

**Resources Committee  
Ohio Board of Regents  
Minutes of the Meeting of December 14, 2000**

The meeting of the Resources Committee of the Ohio Board of Regents was held at the Regents' main offices on the 36<sup>th</sup> floor of the Rhodes State Office Tower in Columbus, Ohio. In attendance were the following:

Ohio Board of Regents members:

Ralph Schey, Committee Chair  
Stephen Perry

Ohio Board of Regents staff:

Eric Burke, Programmer, Higher Education Information System  
Roderick Chu, Chancellor  
Clyde Eberhardt III, Director for Capital Development  
Kyle Gephart, Administrator for Capital Development  
Harold Horton, Director, Higher Education Information System  
Jay Johnson, Assistant Director, Higher Education Information System  
Andy Lechler, Senior Analyst, Higher Education Information System  
Stephanie McCann, Assistant Director, Higher Education Information System  
Neal McNally, Assistant Director, Budget & Resource Planning  
Richard L. Petrick, Vice Chancellor for Finance  
Robert Sheehan, Associate Vice Chancellor, Performance Reporting & Analysis

Guests:

Larry Christman, Association of Independent Colleges & Universities of Ohio  
John Clymer, Belmont Technical College  
David Creamer, Kent State University  
Jim Johnson, Ohio Faculty Senate/Sinclair Community College  
Jan Neiger, Office of the Ohio Attorney General  
Jeff Ortega, Youngstown *Vindicator*  
Melissa Shearon, Association of Independent Colleges & Universities of Ohio  
Sheri Stoll, Kent State University

The meeting was called to order by Regent Schey and introductions were conducted. Vice Chancellor Petrick conducted an overview of the agenda. The Committee approved the minutes of its November meeting without objection.

### **Reports and Updates**

Vice Chancellor Petrick reminded the Committee that the Higher Education Performance Report was released today and that the \$1.6 billion instructional subsidy allocation would be on the consent agenda at the full Board meeting later that afternoon. Vice Chancellor Petrick noted the Higher Education Information (HEI) system's role in managing the data and resources necessary to prepare the Performance Report and calculate the instructional subsidy. Vice Chancellor Petrick introduced Harold Horton who gave a PowerPoint presentation on the development of the HEI system. Mr. Horton acknowledged the diligent work of his staff and Ohio's higher education community for helping to make HEI a fully functional information system. Mr. Horton described the HEI data areas that have been completed, including enrollment, faculty/staff, facilities, financial, and financial aid (partially completed).

According to Mr. Horton, since early 1998, the HEI staff has processed more than 50,000 data files consisting of some 33 million rows of data. Mr. Horton stated that HEI has empowered campuses with accurate and consistent data, and has improved higher education's responsiveness to legislative mandates and will help in responding to federal reporting requirements such as IPEDS. Additionally, HEI has streamlined the data-collection process and eliminated the need for duplicate reporting. Mr. Horton also outlined some of HEI's other features such as its queries and web-based reports. Stephanie McCann gave a brief demonstration on how authorized data-users may access information on campus facilities from the HEI database. In thanking Mr. Horton for his leadership, Vice Chancellor Petrick recalled that in its earlier stages, HEI had originally been called *BORIS* for Board of Regents Information System, but that Regent Perry had emphasized that this system should not belong to the Regents but rather to all of higher education. Vice Chancellor Petrick stated that the usage of the system by campuses confirms that HEI truly represents the information system for higher education in Ohio. Mr. Horton noted that other states have expressed interest in leasing aspects of the HEI system and/or using HEI as a developmental model. Regent Perry commended HEI for endowing campuses with good and timely data needed to make informed decisions. Chancellor Chu agreed, stating that the comprehensiveness of the data collected by HEI allows for new and fascinating questions to be raised that will ultimately lead to better decision-making. Regent Schey suggested that the Committee continue to look at the University of Phoenix for its efficient use of space and capital. Regent Perry asked whether the HEI database is accessible to only campuses or to the general public as well. Ms. McCann responded that campus-specific data is restricted and accessible to only authorized data-users at campuses but that the public may obtain more general data from HEI. Regent Perry wondered if this represented an issue of open access to public information. Vice Chancellor Petrick stated that maintaining certain restrictions helps to minimize potential breaches in security.

