

**UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND ARTS OF OKLAHOMA
BOARD OF REGENTS
MINUTES
April 14, 2021**

The Board of Regents for the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma met Wednesday, April 14, 2021, via videoconference. Before the meeting was called to order, President John Feaver stated that advance public notice of this meeting was properly filed and displayed in compliance with the Open Meeting Law. Chairman Cordell led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and then called the meeting to order at 1:32pm and asked for roll call. Members remotely present via videoconference: David Ferrell, David McLaughlin, Diane Ming, Chris Mosley, Cale Walker, and Kelly Wilkerson. Members physically present on campus: Tom Cordell. Also physically present on campus were President John Feaver and Vanessa McNabb, Executive Assistant to the President and Secretary to the USAO Board of Regents. Others remotely present via videoconference: Vice President Donna Miles, Vice President Sid Hudson, Vice President Monica Trevino, Director of Communications and Marketing Amy Goddard, and Director of Alumni Development Misti McClellan.

Introductions: None.

Presentations: Due to the meeting being held via videoconference these award recipients were recognized for their accomplishments:

Vice President Miles announced the Regents Faculty Achievement Awards

Superior Teaching awarded to Shaylee Chester, Instructor of Early Childhood Education and Director of the Child Development Center

Service awarded to Dr. Ben Wetherbee, Assistant Professor of English and IDS

Scholarly Activity awarded to Dr. Dany Doughan, Associate Professor of Chemistry

Vice President Hudson announced the Bill and Pat Smith Scholar-Athlete Awards

Tarah Madron, Biology and Natural Science major, Softball

James (Butch) Hampton, Physical Education major, Men's Soccer

Approval of the Minutes of the March 4, 2021, Special Meeting: On a motion by Regent McLaughlin, seconded by Regent Walker, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Communications: None.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

1. Personnel –

a. Changes in Status

Tailor Sutherland, effective January 1, 2021, Video Coordinator, salary \$30,000.00

b. Approval of Faculty for Third Trimester

Summer Session 2021

Tonia Anderson	11,584.00	Sean Kelley	4,920.00
Annick Bellemain	13,120.00	Jackie Knapp	11,480.00
Brett Benson	6,660.00	Sarah Layman	8,688.00
Nicholas Boyd	5,080.00	Jeannette Loutsch	6,560.00
Brenda Brown	13,920.00	Priscilla Malmstrom	8,880.00
John Bruce	8,200.00	Linda McElroy	13,120.00
Shaylee (Kimbrow)			
Chester	8,880.00	Blake Morgan	1,448.00
Kevin Crow	13,120.00	Robert Newbrough	7,620.00
Katie Davis	13,120.00	David Reed	3,810.00
Dany Doughan	8,688.00	Matt Reynolds	8,890.00
James Finck	8,688.00	Jason Shaw	11,584.00
Christopher Garneau	11,584.00	Misty Steele	7,620.00
Rachel Jones	7,240.00	Layne Thrift	11,584.00
Joshua Hakala	6,350.00	Quan Tran	11,584.00
Nancy Hector	3,280.00	James Vaughn	4,344.00
Yunjae Hwang	6,350.00	Jordan Vinyard	5,792.00
Rachel Jones	7,240.00	Brandon Wood	5,080.00
Aleisha Karjala	9,840.00		

Independent Study- Summer 2021

James Finck	1,500.00	Matt Reynolds	1,500.00
Chris Garneau	1,500.00	Jason Shaw	750.00
Karen Karner	1,500.00	Zach Simpson	1,500.00
Linda McElroy	1,500.00	Misty Steele	1,500.00
Blake Morgan	1,500.00		

Adjunct Faculty- Summer 2021

Freddy Baeza	1,820.00	Robert Miles	3,750.00
Ron Blakinship	1,100.00	Andy Myers	1,820.00
Scott Haselwood	2,100.00	Darren Stevenson	3,300.00

On a motion by Regent Ferrell, and seconded by Regent Ming, the Board voted unanimously to approve the personnel actions.

2. Financial Statements – President Feaver covered the monthly and quarterly financials with the group. Noted irregularities are due to COVID monies received but not yet spent.

