

**Access and Communications Committee  
Ohio Board of Regents  
Minutes of the Meeting of Thursday, January 27, 2005**

The meeting of the Access and Communications Committee of the Ohio Board of Regents was held at the Reese Center on the campus of the Central Ohio Technical College and The Ohio State University/Newark. In attendance were the following:

Ohio Board of Regents Members:

Members of the Access and Communications Committee

Donna M. Alvarado, Committee Chair  
James Tuschman

Other Regents in attendance:

Edmund J. Adams  
Bruce R. Beeghly  
Anthony D. Houston  
Thomas Noe  
Sen. Joy Padgett – ex officio  
J. Gilbert Reese

Ohio Board of Regents Staff:

Jamie Abel, Assistant Director, Communications  
Roderick G. W. Chu, Chancellor  
Bret Crow, Assistant Director, Communications  
Jocelyn Frasier, Assistant Director, Communications  
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  
Jay Johnson, Assistant Director, HEI  
Neal McNally, Assistant Director, Budget & Resource Planning  
James Nargang, Assistant Director, Capital Development  
Rich Petrick, Vice Chancellor for Finance  
Ryan Scribner, Legislative Liaison, Finance & Government Relations  
Jonathan Tafel, Vice Chancellor for Educational Linkages & Access  
Russ Utgard, Project Director for Improving Teacher Quality  
Bill Wagner, Research Analyst  
Garrison Walters, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs & Economic Advancement

Guests:

Larry Christman, Association of Independent Colleges & Universities of Ohio

Joseph Johnson, Ohio Department of Education  
Cindy McQuade, Inter-University Council  
Jim McCollum, Inter-University Council  
Terry Thomas, OACC  
Shaun Yoder, Governor's Office  
Susan Zelman, Ohio Department of Education

The meeting was called to order by Regent Alvarado and the minutes of the September 2004 Committee were approved without objection.

### **Reports and Updates:**

#### High School Task Force Report

Superintendent Dr. Susan Zelman and Special Assistant Joseph Johnson of the Ohio Department of Education gave a report on the findings of the State Board of Education's Task Force on Quality High Schools for a Lifetime of Opportunities.

The report expressed a need for a collaborative effort between K-12 and higher education to achieve the goals of improving learning conditions, developing a more rigorous high school curriculum, decreasing drop out rates, and improving transitions from high school to college.

Dr. Zelman and Mr. Johnson explained that the implementation plan to achieve these results focuses on aligning expectations and performance goals, establishing ways to monitor progress, developing support systems for teachers and students, and increasing accountability for desired results.

Regent Tuschman asked what Dr. Zelman's take was on the concept of remediation free students coming out of high school into college. Zelman answered that well defined standards of what a remediation free student is need to be established and shared with schools, parents, and students before high school graduation.

Senator Padgett commented that problems may be due to a lack of ambition and not just lack of ability. It was agreed that there is a cultural problem in Ohio of convincing parents of the need for higher education.

Regent Houston asked about best practices to address the high school dropout problem. Zelman responded that better training of reading teachers was needed. She noted that the biggest factor influencing drop outs was a lack of literacy skills.

#### Distribution of Funds under the Improving Teacher Quality State Grants Program

Russ Utgard and Jon Tafel presented the Regents with a resolution to distribute \$2.6 million in Improving Teacher Quality State Grants to twenty high need school districts around the state. They explained that the grants are used in programs focused on improving teacher quality through in-service activities for elementary and secondary teachers offered in collaborative arrangements that involve higher education faculty and professionals from the public and private sectors.

Regent Tuschman asked how the success of the programs is measured and commented that guidelines for quantifying success should be established. Jon Tafel

responded that each program has an evaluation plan, but that it is not easy to quantify success because many results are objective.

The resolution was agreed to with all committee members voting in favor.

#### Legislative Update

Deborah Gavlik shared the latest version of The Issue and detailed recent meetings with the new chair of the House Higher Education Subcommittee, Rep. Shawn Webster.

#### Media Update

Jamie Abel informed the Board of a recent workshop that OBR staff held for higher education reporters. The reporters were briefed on a variety of higher education issues ranging from the pending budget to articulation and transfer.

Regent Alvarado adjourned the committee.