

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING  
THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA BOARD OF REGENTS  
SEPTEMBER 1, 1994**

A special meeting of the Board of Regents governing The University of Oklahoma and Cameron University was called to order in the Provost's Conference Room in the Robert M. Bird Health Sciences Library Building on the Oklahoma City Campus of the University beginning at 9:13 a.m. on Thursday, September 1, 1994.

The following Regents were present: Regent E. Murray Gullatt, Chairman of the Board, presiding; Regents G. T. Blankenship, J. Cooper West, Stephen F. Bentley, Melvin C. Hall, Donald B. Halverstadt, M.D., and C. S. Lewis III.

Others attending all or a part of the meeting included Dr. J. R. Morris, Interim President of The University of Oklahoma, President-Designate David Boren, Vice Presidents Jerry B. Farley and Mark E. Lemons, Interim Vice President Richard E. Hall, Mr. Fred Gipson, Chief Legal Counsel, and Dr. Chris Purcell, Executive Secretary of the Board of Regents.

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 on or before 9:00 a.m. on August 31, 1994, both as required by 25 O.S. 1981, Section 301-314.

**MEETING DATES FOR 1995**

Possible dates for the regular meetings of the Board of Regents in 1995 were included in the agenda for this meeting.

Regent Halverstadt moved approval of the following meeting dates for 1995:

January 24-25 in Oklahoma City  
March 20-21 in Norman  
April 18-19 in Norman  
May 9-10 in Tulsa  
June 13-14 in Norman  
July 18-19 in Oklahoma City  
September 12-13 in Lawton  
October 31-November 1 in Tulsa  
December 7-8 in Norman

The following voted yes on the motion: Regents Gullatt, Blankenship, West, Bentley, Hall, Halverstadt, and Lewis. The Chair declared the motion unanimously approved.

**SAM NOBLE OKLAHOMA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY**

At the meeting of the Board of Regents in March 1993, a report was presented on the status of the University's comprehensive campaign to raise \$20 million in private funds for the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History structure and for an endowment fund to support Museum programs and activities. At that time, the building was to be constructed at a

total cost of \$35 million utilizing \$15 million of private funds, \$15 million in State of Oklahoma higher education bond funds, and \$5 million in City of Norman bond funds. An additional amount of \$5 million in private funds was to be raised and placed in an endowment fund to support future operations, outreach services and public service activities of the Museum. Thus, the overall total funding goal for the Museum project was set at \$40 million.

As the project developed it became clear that several specialized consultants would be needed to assist with the preparation of the plans and specifications. These consultants: museum environmental systems and controls, building and collections security, site planning and landscape architects, and exhibit designers were not contemplated and funds for their services were not included in the original project budget. Also, as work has proceeded on the design and engineering of the heating and cooling systems for the project it has been determined by the project architects and engineers that more space than was originally estimated will be required to house air conditioning and electrical equipment.

At each step in the project design process revised construction cost estimates have been prepared and reviewed. In an attempt to conform to the approved project budget, every activity to be housed in the facility and every space in the building has been carefully studied and each space has been reduced to the smallest reasonable size. As a result of the space and cost studies it became obvious that one solution to the budget imbalance that had developed was to reduce the usable space needed for exhibits, collections storage and preparation, research laboratories and finally to eliminate the museum's auditorium.

In mid-July, after a review of the current architectural plans, the space available for museum activities, and a cost estimate for a project which could be constructed within the limits of the \$35 million budget, it became clear that an effort should be made to adjust the project budget rather than to eliminate the auditorium and reduce exhibit area and other spaces in the building. Therefore, it is proposed to increase the building budget by \$2.5 million to \$37.5 million and to increase the total project budget to \$42.5 million. If this request is approved, it will be possible to increase the exhibit space in the building from 39,000 net square feet to approximately 50,000 net square feet, to retain an auditorium seating approximately 250 people, and to resolve other pressing space problems. The total amount of private funds required for the project will be increased to \$17.5 million.

If the funds allocated for the design and construction of the building are increased, it will be necessary to adjust the contracts for professional services to cover the costs associated with the adjustments in project size and configuration.

Interim President Morris recommended the Board of Regents approve (1) a proposal to increase the building budget of the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History from \$35 million to \$37.5 million and the total project funding goal to \$42.5 million, and (2) the necessary adjustments to the professional services contracts needed to cover the additional work.

Regent Halverstadt moved approval of the recommendation. The following voted yes on the motion: Regents Gullatt, Blankenship, West, Bentley, Hall, Halverstadt, and Lewis. The Chair declared the motion unanimously approved.

**ADVANCE APPROVAL TO LEASE OR PURCHASE A TURBOPROP AIRCRAFT**

The University of Oklahoma Department of Aviation, in cooperation with the School of Engineering, has received a research contract from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for testing Global Positioning Systems (GPS) navigation equipment. The contract in the amount of \$567,000 provides for the testing utilizing University owned and/or operated aircraft and facilities. The project will utilize a Category A aircraft (a University-owned Piper Seneca twin engine aircraft) and a Category B (a twin turboprop engine aircraft to be leased or purchased by the University), to flight test Long Final Approaches and Missed Approaches into the Max Westheimer Airport.