No action was necessary.

3. Request Approval of External Auditor for 2019-2020 – President Feaver stated this will be the final year for the school’s contract with this firm and recommends approval. Next year a new auditor will be selected.

On a motion by Regent Walker, and seconded by Regent Wilkerson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the external auditor for 2020-2021.

4. Request Approval of Proposed Curriculum Changes -- Minor changes and housekeeping of curriculum. The Academic and Administrative Affairs Committee met prior to the Regents meeting. Chairman of the committee Regent Ferrell stated the committee recommends approval of the curriculum changes.

On a motion by Regent Ming, and seconded by Regent McLaughlin, the proposed curriculum changes were approved unanimously.

5. Request Consideration and Acceptance of Contract to Become the Charter Sponsor of Harding Fine Arts Academy (HFAA) – Discussion on the contract resulted in a motion to authorize President Feaver to enter into further negotiations to solidify the contract with HFAA and return a signed contract to the Board for ratification at their next meeting.

On a motion by Regent McLaughlin, and seconded by Regent Ming, the motion to authorize President Feaver to enter into further negotiations to finalize a signed contract with HFAA and return it to Board for ratification at their next meeting was approved unanimously.

6. President’s Report

- a. Oklahoma Summer Arts Institute – Ms. Cathy Perri, Special Assistant to the President reported OSAI will be on campus last two weeks in July (10-25). Several meetings have taken place between USAO and OSAI regarding housing, security, food services, classrooms, etc. Select USAO personnel have been asked to assist the Institute. OSAI is excited to have students attend the summer event on a college campus.
Regarding safety and welcoming: Regent Mosley will reach out to the Chief of Police regarding 17th Street. Regent Wilkerson offered to help with Planning and/or Welcoming committees.
- b. Marketing Plan Implementation – Ms. Amy Goddard, Communications and Marketing Director shared the launch is one week away. Reveal will be on 4.21.21 at 4:21pm. New marketing plan will be changing the way we refer to ourselves, moving focus to emphasize and highlight Science & Arts. A teaser campaign is running on social media and the website. PR stories in Oklahoma and Wichita Falls market will talk about rebranding and the liberal arts education we provide. Radio ads will start in May with video ads beginning June 1.
- c. Foundation and fundraising – VP Audas provided a Development update including:

- March 31, 2021, Giving Day was a success. The number of gifts and amount raised both exceeded goals set. The gift goal was set at 250 and the monetary goal was \$50,000. At last count we have received 390 gifts totaling over \$80,000. Regent Chris Mosley got the campaign off to a great start by being the first to give. Regent David McLaughlin provided matching and challenge gifts, Regent Kelly Wilkerson provided Chicken Express gift cards to promote giving, and Regent Diane Ming was on campus to show support and help during the day. Also thanked all Regents for their gifts.

Individual program challenge winners were Science and Physical Education for academics and the women's basketball team for athletics. The Student Success Center and Campus Co-op both exceeded their goals, therefore, each received an additional \$1,000.

- Kirkpatrick Foundation awarded USAO a \$50,000 grant which will be used to assist with furnishing the Jean McLaughlin Outdoor Education and Research Center. The building frame has been erected. The space will include classroom, lab space, green house, and restroom facilities.
- The Child Development Center playground needs to be replaced due to safety concerns. A new playground layout is being sought after with cost estimates being looked at. McLaughlin Family Foundation is interested in this project.

VP Sid Hudson provided several updates. Looking at getting Willard Hall back online beginning fall 2022. This will be necessary for potential increases in enrollment.

Portable outdoor network has been deployed. It will be used for the outdoor commencement this month for live streaming of the event and Wi-Fi connectivity. It's portable so it can be used for other events involving the general university community.

Softball will most likely host a regional round for the national tournament. Five teams will come to Chickasha. One of the requirements to host is an indoor hitting facility, which we now have. The portable Wi-Fi network will be taken to the softball field for broadcasting. Baseball will be in a similar situation late May/June. Both Softball and Baseball will host Sooner Athletic Conference Championships. In basketball, Zaria Dorsey a junior forward from Bronx, NY was selected First-Team All-American by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association and was Player of the Year in the Sooner Athletic Conference. Cameron Hines was selected Second-Team All-American and was First-Team All-Conference. The coronavirus has allowed NAIA student-athletes an extra year of eligibility. Many of the seniors on the men's basketball team have decided to come back next year for another try at a national championship.

