

Board of Regents Meeting Minutes
Ohio Board of Regents, Columbus, Ohio
March 9, 2011

I. Welcome

Chair Tuschman called the meeting to order and welcomed Senator Peggy Lehner and Representative Gerald Stebelton to the Board of Regents. Chair Tuschman shared their backgrounds and invited them to make comments to the Board. Senator Lehner said she was delighted to serve on the Board and was looking forward to participating in the meetings. Rep. Stebelton said the Board of Regents serves a very important function and had excellent leadership over the past four years. He was anticipating meeting the board members and working with them.

II. Roll Call

Secretary Reiling stated, "the record reflects that notice of this meeting was given in accordance with provisions of the Board of Regents' Ohio Administrative Code §3333-1-14, which rule was adopted in accordance with Section 121.22(F) of the Ohio Revised Code."

Secretary Reiling called the roll. Those present were:

Patricia A. Ackerman
Timothy M. Burke
Rep. Gerald Stebelton
Senator Peggy Lehner
Lana Z. Moresky
Jim F. Patterson
Walter A. Reiling, Jr.
James M. Tuschman

Secretary Reiling declared a quorum was present.

III. Approval of Minutes

Chair Tuschman asked if there were any edits or changes to the draft January 5, 2011 minutes. A motion was made by Tim Burke, seconded by Lana Moresky to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion carried approving the minutes.

IV. Election of Officers

Chair Tuschman turned the chair over to Vice-Chair Patterson for the election of officers. Vice-Chair Patterson suggested that the Board review its by-laws on the election of officers to have the election coincide with the ending dates for the terms of Regents which traditionally has been in September. The floor was opened for nominations. In view of the state of transition happening with the Office of the Board of Regents, Secretary Reiling moved for the reelection of the current slate of officers to cover the term from the present until November as stated in the by-laws and that the election of officers be changed to coincide with the terms of the Regents. The motion was seconded by Patricia A. Ackerman. Vice-Chair Patterson asked if there were any other nominations. There being no further nominations, Vice-Chair Patterson closed the nominations and asked for a vote on the motion. The motion carried.

Chair Tuschman said there were three vacancies on the Board of Regents and that he would keep the Board apprised of nominees for those positions. The Governor's Office was working on filling the positions.

Chair Tuschman asked Vice-Chair Patterson, Regent Burke and Regent Moresky to serve as a committee to evaluate the Board's operational rules and give recommendations for modifications. One area for review would be the timing of the election of officers.

Chair Tuschman asked that the Resource Notebook be distributed to all new Regents and that updates be sent to all current Regents. Chancellor Fingerhut said that a copy of the updated operations manual would be sent to the Regents. Chair Tuschman said Chancellor Fingerhut was a tremendous asset to the state and would be missed.

V. Chancellor's Report

Chancellor Fingerhut gave a report encompassing the status of the University System of Ohio (USO), current initiatives, and pressing matters that needed to be acted upon. Updates included:

- Directive for Military Credit – The directive was signed and a press release was ready to be issued. The USO wants to give servicemen and women credit for training courses that are of a higher education level. Articulation and transfer is never static and courses will always be reviewed and added. States were encouraged to adopt the national standard on the transfer of military credits.
- Certificates of Authorization - Rules were being streamlined regarding appropriate standards and processes for the review and authorization of academic programs at private institutions so they can be offered in Ohio.
- Student Portal – This initiative will be a student centered system that allows students to see all course pathways available to them to complete their degree. He urged the Board to make the completion of the portal a top priority.
- Faculty Innovator Awards – These awards recognize faculty from across the state who have taken extraordinary measures to save costs. Recognition of these faculty members is very important. The third class of faculty innovators was recently introduced. To date, thirty awards have been given. He shared a video by Dr. Jeff Zeager and Carl Stitz on their creation of an algebra digital textbook and the savings to students.
- Flat World Knowledge Pilot – A joint pilot program between USO and Flat World Knowledge will let 1,000 seat licenses be offered to universities allowing students to receive digital textbooks for free. Support will be provided to the faculty and students. The Chancellor's staff is constantly looking for ways to control textbook costs. It is an area of huge potential and should be continued.
- Centers of Excellence – Work on five main Centers of Excellence categories that align with the Third Frontier initiatives was completed. Three schools were named Centers of Excellence in the new category of Cultural and Societal Transformation. The University of Cincinnati was just named a Center of Excellence in the area of Fine Arts for their Conservatory of Music.
- The State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) National Report shows that Ohio's enrollment growth is above the national average while its increase in tuition is below the national average. Ohio is still at the higher end for tuition, but it is moving in a positive direction. Ohio has not capped its enrollment even as state support has declined.

- State Enrollment Figures – Ohio has over 500,000 students enrolled in higher education. Distance learning has increased 25 percent from the fall of 2008. The average out of pocket expense per year for students is \$3,844. Chancellor Fingerhut noted that with the financial aid that is available, all students can afford to go to school in Ohio. The USO is working on building an integrated adult learning system that includes adult training and literacy centers.

Chancellor Fingerhut said the main goal of the Strategic Plan for Higher Education is to raise the educational attainment level in order to lift the prosperity of the citizens of Ohio. Statistics were shared showing the wage and employment gap that happens with the varying educational levels. Three shared goals with the institutions of the USO include:

- Graduate more students and keep them in Ohio. Internships and co-op programs are very important to meeting this goal.
- Attract talent to Ohio. Universities are magnets for talent to our state. The competition for this talent is growing as nations compete for brainpower through their universities.
- Keep graduates in Ohio. Higher education must work to help create jobs to keep graduates in Ohio.

