

**Access and Communications Committee
Ohio Board of Regents
Minutes of the Meeting of Thursday, March 22, 2007**

The March meeting of the Access and Communications Committee of the Ohio Board of Regents was held at the Board of Regents offices in Columbus, Ohio. The following Board of Regents Members were in attendance:

Members of the committee:

Anthony D. Houston, Committee Chair
Edmund J. Adams
Walt Reiling
Jerry Tatar

Other Regents in attendance:

Bruce R. Beeghly
Donna M. Alvarado
Jenny Brown
Jim Patterson
Jim Tuschman

The meeting was called to order by Regent Houston and the minutes of the January 2007 Access Committee were approved without objection.

Opening Comments

Regent Houston stated the following questions for consideration of the committee in the coming year:

- What does access mean to current and future students?
- What do we need to do to ensure access and successful matriculation?
- What are the best practices of institutions around the state and country that ensure access and success for all students?

Regent Houston also informed the committee of the recent appointment of former Senator C.J. Prentiss as an education policy advisor to Governor Strickland. He indicated that he looks forward to working with her on closing minority achievement gaps.

Committee Discussion Topics:

- **Ohio's Vision for a Seamless Education Transfer System:** Dr. Jon Tafel provided the committee with an overview of the extensive work that has been done in recent years in the development of articulation and transfer policies as mandated by House Bills 95 and 66 and shared with the Regents a vision for a seamless education transfer system that will provide students a clear road map to achieve their educational goals regardless of where they start.

In his presentation, Dr. Tafel highlighted:

- the faculty course review process that ensures consistent rigor and quality of courses across all institutions;

- the Course Applicability System and Electronic Clearinghouse that tells students exactly which courses will transfer between institutions;
- the new College Access Portal – an information resource for students, parents, and adult workers looking for information on how to go to and pay for college;
- and the development of college readiness expectations, early assessments, and common placement standards.

Regent Adams said that Dr. Roy Church and Dr. Nancy Zimpher should be recognized for their extensive work in support of articulation and transfer.

Regent Tatar asked about who would maintain the system as it is developed. Dr. Tafel replied that it was the responsibility of Regents' staff and that the work would continue.

Regent Tuschman commended Dr. Tafel and his staff for the excellent work that has been done and questioned if any other states were as far along as Ohio. Dr. Tafel indicated that a number of other states have called looking for information on how Ohio's articulation and transfer system has been developed.

Regent Reiling asked about the participation of private schools in the articulation and transfer agreements. Dr. Tafel answered that private schools are not required by law to participate, but are welcome to join as long as their courses are reviewed and meet the established content standards.

Committee Actions:

- Agenda Item 3.1 – **Revised Ohio Articulation and Transfer Policy** was reviewed and recommended for the consent agenda.