The ArtWrecker project should be done in June. The new sign will have to be approved by the Chickasha Historic Preservation Commission. This space will be used as a university gallery and teaching center downtown.

With the campus network capabilities we now have, a downtown strategy meeting was held earlier this week to build on getting high speed internet access and Wi-Fi into the downtown area. The group is waiting on some figures to determine next steps.

- d. Inter-institutional collaboration – VP Donna Miles shared on a relationship that is developing between Cameron University and USAO regarding USAO brokering online computer science courses offered by Cameron. Other areas discussed for possible minors include information technology (IT), cyber security, and management information systems. Students taking courses online at Cameron will still be our students through picking up credits from another university.

Also talked about master's degree programs. A survey was sent out to students asking about interest in master's programs. Results showed interest in a master's in education program and master's in business administration. The five-year master's program would begin at USAO and then be completed at Cameron. There was also interest in computer science undergraduate program. Working on the computer science MOU. Cameron already offers all courses on a rotation.

Discussion is also taking place with Cameron on a shared position in institutional research, and a shared position in grants and proposals.

- e. Admissions and Recruiting – Mr. Sheppard McConnell, Dean of Admissions and Recruitment provided an update on admissions and recruiting. Daily campus tours have been booked up the last two months and through this month. Junior Day was a success (over 150 registered, 250 plus in attendance including parents). Their schedule for priority enrollment week is already full and summer enrollment is open and online. As of today, there were 1282 applications submitted. Freshman and Transfer admit numbers are up; 110 online housing applications submitted (new students), and over 100 scholarships accepted. Decision day is May 1st. The office will continue call campaigns, mailings, and summer enrollment. The Admissions office is excited about the rebranding.
- f. Other – Commencement will be held April 24, 2021. Regent Diane Ming will be the guest speaker. It will be held outdoors on the oval with Te Ata as a backup plan in case of inclement weather. The event will be live streamed regardless of location.

7. Remarks from Representatives to the Board

- a. Faculty Association –Remarks were submitted by Faculty Association President, Dr. Jason Shaw.
- b. Alumni Association– Remarks were submitted by Misti McClellan
- c. Staff Association – Remarks were submitted by Staff Association President Mr. Dwight Yokum.

8. Time and Place of Next Meeting – The next meeting will be held Wednesday, June 9, 2021, at 1:30 p.m. on the USAO Campus.

9. Consideration of “any matter not known about which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting of the agenda” – None.

10. Executive Session – Chairman Cordell asked for a motion to move the meeting into executive session. On a motion from Regent Walker seconded by Regent McLaughlin, the Board voted unanimously to move into Executive Session at 3:44pm in order to address the remaining agenda items.

- a. Consideration of Reappointment of Professional and General Staff for FY2021-2022
- b. Consideration of Tenure Decisions for 2021-2022
- c. Consideration of Appointment of Faculty and Division Chairs for 2021-2022

11. Return to Open Session – Chairman Cordell asked for a motion to move the meeting into open session. On a motion from Regent Wilkerson, seconded by Regent Ming, the Board voted unanimously to return to open session at 3:48pm.

- a. Action on Reappointment of Professional and General Staff for FY2021-2022

On a motion from Regent McLaughlin, seconded by Regent Ming, the Board voted unanimously to approve reappointment of the professional and general staff for the upcoming year.

- b. Action on Tenure Decisions for 2021-2022

On a motion from Regent Wilkerson, seconded by Regent Ferrell, the Board voted unanimously to grant tenure to Dr. Dany Doughan.

- c. Action on Appointment of Faculty and Division Chairs for 2021-2022

On a motion from Regent McLaughlin, seconded Regent Walker, the Board voted unanimously the appointment of faculty and division chairs for the upcoming year.

12. Adjournment –Chairman Cordell declared the Board meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

Advance public notice of this meeting was properly filed and displayed in compliance with Title 25, O.S. 1981, Section 311.