Chancellor Fingerhut gave an extensive overview of work of the agency, its divisions and programs. He distributed the publication “University System of Ohio at a Glance” giving updates on Ohio’s Strategic Plan for Higher Education and the work of the Economic Advancement and the Affordability, Efficiency and Quality Division. Highlights of the work and accomplishments of the divisions were shared along with accountability metrics showing the progress made. Many of the initiatives require new skill sets for the universities such as working with businesses to create new industries. The Centers of Excellence program is also an ongoing part of Ohio’s growth toward attracting talent to align with industry needs. The Chancellor’s staff will work with companies to match them with schools to help with research and innovation.

Chancellor Fingerhut thanked the Regents for their support for the Third Frontier Issue One campaign. This initiative now has four full years of funding. Ohio is a top ten research state and the Chancellor’s staff is carefully tracking research data. There is \$2B in research in the state’s higher education institutions, not including other research facilities within the state. This research should be linked with job growth. The Economic Advancement Division is developing a database to link workforce needs to the person/institute that can meet the need. The template of the Proctor & Gamble agreement was extended to other companies to provide a standard form for use by all companies and schools. Schools can now invest in startup companies. Other programs that promote job growth are the Ohio Skills Bank, the Choose Ohio First Scholarship Program, and industry based certificates and workforce training.

The Chancellor’s staff has worked to make higher education more affordable by promoting efficiencies and low cost pathways. Textbook affordability is a process of helping the schools to institutionalize the move toward low cost materials. This work will never be finished as new opportunities are always arising.

The Distance Learning Clearinghouse is now online. This is a neutral platform on which any public or private provider can offer their product allowing the marketplace of programs to continue.

The Shared Service Partners share resources to create efficiencies. The Shared Service Partners are: Ohio Academic Resources Network (OARnet), Ohio Supercomputer Center (OSC), Ohio Learning

Network (OLN), Ohio Library and Information Network (OhioLINK), Ohio Articulation and Transfer Oversight Network, and eTech Ohio Commission. Chief Technology Officer Ann O'Beay coordinates these efforts.

The measurement of quality in higher education will be a growing focus for higher education. The Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA) is a program run by a nationwide consortium of colleges and universities. All fourteen of the USO universities are members of the consortium and are required to perform a student assessment survey and collegiate learning assessment which gives an "apples to apples" comparison.

Ohio recognizes the contributions of our military personnel to the state. One full time staff member works with schools and communities to partner with them on their veteran services. The GI Promise is a part of this effort. One full time staff also works with the campuses and their security offices for campus safety and to keep contact information current.

A report card was developed to measure the quality of Ohio's teacher preparation programs. Quality measurements include minimum standards, excellence and innovation, and continuous improvement. Trustee Engagement is an important initiative of the Regents to find ways to engage with USO trustees in such areas as communications and training. Other ongoing projects include the Student Portal and Central State University. Additional emphasis on non-credit credentials is an additional goal of Chancellor's staff.

The Milken Institute and Kauffman Foundation Report evaluates the impact of universities and systems on a state. The Chancellor's staff has designed a ground breaking study for the state of Ohio on what the USO is doing well and what it needs to do better. It is a vitally important initiative. The incoming Chancellor will need to sign the contract to move this forward.

Chair Tuschman said Chancellor Fingerhut and his team have proven themselves and the progress they have made for higher education has been significant. He thanked the Chancellor for a very well done job. The Board expressed their appreciation for his work with a standing ovation. Vice-Chair Patterson asked the Chancellor to capsulize in writing what the Board of Regents should look like, how it should be made up and what its role should be.

VI. Fourth Condition Report Draft Discussion

Consultant Brenda Albright reviewed the Fourth Condition Report draft with the Regents for their feedback and edits. Each section of the report was carefully reviewed and discussed by the Board for clarity and accuracy. Additional data will be included to support the conclusions as necessary.

The report will be sent to the Stakeholders for their review prior to the April Board meeting at which time the final draft will be approved. The report is scheduled to be released on April 30th.

Enrollment and retention issues and the need for residencies to keep professionals in the state could be a topic for a future condition report. The Regents may also change the format on future reports.

Chair Tuschman thanked Consultant Albright for her work on the report.

VII. Executive Session to Discuss a Personnel Matter

Chair Tuschman asked for a motion to move the Board into executive session. Regent Burke made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Patterson, to move into executive session. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Patricia Ackerman – aye, Tim Burke – aye, Lana Moresky – aye, Jim Patterson – aye, Walter Reiling – aye, James Tuschman – aye. The motion was approved and the Board moved into executive session.

A motion was made by Regent Reiling and seconded by Lana Moresky to move out of executive session. The motion carried.

VIII. Adjourn

Chair Tuschman asked if there was any further business to be brought before the Board. There being no further business items, Chair Tuschman declared the meeting adjourned.

The Regents attended the luncheon honoring outgoing Chancellor Fingerhut and presented him with a resolution thanking him for his service to the Board of Regents and the state of Ohio.

Walter A. Reiling, Jr.
Ohio Board of Regents

April 6, 2011
April 6, 2011