

STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD
to the
OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

MINUTES

Sunday, December 1, 2019
1:00 p.m.

University of Central Oklahoma
Old North, Room 207
100 North University Drive, Edmond, OK 73034

1. Call to Order. Notice that meeting has been filed and posted in accordance with Open Meetings Act
Chairwoman Kelpine called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.
2. Announcement of Quorum
A quorum of four was in attendance. Members present: Tanner Hurst, Logan Hutto, Kailey Kelpine and Palmer Tetley. Members absent: Robert Couch, Clayton Myers and Rosa SanRoman.
3. Recognition of Invited Guests
Dr. Jason Kirksey from Oklahoma State University and Mr. Eric Hemphill from the University of Central Oklahoma, as well as Dr. Debbie Blanke and Ms. Debbie Terlip from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, attended the meeting.
4. Minutes of Previous Meetings – Approval of October 27, 2019 Minutes
Logan Hutto motioned approval of the October 27th SAB meeting minutes. Approval was unanimous.
5. Diversity and Inclusion – Dr. Jason Kirksey, Vice President for Institutional Diversity, and Chief Diversity Officer, Oklahoma State University

Dr. Kirksey introduced himself and gave his history and an overview of his position at Oklahoma State University. Referring to the handouts he provided, he said his work encompasses working not only with the students and faculty, but also throughout the administration, including in athletics and purchasing. He described the many agencies and organizations in which he is a liaison and/or officer, such as the OKC Urban League, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the KIPP Board and the Oklahoma Policy Institute Board.

Dr. Kirksey emphasizes that diversity and inclusion are not the exception, but the norm. He conveyed that it is really up to the students. Oklahoma State University requires a course that is diversity-related for every graduate degree, and he said the institution has hundreds of such courses, and that

they are mostly upper division. In response to questions, he described the mandatory online Title IX training and all the different workshops he conducted. Saying that the goal was to graduate students who are socially, culturally and globally competent, he remarked that companies who recruit in the career fairs at OSU consider these important qualities, while also noting the environment of location in a very conservative state. Describing his methods, he said OSU does not use an incident bias-response team. Dr. Kirksey said the approach is rather to work to create an environment that facilitates acceptance and social interaction, and that OSU addresses any incidents in a way that helps to move the campus forward through a lot of work and communication from people in many areas such as student affairs, general counsel, possibly police, the State Regents legal counsel, communication, etc. While OSU does not expel students and conduct town halls, this does not mean that nothing is done. Often parents are spoken to, as well as students. OSU helps the perpetrators to realize the extensive consequences of their actions, including the impact on families, work, etc.

Dr. Blanke brought up the recommendation made to the State Regents by last year's Student Advisory Board to establish a statewide Diversity Officer, and asked Dr. Kirksey about the type of duties he would recommend. Dr. Kirksey noted that some states have such a position, and said that such a position should report directly to the highest officer (Chancellor, Governor, etc.), that this sends a message when it is at the highest level. He said the office should work to suggest ideal policies, and ideas such as how to keep people at the table to have the needed conversations. Dr. Kirksey closed by leaving his business card with the SAB members.

6. Sustainability/Green Energy on Campus – Mr. Eric Hemphill, Manager, Sustainability and Alternative Transportation, University of Central Oklahoma

Mr. Hemphill gave the history of sustainability as a policy at the University of Central Oklahoma, noting that funds received from the 2007 federal bailout were used to create the position on a lot of campuses, and said at UCO the position was in Facilities Management. Eric listed the areas in which UCO is green, such as its energy source through Edmond Electric's transition to wind energy, and its energy efficiency controls on lighting, heating, etc. When he took over the position in 2016 he placed a new emphasis on students with an effort for higher visibility made possible through awareness of climate change. UCO has major and minor in sustainability, and active student engagement group. He helps to build curriculum and teaches an Intro to Sustainability class. Describing the signature events he does on campus every year, such as the local food summit, zero waste events, and the student sustainability summit, he noted that the work can be difficult in the state's political environment where fossil fuels is the major industry. Eric said he adds additional visibility with opportunities for students, including 8-15 student interns each year. In questions and answers it was acknowledged that recycling is not the answer and that people need to address consumerism through "reducing and reusing. The SAB members talked about the bike and scooter infrastructure on campuses, and Eric said UCO is also changing its fleet over to electric vehicles, and building two charging stations for them on campus. In closing, he mentioned that a statewide consortium of higher education sustainability officers has gone away, and reemphasized the importance of student-led initiatives.

7. Resolution on Weapons on Campus – Ms. Debbie Terlip, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

Debbie Terlip said that although the SAB usually approves a recommendation to support current law on weapons on campus, their report is not given until the end of May, after the state legislature has adjourned. She said that in some years the SAB has approved a resolution earlier to add the students' voices to the higher education presidents and other constituencies as the legislature goes into session

and considers legislation. Following a brief discussion, Chairwoman Kelpine agreed to place a resolution on the SAB January agenda, when hopefully more SAB members would be present.

8. Results on Oklahoma Student Government Association/Council of Student Presidents Fall Congress – Mr. Traeton Dansby, President, Oklahoma Student Government Association

Traeton Danby reviewed the OSGA Fall Congress last month at Oklahoma City University and said that aside from a few issues with the facilities (acoustics), that everything had gone well. It was well - attended, and Kailey noted that the legislation was very diverse with more debate. The 22 pieces of legislation passed will be shared soon.

9. Discussion of Research Topics for SAB Work Plan with Timelines – Kailey Kelpine, Chair, Student Advisory Board

The SAB members reviewed their Work Plan, and gave directions for the next few meetings.

10. New Business. Consideration of other matters not known or not reasonably foreseen prior to the time of agenda posting.

No new business.

11. Adjournment

The SAB adjourned at about 2:45 p.m.