The University has had difficulty in leasing or purchasing an aircraft because the used turboprop aircraft marketplace is not responsive to the normal University approval process. Three different aircraft have been identified for possible lease or purchase; however, in each case the transaction could not be consummated because on-the-spot approval authority was not available. Since the research contract will provide approximately \$285,000 for aircraft services, the most advantageous plan for the University would be to purchase an aircraft using an internal or Foundation loan. The FAA contract net proceeds could repay a major part of the loan. The estimated purchase price would be in the \$250,000 to \$450,000 range. The balance of the aircraft cost to fully pay off the loan could be offset by revenues received for University charter services provided by the aircraft. The additional use of a twin turboprop aircraft would be for faculty, staff, and Athletic Department transportation, as well as other State-supported offices or operations. The University has for some time needed a larger aircraft to provide transportation to its various departments and offices. The aircraft currently in the University's inventory that are used for transportation have limited capabilities. A twin turboprop aircraft would provide the range and capacity (7-9 passengers) to accommodate more areas of the University. Additionally, this type of aircraft has greater speed which equates to less flight time and can fly above most restricting weather.

In order to secure such an aircraft in the used aircraft marketplace, advance approval authority is required to (1) approve the purchase of the aircraft not to exceed \$450,000 and (2) approve the financial plan to repay the loan. This action will ultimately result in the University acquiring a high capability aircraft with most of the cost being funded by the GPS contract. If a suitable purchase cannot be arranged, then an aircraft lease will be pursued.

Interim President Morris recommended the Board of Regents provide approval of the following actions to support the FAA contract for Global Positioning Systems research:

When a suitable used aircraft is located, request the Foundation to finance all or a portion of the aircraft at a cost not to exceed \$450,000 with range of purchase being between \$250,000 and \$450,000 with the loan period not to exceed five years.

Regent Halverstadt moved approval of the recommendation. The following voted yes on the motion: Regents Gullatt, Blankenship, West, Bentley, Hall, Halverstadt, and Lewis. The Chair declared the motion unanimously approved.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL ACTIONS  
INTERIM DIRECTOR OF INTERNAL AUDITING**

Regent Lewis moved the Board meet in executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel-related issues as listed above. The following voted yes on the motion: Regents Gullatt, Blankenship, West, Bentley, Hall, Halverstadt, and Lewis. The Chair declared the motion unanimously approved. The executive session began at 9:22 a.m. in the same location. The meeting reconvened in regular session at 9:45 a.m.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL ACTIONS****Norman Campus:****Leaves of Absence:**

John P. Eckert, Director of Internal Auditing, short-term disability leave of absence with pay, September 1, 1994 to March 1, 1995.

Roland M. Smith, Vice President for Student Affairs, administrative leave of absence with pay, August 15, 1994 through May 15, 1995, annual rate of \$94,500 for 12 months (\$7,875.00 per month).

**Appointment or Reappointment:**

Laurie Williams, Assistant Dean of Students for Special Projects and Special Assistant to the President, President's Office, annual rate of \$57,500 for 12 months (\$4,791.66 per month), September 12, 1994. Paid from 112-7002, President's Office, and 142-7140, Student Affairs.

**Changes:**

Jim Hall III, Special Assistant to the President-Designate and Assistant Director for Alumni Affairs, changed from temporary part-time (.50 time) to permanent part-time (.50 time) with benefits, August 1, 1994. Paid from 152-7176, Alumni Affairs, pos. 102.65.

Richard E. Hall, title changed from Dean of Students and Assistant Vice President for Student Services to Interim Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students; salary temporarily changed from annual rate of \$60,900 for 12 months (\$5,075.00 per month) to \$85,000 for 12 months (\$7,083.33 per month), August 16, 1994. Paid from 142-7140 pos. 101.65. Assuming additional responsibility.

Interim President Morris recommended approval of the administrative and professional personnel actions shown below.

Regent Halverstadt moved approval of the recommendation. The following voted yes on the motion: Regents Gullatt, Blankenship, West, Bentley, Hall, Halverstadt, and Lewis. The Chair declared the motion unanimously approved.

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## **INTERIM DIRECTOR OF INTERNAL AUDITING**

The purpose of this item is to consider the appointment of an Interim Director of Internal Auditing.

Chairman Gullatt said Mr. John Eckert, currently the Director of Internal Auditing, is retiring as of this date for health reasons. He said during his own career he has had the opportunity to work with many people in similar positions and has never known anyone to handle their job as well in every aspect as John Eckert did. The University, and particularly this Board, are going to sorely miss John. He was superb and everyone is disappointed at this unfortunate turn of events. He will be missed.

Interim President Morris recommended approval of the appointment of Mr. Glen Earley as Interim Director of Internal Auditing effective September 1, 1994.

Regent Lewis moved approval of the recommendation. The following voted yes on the motion: Regents Gullatt, Blankenship, West, Bentley, Hall, Halverstadt, and Lewis. The Chair declared the motion unanimously approved.

## **PRESIDENT'S CONTRACT AND STAFFING REQUIREMENTS**

An item was included in the agenda on the consideration of the terms of a contract with President-Designate David Boren and to discuss expected staffing requirements.

Regent Lewis moved the Board meet in executive session for the purpose of discussing the issues listed above. The following voted yes on the motion: Regents Gullatt, Blankenship, West, Bentley, Hall, Halverstadt, and Lewis. The Chair declared the motion unanimously approved. The executive session began at 9:55 a.m. in the Provost's Conference Room.

The meeting reconvened in regular session in the same location at 1:25 p.m. The Chairman announced there were no actions to be taken as a result of the executive session.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:26 p.m.



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Chris A. Purcell  
Executive Secretary of the Board of Regents