

Minutes
OHIO BOARD OF REGENTS
March 18, 2008

The public board meeting was called to order by Regent Donna Alvarado at 9:00 a.m.

Regent Alvarado stated that the primary purpose of the meeting was to review the final draft of the condition report, give additional comments to Brenda Albright, and discuss communication strategies that the Regents would engage in with the Chancellor.

Chancellor Fingerhut joined the meeting via video conference.

The roll was called by Secretary James M. Tuschman. Those present were:

- Edmund J. Adams
- Donna M. Alvarado
- Bruce R. Beeghly
- Jeanette Grasselli Brown
- Walter A. Reiling Jr.
- Jerome F. Tatar
- James M. Tuschman

Regent Tuschman stated that “the record reflects that notice of this meeting was given in accordance with provisions of the Board of Regents’ Ohio Administrative Code § 3333-1-14, which rule was adopted in accordance with section 121.22(F) of the Ohio Revised Code.” Regent Tuschman reported that a quorum was present.

Regent Alvarado asked Chancellor Fingerhut to share updates on his Strategic Plan with the Board.

Chancellor Fingerhut began by congratulating the Regents on their Condition Report, and commending them for their good work. He then talked about the Strategic Plan and recognized and thanked the Business Alliance for Higher Education (BAHEE). He reported that it was a strong desire of the business community to have a STEM metric. He said that he and BAHEE had agreed to co-develop the survey that is reflected in the second to last metric under economic advancement, the metric about the satisfaction of business with higher education in Ohio. Another element of the Business Compact with BAHEE is to market higher education. One of the mandates from the General Assembly was to work with business to understand their needs and their understanding of the changes required of higher education.

Chancellor Fingerhut reported that he didn’t include a specific accountability metric, but said that was clearly a strategy that he is pursuing.

Regent Alvarado stated, with regard to the BAHEE, that she looked forward to reading the appendix with BAHEE’s specific thoughts and recommendations.

She also said that higher education's relationship with business is an integral part of Ohio's future growth.

Chancellor Fingerhut stated that the exact nature of how the Compact with BAHEE will work. He said that one of the things he is trying to get his arms around is tracking our graduates. He announced that he would work to develop a comprehensive tracking system in partnership with Ohio's universities.

Regent Reiling said that one of the things that had bothered him were the projections of the business community and business roundtable as to what they would like to see in terms of the increased production of STEM graduates. He asked if that issue had been addressed with the business community.

Chancellor Fingerhut acknowledged that this was a subject in which Dr. Reiling was well versed and said that no matter how many studies are generated that we would probably never achieve perfect consensus.

The Chancellor, in response to Regent Brown, also talked about the private fund raising initiative that he began in partnership with OCAN, the Ohio College Access Network. Regent Alvarado said that she looked forward to personally helping advance the goal for participation in Early College opportunities for students.

Regent Tuschman asked the Chancellor if he wanted to talk about the roll out for the Strategic Plan and the Condition Report. Chancellor Fingerhut reported that he and his staff were scheduling roundtable discussions with communities around the state. He said that the plans had not been finalized but it was important to have both the Condition Report and the Strategic Plan as topics for those meeting.

The Regents continued the meeting with a discussion of the Condition Report. Regent Tuschman thanked the chair and invited comments from the Regents, the Chancellor and anyone about the report. Regent Tuschman commented that the cover page needed to say "Board of Regents." He said that there was a quote from the governor's commission so one could actually think the report is a Governor's Commission report. Brenda Albright reported that the designer was still working on pictures and coordinating that with the Chancellor's work.

Regent Tuschman stated that because the report is going out from the Board of Regents he needed to see any new pictures before the report is printed.

Regent Brown talked about concerns about a statement in the "Affordability" section that states that the Ohio College Opportunity Grant fully funds tuition at public two-year institutions. Regent Alvarado suggested that the report could highlight some of the ideas that have been discussed in the past. She also stated the topic of affordability is something that we will be looking at as a possible area for deepened discussion for the second report.

Regent Tuschman acknowledges his colleagues on the Board of Regents for their support on the Condition Report. He then thanked the Chancellor and his office and staff. He said that the report was not perfect, but he hopes that the Board will be able to expand its coverage in the next edition. He said that the report accomplishes

its purpose, gives policy makers, the Governor, the legislature, the Chancellor, the Higher education community, the business community, and others a clear and understandable snapshot of the condition of higher education in our state at this time. Regent Tuschman moved that the Board of Regents first report on the Condition of Higher Education be approved in concept. He further moved that the Regents consultant, Brenda Albright, in consultation with the Executive Committee of Regents, be empowered to make whatever editorial or substantive changes necessary to complete the draft of the Condition Report. The motion was seconded by Regent Adams.

The motion passed unanimously.

Regent Alvarado called for a ten minute recess.

Regent Alvarado recalled the meeting to order. The next agenda item relates to the communication strategies. The Chancellor has outlined the immediate communication strategies for the roll out of the report and we will let him know who will be at each of the events and we will be needing to develop some background material for everybody so that we can have consistency in our messages. We will be following up on that and Deborah can be the liaison with the Chancellor, and Mike and whoever else needs to be involved in that.

This topic however is really relating to an outline of stakeholder feedback strategies and I'm going to again turn this over to Jim and Brenda to lead us through this conversation and get your thoughts and input in terms of next steps.

Regent Tuschman, we had conferred with Brenda about ways that we could get feedback from the constituencies. Next year we want to try to amplify what we did this year, and have some situations where the Regents, perhaps in Dayton Regents Walt and Jerry would met with representatives and universities around their area and those of us in different areas would work with our particular areas, that of course doesn't mean Regents can't cross over, but again everybody's time is at a premium so that was our thinking.

