed in OSRHE workplan and will be aided by membership in Western Governors University which calls for competency based assessment. Being incorporated in electronic media policy revision.</p> <p>Regents approved such a requirement for NSU this year, and advisory committees are considering a statewide requirement for recommendation to the (OSRHE).</p> <p>Institutions are required to address technology goals in annual Academic Plans and in annual usage and capacity surveys. Program review/approval policies will address.</p> <p>Efforts will continue to build on the modest 1997 training program and cooperative efforts with vo-tech on the HB 1815 training program. Grants are being sought.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FY 98</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FY 98</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FY 98</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FY 99</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FY 98</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FY 98</p>

RECOMMENDATION**STAFF RESPONSE****TIMELINE**

8.	Adopt strategies for reengineering courses for distance learning and achieving economies on packaging of uniform course materials.	Provide incentives for appropriate course development or use electronic curricula developed elsewhere.	FY 99
9.	Adapt funding strategies to technological change and obsolescence.	Master leasing and new statutory authority are being explored.	FY 99
10.	Change funding policies so that the burden of technology costs is shared more appropriately between the state and direct beneficiaries.	Institutional technology plans will address these issues. Requested increase in legislative appropriations will fund pilot laptop institutions. Financial aid to cover student technology costs is being explored.	FY 99
11.	Allocate funds recognizing front-end effort required for development of technology-intensive instruction.	Quality Initiative Grants/special legislative funding is being considered for course content.	FY 99
12.	Provide incentives/benefits to operate receive sites	Funding will be built into FY 99 funding.	FY 99
13.	College entry requirements should require students entering from high school to have basic keyboarding and basic computer orientation	Advisory councils are considering recommendations to make this optional requirement mandatory.	FY 99
DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE/MARKETS			
14.	Plan for higher education delivery which responds to changing geographic location, age, race, and origin mix of population.	Delivery of higher education services responding to a population shift will be addressed by learning site initiative currently being developed. OneNet and WGU membership will bring services to older students. Social justice programs will be broadened to address cultural diversity. Equity of preparation programs (EPAS) will be broadened.	FY 98
15.	Assure that a) programs are preparing employable graduates, b) graduates have access to continuing education, and c) business has access to technical assistance from higher education.	Workforce preparation efforts will be strengthened. Higher education will better provide and promote continuing education opportunity and service to industry.	FY 98
16.	Emphasize financial incentives in policies and practices that promote public interest.	Incentive funding for economic development activities will be provided through requested increase in legislative appropriations	FY 99

RECOMMENDATION**STAFF RESPONSE****TIMELINE**

17.	Avoid allocation approaches which result in competition among institutions.	Receive site funding will address this recommendation and make collaboration more attractive. Electronic media policy provides framework for collaboration.	FY 99
18.	Conduct major public information effort to explain higher education services and benefits.	Select limited number of significant specific statewide issues/services to spotlight in local/statewide manner.	FY 98
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/WORKFORCE			
19.	Design workforce development programs to fit the needs of targeted sectors of the economy with potential for growth.	Addressing in comprehensive economic development plan and FY 99 funding request.	FY 98
20.	Enhance and expand entrepreneurship training.	Small business will be addressed in comprehensive plan.	FY 98
21.	Link research activities to commercial application of new technology, especially by firms located in Oklahoma.	Will be addressed in comprehensive economic development plan and FY 99 funding request.	FY 98
22.	Change law/environment to enhance cooperation between business and higher education.	Impediments will be identified and changes in law explored. Existing law will be more fully utilized.	FY 99
23.	Develop and present unified higher education image when assisting state's economic development specialists on business relocation and assistance.	Director of Economic Development is addressing. Strategies will be included in comprehensive plan.	FY 98
24.	Better publicize higher education's economic development capabilities, especially information about unique, specialized programs.	Update directory of business development services. Provide hard and electronic copies to business, chambers, Department of Commerce, and economic development specialists. Hold economic development day.	FY 98
25.	Provide encouragement (financial incentives, etc.) and flexibility for the development of programs for industry.	Will be addressed in comprehensive economic development plan.	FY 99
26.	Improve response time.	Mostly a perceptual issue which can be improved.	FY 98

RECOMMENDATION**STAFF RESPONSE****TIMELINE**

27. Assist economic development specialists in translating ACT scores to SAT scores.	Concordance table/assistance will be provided.	FY 98
28. Include incentives in budget formula and possibly in legislative appropriations for economic development activities.	Will be addressed in comprehensive economic development plan and FY 99 funding request.	FY 99
29. Secure access to state funding for customized, firm-specific workforce development programs at no cost to Oklahoma businesses.	A different approach is being recommended in the comprehensive economic development plan.	FY 99
FUNDING		
30. Continue goal of achieving peer institution average.	Will be continued but not as focal point of funding request.	FY 98
31. Use a larger share of the higher education allocation for performance and incentive funding (economic development, APRA, high priority activities, higher standards of performance).	Will be addressed in funding needs request and allocation for FY 99.	FY 99
32. Maintain state appropriations as mainstay of system's funding.	Efforts will be continued to increase higher education's share of state budget.	FY 98
33. Obtain greater State Regents' control of fees and tuition.	Fee and tuition study currently under way will address this issue.	FY 98
34. Increase financial aid as fees are increased.	Fee and tuition study will address this issue.	FY 98
35. Continue efforts to attract private funds for endowments and operations.	A one-time \$5 million increase is requested for FY 99 to fund matching endowment accounts in the queue. The learning site initiative calls for local contribution.	FY 99

RECOMMENDATION**STAFF RESPONSE****TIMELINE**

36.	Obtain greater access to local funding sources for two-year institutions	Under review.	Under review
37.	Fund extracurricular activities with user charges.	Under review.	Under review
ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT			
38.	Improve quality and efficiency with collaboration, coordination, mergers of functions across campuses (lead institutions, outsourcing, systemwide centralization).	Developing a plan using OneNet to achieve functional mergers in computing/systems support, personnel management, purchasing, financial aid, and other student services.	FY 98
39.	Expand APRA to identify collaboration, cooperation opportunities.	Build on initiatives such as the Southwest Oklahoma consortium as well as collaboration among education sectors	FY 98
40.	Focus on broad strategies related to statewide goals while placing as little emphasis as possible on detailed regulation of procedural matters.	Strategy will be worked into all State Regents' activities and policy considerations.	FY 98
41.	Reexamine Policies and Procedures manual to eliminate unnecessary, inefficient, outdated, and unclear regulations.	Policy book is currently under review for APA purposes and will be reexamined in this regard also.	FY 99
42.	Develop a consumer-based set of quality indicators of institutional performance to aid students, parents, employers, and policymakers in decisions.	Assemble current accountability measures and tap expertise from JCAR national service to begin planning for such indicators.	FY 98
43.	Emphasize a systemwide perspective and more board interaction in the Regents Education Program.	Regents Education Program advisory committee is addressing these issues	FY 98
44.	Coordinate with other education sectors on OTRS solution.	This is under way and will be highlighted.	FY 98