

**Access and Communications Committee  
Ohio Board of Regents  
Minutes of the Meeting of Thursday, June 16, 2005**

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

Ohio Board of Regents Members:

Donna M. Alvarado, Committee Chair  
Edmund J. Adams  
Bruce R. Beeghly  
Jenny Brown  
Anthony D. Houston  
Gerry Miller  
Jim Tuschman

Ohio Board of Regents Staff:

Jamie Abel, Assistant Director, Communications  
Harry Andrist, Director of Research and Graduate Programs  
David Barber, Consultant, Academic & Access Programs  
Roderick G. W. Chu, Chancellor  
Paula Compton, Director, Articulation & Transfer  
Bret Crow, Assistant Director, Communications  
Erin Emerin, Administrator of College Access Information  
Kristina Frost, Vice Chancellor for Operations  
Jane Fullerton, Associate Vice Chancellor for Educational Linkages & Access  
Deborah Gavlik, Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance & Government Relations  
Darrell Glenn, Director, Performance Reporting and Analysis  
Cathy Hill, Administrator, Workforce Development  
Tony Landis, Administrator, Workforce Development  
Tom Linley, PC/LAN Support  
Neal McNally, Assistant Director, Budget & Resource Planning  
Rich Petrick, Vice Chancellor for Finance  
Marlene Rushay, Administrator, Professional Development  
Leslie Sawyer, Director, Access Initiatives  
Ryan Scribner, Legislative Liaison, Finance & Government Relations  
Charles Shahid, Director, SGS  
Jonathan Tafel, Vice Chancellor for Educational Linkages & Access  
Russ Utgard, Project Director for Improving Teacher Quality  
Garrison Walters, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs & Economic Advancement

Guests:

Larry Christman, Association of Independent Colleges & Universities of Ohio  
Chris Baldwin, Owens Community College

Tony Barnes, University of Akron  
Linda Carr, University of Toledo  
Peggy Kasten, Director of the Ohio Resource Center for Mathematics, Science, and Reading  
Tom Lasley, Dean of Education at the University of Dayton  
Joan Leitzel, Assistant Director of Mathematics and Science Literacy with the Ohio Department of Education  
Cindy McQuade, Inter-University Council  
Jim McCollum, Inter-University Council  
Pat Myers, Kent State  
Margie Rolf, University of Cincinnati  
Terry Thomas, OACC  
David Todt, Shawnee State  
Shaun Yoder, Governor's Office

The meeting was called to order by Regent Alvarado and the minutes of the May 2005 Committee were approved without objection.

**Major item for discussion:**

**Mathematics: The Gate Keeper for Access and Success**

The committee engaged in a round table discussion with guests Tom Lasley, Dean of Education at the University of Dayton; Peggy Kasten, Director of the Ohio Resource Center for Mathematics, Science, and Reading; and Joan Leitzel, Assistant Director of Mathematics and Science Literacy with the Ohio Department of Education.

The committee and guests addressed a number of questions and issues including:

- What does it takes to improve math achievement and aspiration?
- What is being done to increase the requirements for a more rigorous mathematics curriculum?
- What can be done to effect a change in the perception in our culture that mathematics is something to fear?
- Is there a current or looming deficiency in the number of quality mathematics teachers?
- What will it take to make the lack of proficiency in mathematics as unacceptable as the lack of proficiency in reading?

For each question, the committee heard about initiatives each of the guests were involved in to address the issue. Ideas were exchanged about how to proceed in the future.

For example:

Regent Alvarado asked the guests exactly what it takes to improve math achievement and aspiration. Ms. Letizel responded that math learning is a sequential "brick by brick" process. She indicated that ODE is analyzing data to determine where the weaknesses in Ohio's system appear to be. Ms. Kasten added that in the United

States, we have a remedial math philosophy that expects students to fail at every level – a philosophy that unintentionally facilitates failure.

Regent Adams asked about the CHEE (Governor’s Commission on Higher Education and the Economy) recommendation to require a four year math curriculum that is progressively more rigorous. Ms. Leitzel confirmed that students who complete four years of math have increased success and reduced remediation in college, but that public universities currently only require three years of high school mathematics.

Regent Miller asked about changing the culture of fear of mathematics to a culture of enjoyment. Ms. Kasten replied that the fact that math is often used as a form of punishment is very telling. She added that better math teachers in elementary schools will help change the culture of fear. Mr. Lasley added that it is very important for teachers in early grades to have adequate preparation. He believes the new cycle of teachers will be better prepared.

Regent Tater asked if there is a deficiency of quality math teachers. Ms. Leitzel replied that there is a high turnover rate for math teachers, noting that over 50% of math teachers leave the profession within the first five years following graduation. Chancellor Chu said that part of the problem is that a math major is difficult to obtain and it more lucrative to go into business in the private sector with that type of degree. The group discussed the idea of developing a math education major instead of a one size fits all math major.

### **Conference Committee – H. B. 66**

Associate Vice Chancellor Deborah Gavlik gave an update on H.B. 66, the pending biennial operating budget bill. She informed the committee about the membership of the conference committee and testimony from OBM on revised revenue projections. Ms. Gavlik noted that increased funding for higher education had been identified as a priority by the majority leadership.

### **Access Hot Line**

Vice Chancellor Tafel and Charles Shahid told the committee about the new College Access Information Hot Line that prospective students can call to obtain information about preparation for college, admissions, financial aid, articulation and transfer, and general facts about enrollment at colleges and universities throughout Ohio.

### **The Issue**

Ryan Scribner informed the committee that the latest version of *The Issue* is about the new Ohio College Opportunity Grant. He indicated that this edition is in the final draft stage and will be distributed to the General Assembly in the near future.

### **H.B. 251 – Energy Efficient Designs**

Deborah Gavlik provided an update on the progress of H.B. 251, Rep. Uecker’s bill to require energy efficient designs practices for state capital funded construction projects. She informed the committee that Jim Nargang had provided interested party testimony for the bill’s second hearing this week, and that no further committee action on the bill was expected until the General Assembly returns from summer break.