Brenda Albright stated, when we initially began thinking about the Condition Report, we did outline some opportunities for stakeholder feedback, but I really think, as Jim has indicated, you have really got a great opportunity to speak with the leaders and colleges in your community about the current Condition Report

Regent Alvarado stated, I'm wondering if it would be helpful for each of the Regents to think about who would be the key folks that we would be communicating with to begin to assemble those names and organizations.

Regent Tuschman stated the Chancellor would have some thoughts on that.

Regent Brown stated, Madam Chair may I suggest that a very nice approach in those stakeholder meetings might be to actually look at the accountability measures in the Strategic Plan. Our condition report will inform, but these are the things that people are going to be interested in, and if we group our abilities to get to stakeholders in these areas we will find out number one do they understand it, do they have the

information they need from our fact finding condition report, if not that will inform us what more we could add perhaps.

Regent Tuschman stated, I think in those meetings there will be comments about the Condition Report, comments about the Master Plan, comments about whether this is attainable or not and what they would have to do to make that happen in their own regions.

Regent Alvarado stated “and also to frame the agenda”.

Regent Reiling stated, what if we created a power point presentation (10-15 minutes) that we could use for service clubs, and meetings with the various university trustees, if they are willing to have us.

Chancellor Fingerhut agreed and was also going to jump in a little earlier when you mentioned Rotary Clubs and others, I wouldn't think that it would be too hard to put together a relatively standard presentation that incorporates both elements of the Condition Report and the Strategic Plan that any of us could utilize in any forum and make a concerted effort to get out and do that. I'm particularly interested in dialoging with Regents and trustees about their responsibilities and their understanding of the situation.

Regent Alvarado stated, we will look forward to developing a plan of action and getting together a good presentation and then maybe we can get some help in reaching out to the appropriate folks.

Regent Alvarado stated the next item really is talking about where we go from here, in terms of our role in assessing the condition of higher education and providing an annual report. The Chancellor intends to make his an annual report as well.

Regent Tuschman stated December 31st is not the date. Nobody is here, you will never give anybody to listen to anything on December 31st so it's has to be a different date in my opinion.

Regent Alvarado stated, the statute does not give a specific date so we are free to set our own date.

Regent Tater stated this doesn't necessarily drive it, but fortunately in our materials we have set up some metrics, the Chancellor has set up a number of metrics so the first question would be when do you have the data?

Chancellor Fingerhut stated, actually I think that Regent Tater's point dovetails the money. If you choose to comment on our progress that would be your decision but then also to highlight which strategies appear to be working.

Regent Tater, so based on those two comments, it sounds like November 1, 15, 30th somewhere in there is the perfect timeframe.

Chancellor Fingerhut requested that we get input from Rich Petrick and or Darrell Glenn on the collection of data.

Regent Alvarado stated, we are thinking both in the short-term and long-term getting on a cycle that makes sense for an ongoing schedule.

Chancellor Finger stated, we can hope to influence the governor's recommendation in January and I think the thing to think about is that the even number years are election years and the entire house of representatives and half of the senate stands for election in even numbered years, so you would have those new members elected – the first week in November, if you were able to supple them with some relevant data as they start to think about their responsibilities, that is probably not a bad thing to do.

Regent Alvarado stated, those are excellent points.

Regent Tatar stated, in terms of our report to line up with the biennium budget, typically you would want a report such as the one we are issuing here in March, and I'm not sure what useful updates we are going to be able to make over a six month period if we choose but it looks (for all these reasons) like November is really the perfect time that this should be made available

Regent Adams stated, I would supplement with something we discussed last night and that is to deal with specific topics and you don't have to wait for new data to do that. Like the capital subject. So this report could be what Jerry is saying plus it could deal with one two or three specific subjects to be done in depth. We could start that now.

Regent Tatar stated, we had talked to the executive committee previously with the Chancellor of perhaps getting on a two year cycle, and every other one would be a General Report like the one we are issuing now. And the other would be subject specific such as Capital, which would be a huge one and probably take a year to do.

Regents Alvarado stated that Darrell Glenn had arrived.

Darrell Glenn, stated that by November most data has been updated and felt that November 15th was a reasonable expectation date.

Chancellor Fingerhut stated that we are beginning to collect unit record data for the first time this year and Darrell could probably give us a good idea of when we might actually have some information.

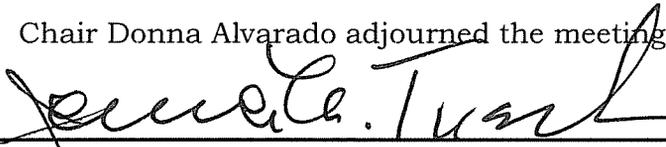
Regent Alvarado stated, you have a printout with some dates about the rest of the year, and to think about selecting key issues to go into in-depth for augmenting our report, and any one of these would be alright to work on for this year and we also talked about having the leadership of specific regents on topics in which they have a particular interest and expertise. Most of the Regents have expressed interest in this. Should we change the order that we talked about. September retreat was discussed as a good time to do this as the new regents could sit in on the discussions and hit the ground running when their terms begin at the end of September.

Regent Alvarado asked is this the year that we should focus on the capital budget if we hope to have any influence, or is it already beyond that point.

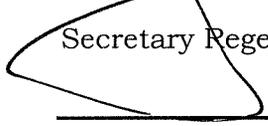
Chancellor Fingerhut stated , I think Madam Chair that it would not be in time to influence this capital budget but certainly you would have this capital budget to analyze if you are trying to make a capital budget issue. If you want people thinking about change, it's never too early.

Rich Petrick spoke on the capital budget. Control budget is reduced this year. We have been working with campuses to revise their projects.

Chair Donna Alvarado adjourned the meeting.



Secretary Regent



Date

MAR 18, 2008