

**Access and Communications Committee
Ohio Board of Regents
Minutes of the Meeting of Thursday, May 18, 2006**

The May meeting of the Access and Communications Committee of the Ohio Board of Regents was held on the campus of Ohio University Eastern Campus. The following Board of Regents members were in attendance:

Members of the committee:

Anthony D. Houston
Jim Patterson
Walt Reiling

Other Regents in attendance:

Bruce R. Beeghly
Jenny Brown

Jim Tuschman

The meeting was called to order by Regent Houston and the minutes of the April 20, 2006 Access Committee were approved without objection.

Major items for discussion:

High School to College Articulation Committee – Expectations and Placement

Vice Chancellor Jon Tafel and Associate Vice Chancellor Jane Fullerton gave the committee an update on the work of the High School to College Articulation Committee. They indicated that the committee had recently been focused on two primary issues: a) high school competencies needed to be successful in college; and b) placement assessments to determine remediation needs.

Jane Fullerton explained that the articulation committee has been working collaboratively with colleagues in K-12 education for two years on the development of college readiness standards. The standards shared with the Regents have been

reviewed and approved by campuses and ultimately will provide guidance for teachers, students, schools, and families about what it means to be college ready.

The development of placement assessments has and will be more difficult. Many variables must be considered such as variations in the kinds of proprietary assessments currently used and variations in the levels of proficiency needed for placement in college level courses. It is expected that standards will be developed over the next couple of months. These standards would then need to be piloted to measure impact and applicability.

Regent Patterson suggested that early assessments should be used in the freshmen or sophomore years of high school to allow time to remediate students before they enter college. The assessments given by institutions could then be used to determine in what level above an introductory level students should be placed.

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Proposal Update

Deborah Gavlik, Associate Vice Chancellor of Finance and Government Relations, reported to the committee that Governor Taft had issued an executive order to release \$30 million in unused federal TANF money for use in the Regents-proposed higher education voucher program. She explained the basic concept of who would be eligible and how the vouchers could be used, and indicated that Regents' staff would be working with campus officials and Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services (ODJFS) staff on implementation details.

Regent Beeghly asked how many years the program was scheduled to last. Deborah explained that it was one-time money, but that we hoped to show improved student success as a result of the program and are hopeful that additional funding might be secured in the future.

Regent Reiling questioned how campuses will handle the money and if there was a mechanism in place to evaluate the success of the program. Deborah Gavlik told him that staff are working on how to quantify results of the program.

Trustee Conference Plans

Kris Frost, Vice Chancellor of Operations reminded the Regents of the roles they will play in the upcoming conference and asked for the Regents help in getting more trustees to register for the event.

Government Relations Update

Deborah Gavlik informed the committee of recent activity on the Ohio Core legislation moving through the House and Senate. She also outlined the current debate within the Higher Education Funding Study Council about how to spend the additional \$30 million currently appropriated for the State Share of Instruction (SSI) in FY 2007.