UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND ARTS OF OKLAHOMA
1727 W. Alabama Avenue, Chickasha, OK 73018

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS REGULAR MEETING
For Thursday, September 10, 2026

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Amanda Conley called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
2. **Announcement of the Filing of Meeting Notice and Posting of Agenda in Accordance with the Open Meeting Act:** President Hale announced the filing of the meeting notice and posting of agenda was done in accordance with the Open Meeting Act.
3. **Roll Call:** Regents in attendance were Diane Ming, Cale Walker, Amanda Conley and Kelly Wilkerson. Quorum was met. Regents Suzanne Reynolds, JJ Francais and Chet Hitt were absent.
4. **The Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by those in attendance.
5. **Introductions:** President Hale introduced and welcomed Kyle Shifflett, deputy general counsel for the Oklahoma Office of the Attorney General. She also introduced Dr. John Hale, Professor of Computer Science and Cyber Studies at the University of Tulsa.
6. **Presentations:** President Hale recognized Emily Banker Waddle for the 2025-26 Regent's Staff Achievement Award.
7. **Communications to the Board on Upcoming Events and Special Programs:** President Hale shared several upcoming sports event and other special events on campus for the fall.
8. **Reports from Association Representatives:** Updates and reports were submitted in advance from the Faculty Association, the Student Government Association, and the Alumni Association.
9. **Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove the minutes of the June 11, 2026, Regular Meeting:** Minutes of the June 11, 2026 regular meeting of the Board of Regents were presented with no additions or corrections. