

MINUTES OF A JOINT MEETING
THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA BOARD OF REGENTS
AND
OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
SEPTEMBER 18, 1988

A joint meeting (special meeting) of The University of Oklahoma Board of Regents and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education was held in Dining Rooms 1 and 2 in the Oklahoma Memorial Union on the Norman Campus of the University beginning at 7:05 p.m. on Sunday, September 18, 1988.

The following members of The University of Oklahoma Board of Regents were present: Regent Thomas Elwood Kemp, Chairman of the Board; Regents Charles F. Sarratt, Sam Noble, and E. Murray Gullatt. Absent: Regents Ronald H. White, M.D., Sarah C. Hogan, and Sylvia A. Lewis.

The following State Regents were present: Regent J. D. Helms, Chairman; Regents James E. Barnes, George B. Kaiser, Bob F. Allee, and Avalon B. Reece. Absent: Regents Joffa Kerr, Alan A. Baker, Joe F. Gary, and Bert H. Mackie.

The following also were present for all or a part of the meeting: Dr. David Swank, Interim President of the University, Provosts Clayton Rich and Joan Wadlow, Vice Presidents Anona L. Adair and Arthur J. Elbert, and Interim Vice Presidents Donna M. Murphy and Mark E. Lemons, and Barbara H. Tuttle, Executive Secretary of the Board of Regents.

Staff of the State Regents' Office included: Chancellor Hans Brisch, Executive Vice Chancellor Gary L. Smith, Senior Vice Chancellors Edward J. Coyle and Dan Hobbs, Vice Chancellor Melvin Todd, and Ms. Ruth Ann Dreyer.

Notice of the time, date, and place of this meeting was submitted to the Secretary of State, and the agenda was posted in the Office of the Board of Regents and in the Office of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education on or before 5:00 p.m., Thursday, September 15, 1988, both as required by 25 O.S. 1981, Section 301-314.

Regents Kemp and Helms called the meeting to order with each announcing that a quorum for his Board was present. Regent Helms expressed appreciation to The University of Oklahoma and The University of Oklahoma Board of Regents for the hospitality today. He referred to the State Regents' Budget and Planning Committee meeting, their special meeting which included a public hearing on admission standards, the tour provided of the Oklahoma Museum of Natural History and the Energy Center, plus dinner in the Ming Room immediately preceding this joint meeting. Regent Kemp said he was happy to welcome the State Regents' Board. He said he is a great believer of openness in government at all stages wherever it may be, following the rules of procedure, open meeting law, etc., and he's happy to see this group for this joint meeting.

Chancellor Brisch also expressed his appreciation on behalf of his staff. He thanked Interim President Swank for his help in making all of the arrangements for the various meetings and activities during the day.

ADMISSION STANDARDS

Chancellor Brisch said that at their special meeting this afternoon the State Regents did adopt a statement "Proposed Change in Admissions Policy" which is a baseline for discussion and receiving public input essential to the final policy development. A copy of the statement adopted is as follows and was distributed to each OU Regent.

"At the July meeting of the State Regents, an announcement was made of the Regents' plans to consider changes in their policy on admission to Oklahoma colleges and universities. To assist in the formulation of a proposed policy draft which would then be used for baseline discussion purposes, a series of public hearings was scheduled.

"Input received at the first public hearing on August 29 from students, institutional representatives, and the public at large has been utilized to formulate the following position. Additional public hearings are scheduled for September 18 in Norman, October 17 in Tulsa, and November 9 in Oklahoma City. Efforts are also under way to schedule an October hearing in western Oklahoma.

"It should be stressed that the baseline position stated below is to put a proposal before the public for response and is in keeping with the spirit of the official public hearing provisions. As we continue to receive public input and as our research reveals the impact of proposed changes, refinement of the draft will result in a recommendation that can be presented and acted upon by the State Regents.

"The following baseline position reflects principles that are reflective of the input received to date:

"Principles

"It is proposed that a new division of labor be effected in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, with the aim of building the two comprehensive universities into graduate and research institutions of national distinction, and of limiting the admission of students into the regional and special purpose universities to those who have demonstrated the capacity to complete a rigorous baccalaureate program. In order to accomplish these objectives, the State Regents put forward the following tentative proposal.

"Doctoral Research Universities

"The standards of admission to The University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University should be raised to provide for acceptance of the upper one-third of the Oklahoma high school graduating class, based on a combination of college aptitude scores and class standing, defined to include rank-in-class and grade-point-average.

"Regional Universities

"The standards for admission to the regional universities should be raised to provide for acceptance of the upper one-half of the Oklahoma high school graduating class, based on a combination of college aptitude scores and class standing, defined to include rank-in-class and grade-point-average. In the event that a particular university is located geographically apart from a two-year college and thus must serve all the high school graduates in the region, that university should have admissions standards appropriate to its assigned geographic function.

"Special Purpose Universities

"The standards for admission to the special purpose universities should be defined uniquely for each of the special purpose universities, in order to assure that each can carry out its unique mission and that students admitted have a reasonable chance of completing a rigorous baccalaureate program.

"Two-Year Colleges

"The two-year colleges currently serve as open-door institutions to provide access to all citizens of Oklahoma who can profit from higher education. Therefore, no change in admissions standards is envisioned for initial entrance into the two-year colleges. However, admission to a two-year institution does not guarantee automatic entrance into all of the programs offered at these institutions, nor does it assure transfer from a two-year college to a four-year institution unless baccalaureate standards are met.

"Timetable for Implementation

"The current policy on admissions standards already calls for an automatic increase in the ACT composite standard score at both the research universities and the regional universities, as well as an adjustment in the grade-point-averages required for admission. In the fall of 1989, the ACT score required for admission to OU and OSU will move from 18 to 19, and the score required for admission to the regional universities will go from 15 to 16. Therefore, even in the absence of a policy change, the standards are being upgraded in 1989. It is therefore suggested that the State Regents adopt a timetable of fall 1990 for implementation of any newly adopted changes in standards and criteria for the doctoral research universities, and a timetable of 1991 for implementation of changes at other institutions in the State System."

Chancellor Brisch summarized the proposals included in the document. Chancellor Brisch assured the OU Regents that the State Regents and staff want to work with the OU administration and the OU Regents to make sure that they have all pertinent information and that the State Regents move in a direction together with The University of Oklahoma. Chancellor Brisch asked Senior Vice Chancellor Dan Hobbs to come forward and review the background of the development of the admission policy at the State Regents' level and the considerations in developing a policy.

During the discussion of the studies that are taking place and the data that is available, Interim President Swank said the University has not shared with the State Regents the report of its Task Force on Admission Standards which does contain some of the data under discussion. He said more information needs to be gathered but he said the University will be cooperating with the State Regents and providing additional information in order to see what the affect of new standards would have upon OU's entering students. He said he will present information to the OU Regents in October so that material then can be sent on to the State Regents.

Chancellor Brisch commented that institutions that have adopted new admission standards often have found themselves in the situation where more students wanted to come to that institution because it was known as an institution with stricter standards. State Regent Kaiser commented that some high school counselors actually advise students to consider only schools which have test averages a little better than their own; it is the concept to compete against somebody who is a little better than you are in order to build your skills. He agreed that it has been the experience of many universities that the number of applications actually increases when higher standards are established. He said it is not certain that raising standards necessarily has the result of reducing the number of applicants. In the long run, it may actually increase the number of applicants.

Regent Sarratt raised questions about whether the students would be ready or the high schools themselves would be able to provide the standards, the level of teaching, in order for the students to meet the higher standards. State Regent Kaiser said clearly there has to be a relationship between the common schools and higher education to build higher standards. He commented that Gerald Hoeltzer, the new Superintendent of Public Instruction, was quoted as saying that common and higher education have to work together for higher education to set higher standards for admission; that he thinks this would serve as a catalyst to encourage kids to get a little more serious about their high school work. State Regent Kaiser said you can work from the bottom up but he believes also you have to work from the top down to encourage the schools to do the job that needs to be done.

During the discussion, Chancellor Brisch commented that we will also be able to gauge the impact in 1989 of a change in the admission standards because under the current policy of the State Regents the ACT minimum score for comprehensive universities will go up from 18 to 19 because the top half of the scores nationally has now reached 19.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

Interim President Swank said OU is in the process of examining the whole issue of student assessment. This project has been ongoing for about a year. He asked Provost Wadlow to comment further. She said last year OU sent a team of faculty and administrators to the AAAG Conference on Assessment. This conference brought together all of the different models that had been used throughout the country for some time. The team came back and reported on the various approaches and the University is in the process of setting up a Task Force now of students, faculty, and administration to study this issue. She said as soon as all nominations for the various positions are in the Task Force will proceed with the formal study.

In addition to the Task Force, Provost Wadlow said the University also is participating in two pilot projects for national organizations.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Interim President Swank reminded the State Regents that Gary Smith talked some about the campus master plans in the State Regents' Committee meeting this afternoon. He addressed one of the problems that has occurred with the campus master plans which have just been forwarded to the State Regents' Office and that is knowing just exactly what is needed. He said the report presented by OU shows the various kinds of projects: those to be funded totally by the State, those to be funded partially by the State and partially by private or gift grants, and those that are totally private, and the Section 13 and New College Funds projects.

Dr. Swank said there are two or three projects that are extremely important to the University. Two of the projects included on the tour for the State Regents this afternoon, the Oklahoma Museum of Natural History and the Energy Center, are two of the principal projects on the Norman Campus. He reported to the State Regents that Congress has now voted legislation that will provide \$3.5 million of federal funds for the Energy Center and this bill is going to the President for his signature. He said Governor Bellmon has made available \$1 million through the oil overcharge funds and the University has recently requested the State Regents to provide \$2.5 million which would complete the exterior work on the building. He said it is very critical to OU to know whether that \$2.5 million is going to be forthcoming by October because it is going to begin costing about \$100,000 a month in added charges that the contractor will levy against us if the funds are not forthcoming. He said there is approximately another \$1.7 million to be raised in private funding but the \$2.5 million is of critical importance at this time.

He reminded the State Regents of the legislative action last summer appropriating \$11.2 million to higher education for capital projects and that the Legislature had indicated their intent that \$2.5 million would be provided for the Energy Center and \$2.5 million for the Family Medicine Building at the

Health Sciences Center. He said the Governor vetoed the intent sections but the Legislature then came back and passed a resolution again setting out what their intent is. He said he understands the Constitutional authority lies with the State Regents to decide how the money should be spent but he believes it is very clear the Legislature thought it was time to get the project finished and to appropriate the last major piece of State money that would be needed. He said he hopes the State Regents will see fit to allocate the \$2.5 million to the University so the project can be completed and occupied on schedule.

Dr. Swank said we have a unique resource in the Oklahoma Museum of Natural History that probably cannot be reproduced around the country. This is a piece not only of Oklahoma history and heritage but is a heritage of the entire United States. He said the Energy Center is the number one priority because that project needs to be finished and the Music Center is the number two priority because that also needs to be completed but the Museum is the most important of the new projects that we have. He believes substantial private funds can be raised for that project but he also believes that the State should commit some funds in the next year or two. He said it will be an expensive project, probably in the range of \$40 to \$45 million. The first piece that is important to be completed is a storage and preservation facility. He reminded the Regents that the Museum is not just a place to preserve and display but is also a teaching facility. He said the first phase of the proposed Museum Building would have some classroom space because of the teaching importance and obviously some office space for Museum staff, but primarily the first piece would be a storage and preservation facility so that the collection we have can be adequately housed and safeguarded from fire, theft, and all the other risks that exist. He urged the State Regents to consider those projects very seriously.

At Dr. Swank's request, Provost Rich spoke to the critical need for the Family Medicine Building at the Health Sciences Center which he said now has been divided into three phases. Dr. Rich said he considers the Department of Family Medicine a very important department because it trains family physicians that play a strong role in the urban areas and are essential in the rural parts of the State of Oklahoma. He said in the last ten years an enormous effort has been put into building up that department, recruiting an excellent chairman and he in turn has recruited a very fine faculty. He said we now have one of the top family medicine departments in the country but it is still housed in facilities that were inadequate when there were only two faculty in the department. The project has been the highest priority for the Health Sciences Center for the past seven years or so. He reminded the State Regents that about \$800,000 has been available for this project for some time and that a request had been submitted that the State Regents allocate \$300,000 so that architectural planning could begin. He said it is a critical situation for the Department of Family Medicine.

During the discussion of the campus master plans, Gary Smith commented that after his meeting with the State Regents' Committee today he has some direction from the Board on how to proceed and he believes he will be able to present at the State Regents' October meeting a proposal of laying out the

new campus master plan for the entire State System according to the guidelines that he received. State Regent Helms said the State Regents had requested all of the institutions in the State System to provide an updated revised master plan for each campus. Those have all been submitted now. Since the State Regents are not receiving sufficient capital money at this time, it was thought they needed to have priorities for the entire system. Mr. Smith reported that the total capital requests from all sources of funds, including private and grants, for the entire State System is close to \$900 million but he does not at this time have a total of State-funded requests and only \$11 million is available from the Legislature for appropriation at this time.

ENDOWED CHAIRS AND PROFESSORSHIP PROGRAM

State Regent George Kaiser reminded the State Regents and OU Regents that in the last session the Legislature appropriated \$15 million for transfer to the Oklahoma State Regents Endowment Trust Fund in the State Treasury. The purpose of the program is to support the establishment of faculty chairs and professorships and to carry out other related activities calculated to improve the quality of instruction and research at colleges and universities in the State System. He said it is the legislative preference and the State Regents' preference that this not be used exclusively as an endowed chair program for the benefit of the research universities. He expects that ultimately the largest majority of the endowment will be for that purpose but it is intended to provide academic benefit throughout the entire system which might include endowment of visiting lectureships, visiting professorships, artist-in-residence and scholar-in-residence programs. In all cases, he said, it will be on a matching fund basis and the current plan is for the corpus to be maintained by the State Regents but funds allocated and segregated for the benefit of the institution which makes the proposal and provides the matching funds. Mr. Kaiser said a committee of the State Regents is now working on the policies and procedures for implementing the plan established by the Legislature and he hopes it will be possible for the State Regents to act on the program at the October meeting.

Interim President Swank reported he has a number of people who are ready and willing to make substantial contributions to The University of Oklahoma under this program. He said it is time to act now, however, and he urged the process be approved or he fears the initiative will be lost. He called attention also that the end of the tax year comes soon and this is a good time to raise funds for this type of program.

MEDICAL EDUCATION

State Regent Helms reminded the group that last spring Governor Bellmon asked the State Regents to conduct a study on medical education in Tulsa and to submit recommendations pertaining to that and the OU College of Dentistry and the Physician Manpower Training Commission. He said the Governor

is still interested in this study, that the transfer of OCOMS into Oklahoma State University did not settle that issue. Dr. Hobbs was asked to comment on the study. He said he has been asked to do the staff work which will lead to recommendations and that he will carry out the study whether he is still on the payroll or not. He said he is in the middle of the study, has had meetings with Provost Rich and other officials at the Health Sciences Center and some meetings with people from Tulsa representing the various constituencies there. He said there are two or three issues that are important and not the least of these is indigent care as far as it affects Tulsa and this is a very complex issue. He believes the State Regents will give the Governor a solution that he will find worthy and that the Legislature can act upon. Dr. Hobbs said he believes it would be premature for him to comment at this time about the College of Dentistry. He said the State Regents were on record of favoring the establishment in the 1960s of a comprehensive health sciences center, not a medical center which we had. He said we now have a first rate comprehensive Health Sciences Center and to subtract one of the most important colleges from that Health Sciences Center would probably be going back in policy direction different from the direction that the State Regents have had for the past 20 years.

At the request of Dr. Swank, Provost Rich commented that the University certainly will be glad to have the opportunity to cooperate in the study. These are very important issues for The University of Oklahoma. He said the College of Dentistry is a critical part of our overall health sciences environment. It was founded when the State had a severe shortage of dentists that was getting worse because students from the State wouldn't go to other states to study dentistry when they had so many other opportunities in-state for other careers. Dr. Rich said OU has adjusted the number of admissions to the College of Dentistry so that at the present time we believe the number of graduates just about makes up for the number of people retiring from the practice of dentistry or leaving the practice for one reason or another. He called attention to the quality graduate programs that have been developed in dentistry to train specialists that are in great shortage in this State. Dr. Rich said at the present time we barely have enough candidates to fill the class of 50 and they are very competitive; they could go into any other health profession including medicine. He does not believe that same number would study out of state and having done so would return to Oklahoma. He thinks shortly the State would be back under the conditions that caused the college to be formed the first time; that is, a severe shortage of dentists. He expressed the opinion that Dr. Hobbs in his examination of the issues around the College of Dentistry will convince the State Regents that maintenance of the College would be good public policy.

During the discussion, Chancellor Brisch also called attention to the research function of the College of Dentistry in a very complex health science environment and how that research contributes to the totality of research in the Health Sciences Center.

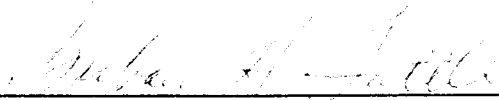
With regard to the medical education in Tulsa, Dr. Rich said he is not precisely sure of the issue there but he called attention to the fact that the Tulsa Medical College is not a medical college but is a branch clinical campus of the College of Medicine in Oklahoma City. He said about 35 to 40 of the total number of students admitted to the College of Medicine take their third and fourth years in Tulsa rather than in Oklahoma City. There are six departments with about 35 faculty based in Tulsa as opposed to 450 in Oklahoma City. He said the students could be educated in Oklahoma City instead of Tulsa but the State would be much worse off. Having the branch there provides the opportunity for good educational experiences in the major Tulsa hospitals which are high quality and do an excellent job. Beyond that, a residency program is maintained by OU in Tulsa that is based in the three private hospitals. Those residents are of good quality and they are of good quality because of our faculty. If TMC were discontinued, the residencies would cease. He said the Tulsa Campus is the base for a lot of the primary care and half of the training in Family Medicine. During the discussion, it was suggested that the question the State Regents probably have to answer is what is the incremental cost over a system in which there were no Tulsa Medical College and the 35 to 40 students were educated in Oklahoma City - to what extent would there be a dollar savings and then measure that dollar savings against the services TMC provides.

Provost Rich and Interim President Swank both indicated willingness to work with the staff of the State Regents in the development of the study.

UNIVERSITY CENTER AT TULSA

Interim President Swank said one of his concerns about the University Center at Tulsa is whether Tulsa and the people there have been asked what courses and programs they want to have. He feels it is important that we continue with a cooperative type program and asking the people in Tulsa what they need as far as the total educational system there is concerned. He also feels it is important for the institutions involved; that is, OU, OSU, Langston, and Northeastern, to establish cooperative programs - to try and put together programs where all four or two or three institutions can work together in providing a high quality program that is needed in the Tulsa area. He urged the State Regents to act as a catalyst to bring the institutions together to begin working in this fashion. He said he has already visited with President John Campbell at OSU about this. At Interim President Swank's request, Provost Wadlow commented on some areas, particularly engineering and business, where this type of cooperative program with OSU could be developed.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.



Barbara H. Tuttle
Executive Secretary of the Board of Regents