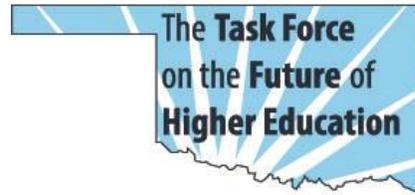# STATE REGENTS TASK FORCE ON THE FUTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Fiscal Solutions, Efficiencies, Affordability and Technology Subcommittee

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The State Regents and Chancellor should facilitate the establishment of multi-institutional partnerships to scale-up back office function consolidation in administrative function areas (for example: IT, human resources, purchasing, finance and accounting, and academic learning management systems (LMS), etc.).

2. Any cost savings achieved through implementation of efficiencies should be reinvested in initiatives related to enrollment, retention, student success, faculty quality, etc. that result in improving degree completion outcomes and generating increased revenue.

3. The State Regents should require that every institution utilize a predictive analytics data program to aid in enrollment strategies and improve student retention and graduation rates. Information regarding the use of predictive analytics should be embedded in the institution's annual academic plan that is submitted to the State Regents.
   a. Institutions are strongly encouraged to participate in a contract for predictive analytics through the State Regents or initiate their own contract.

4. The State Regents should implement a financial fiscal review and long-term (at least every five years) viability assessment of each institution to be conducted on a rotating basis with at least five institutions assessed every year.
   a. As part of the financial review and viability assessment, institutions would be required to submit partnership plans identifying current and potential strategic partnerships with other institutions, governmental agencies, nonprofit organizations, private sector businesses, etc., that promote continued institutional viability.

5. Governing boards should undertake a review of their respective institutions to determine if branch campuses/campus sites function as cost centers, are self-sustaining, or contribute to the financial stability of the institution.

6. The State Regents should eliminate line-item allocation funding for special programs and branch campuses.
   a. Consolidating institutional allocations would incentivize governing boards to consolidate purchasing contracts and improve back-office and administrative efficiencies and provide governing boards more flexibility in setting their institutional priorities.

7. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education should establish a working group to inventory existing partnerships between higher education and CareerTech and to study the development of new strategic partnerships, including academic agreements, administration agreements, and the joint use of facilities.

8. The State Regents' Council on Information Technology will lead an initiative to coordinate the purchase of common computer-related applications and technology across the higher education system. Leveraging the purchasing power of several institutions allows OSRHE to procure IT materials and services at a lower cost, providing for an increased level of efficiencies, cost savings and an overall improved academic experience. In addition, increased buying power will allow smaller institutions to invest in technologies they may have been previously unable to afford, ensuring all students, faculty and staff across our higher education system have access to the same technologies.

9. State system colleges and universities should support the State Regents and Chancellor in striving to maintain OneNet under the State Regents to ensure that all higher education institutions and other OneNet clients benefit from the cost savings provided through OneNet contracts and services.
   a. OneNet should explore revenue enhancements and/or other strategies designed to further improve economic development, job creation, and quality of life, with a particular emphasis on benefitting rural communities.