

OHIO BOARD OF REGENTS

Agenda Item 3.7 Permanent Charter for Owens State Community College

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 3358.02 of the Ohio Revised, the Ohio Board of Regents in Resolution 1994-44 did create, on November 19, 1993, the Owens State Community College District, to replace the Owens Technical College District; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 3358.05 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Board of Regents in Resolution 1994-66 did on February 18, 1994, approve a Transitional Agreement for the transfer of assets, properties, and functions from authority of the Owens Technical College District Board of Trustees to the Owens State Community College District Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Board of Regents did authorize and direct the Chancellor on April 15, 1994, to issue a provisional charter for the operation of the College; effective until June 30, 1999, at which time an evaluation of the provisional operations of Owens State Community College will be conducted and permanent authorization considered; and

WHEREAS, Owens State Community College has expanded its mission, through pre-baccalaureate degree programming while continuing its strong support of technical education; and

WHEREAS, Owens State Community College has demonstrated its firm commitment to providing high quality Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees, assuring that students are moved assertively toward fulfillment of their educational objectives:

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Chancellor is hereby authorized and directed on behalf of the Board of Regents to issue a permanent Charter for the operation of the College.

BACKGROUND

OWENS STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Request for a Permanent Charter

In April, 1994, Owens State Community College was granted by the Ohio Board of Regents, a provisional change in status from a technical college to a state community college. The change was granted based on a proposal by the College which outlined its plans to implement over a five year period the fiscal, human, curricular and physical resources needed to support the change to a comprehensive community college. During this period Owens Community College has expanded and strengthened the Colleges' mission of meeting the needs of its service district through technical and pre-baccalaureate credit and non-credit education and training.

A status report submitted to Regents' staff document Owens State Community College's success through a substantial increase in student enrollment at all campuses in technical education and pre-baccalaureate programs, the number of transfer students attending classes, the campuses' facility expansion, the development of student support services and the College's ability to attract under served populations.

Academic and Student Support. Academic and student support services have increased significantly, including a new student advising and transfer center that assists students with course selection, degree completion requirements, and transfer guidance to four-year institutions, an international student office and advisor to serving their growing international student population, a new student health and activities center, a new library, and expanded services and programs for students with documented disabilities.

Articulation and Transfer: Owens State Community College has demonstrated a solid commitment serving pre-baccalaureate students. Since receiving the Provisional Community College Charter, Owens has formalized over twenty transfer agreements for the Associate of Arts and the Associate of Science degrees with various four-year institutions in Ohio and is the only community college outside of the State of Michigan to have a transfer agreement with The University of Michigan. Also, Owens is the only community college outside of Canada to have an articulation agreement with the University of Windsor.

Degree Programs: Since 1994, student enrollment in transfer programs has increased from 466 students in 1994 to 2,639 students in Fall 2000, a 566% increase. The Arts and Sciences Division of the College have developed a number of Arts and Sciences degree concentrations including Canadian Studies, Social Work, English, History, Biology, Pre-Professional Engineering and others.

Technical Education Enrollment: Owens State Community College has reinforced its commitment to technical programs through a 45% increase in student enrollment. Total student enrollment in April 1994 was 9,130 students compared to Fall 2000 when total student enrollment was 16,805, an increase of 84%.

Academic and Instructional Support: Through its strategic planning process and supporting its mission, Owens State Community College has increased staffing positions to support the instructional and student development divisions of the campus. Additional positions since 1994, include Director of Counseling Assistant Director of Financial Aid, Director of Student Life, International Student Advisor, and appropriate instructional staff needed for the technical and general studies courses. The College is a member of Ohio Library Information Network (OhioLINK), has satellite downlink facilities, and a Media Retrieval System that provides faculty members with remote access to various media such as CD-ROM, laser disks, videotapes in their offices and selected classrooms.

Owens State Community College has made great strides and has progressed in its ability to develop and implement the infrastructure needed to support the mission of a comprehensive community college. The College has made significant investments in the human, fiscal, curricular, and physical resources needed to provide the quality technical and pre-baccalaureate training and education to the community it serves.