Vice Chancellor Petrick introduced Dr. John Clymer who briefed the Committee on Belmont Technical College's proposed land purchase. Dr. Clymer took the opportunity to first congratulate Mr. Horton and the HEI staff, stating that the HEI system represents a useful tool to his campus, notably when reporting IPEDS data to the federal government. Dr. Clymer then described the unique situation at Belmont Tech, which owns no parking space for its students, faculty or staff. With the aid of photographs, Dr. Clymer told the committee that Belmont Tech must lease parking space to accommodate its largely commuter student population. According to Dr. Clymer, the proposed land purchase would allow the College to begin long-term plans for expansion, which would be financed in future capital cycles.

Vice Chancellor Petrick updated the Committee on Owens State Community College's proposed relocation of its Findlay campus. Additionally, Vice Chancellor Petrick informed the Committee of a revision to the University of Toledo's capital plan, which would require no Board action. Clyde Eberhardt told the Committee that instead of renovating its field house as stated in its original capital plan, UT now plans to rehabilitate three existing buildings on campus at no additional cost to the University or to the state. This change would enable the University to provide more classroom and laboratory space for student use.

Vice Chancellor Petrick updated the Committee on the FY 2002 – FY 2003 operating budget recommendations, which were recently submitted to the Office of Budget & Management. Vice Chancellor Petrick acknowledged the work of Deborah Gavlik and Neal McNally in preparing the budget recommendations, and noted that this budget is

designed to improve Ohio's per capita income. Vice Chancellor Petrick recited an excerpt from the budget recommendations that read: "These budget recommendations are based upon what is now a commonly known fact: the economic competitiveness and prosperity of a state is increasingly dependent on the level of education attained by its citizens, the access of its workforce to continuing education and training, and the ideas and innovations generated by its university research engines and translated into new products and processes for the future . . ."

Vice Chancellor Petrick noted the recent passage of Senate Bill 346, passed by the General Assembly to correct FY 2001 appropriations. Specifically, this legislation provides \$650 million for Medicaid relief, \$250 million of which comes from the state's General Revenue Fund. According to Vice Chancellor Petrick, this bill allows the director of the Office of Budget & Management to cut GRF obligations to help offset rising Medicaid costs, and that while some agencies are exempt from these cuts, higher education is not exempt. However, Vice Chancellor Petrick stated that OBM is working to minimize the effect of these cuts on higher education.

### **Items for review in December**

Vice Chancellor Petrick asked Neal McNally to brief the Committee on the University of Cincinnati's request to pledge student fees in support of a bond issuance not to exceed \$91,650,000. Mr. McNally stated that \$84.1 million of this request represents an expansion of existing debt authority previously approved by the Committee and by the Board, and that the bulk of this request - \$74.1 million - would be used by the University to expand its cogeneration system project, which will allow the University to generate its own electricity. According to Mr. McNally, the University also seeks to issue general receipts bonds to expand its Campus Life project to include a 50-meter swimming pool, and bond anticipation notes to finance two classroom projects on campus.

Vice Chancellor Petrick noted the proposed \$250,000 joint use agreement between the University of Cincinnati and the Institute of Advanced Manufacturing Science. Clyde Eberhardt said that the primary purpose of this agreement is for the two parties to work collaboratively on course development.

### **Items for action in December**

Vice Chancellor Petrick briefed the Committee on the release and distribution of the FY 2001 instructional subsidy and Access Challenge allocations, which were revised to reflect the findings of a recent enrollment audit. Vice Chancellor Petrick noted the release and distribution of the \$4 million Workforce Incentive Grant portion of the FY 2001 Jobs Challenge appropriations. Vice Chancellor Petrick also noted Kent State University's request to pledge student fees in support of a bond issuance not to exceed \$155.5 million to finance construction and renovation of student housing and related facilities on campus. In addition, Vice Chancellor Petrick noted the \$500,000 addendum to the joint use agreement between Ohio State University and the Jack Nicklaus Private Operating Foundation, Inc. Finally, the Controlling Board items were noted.

The meeting was adjourned by Regent Schey.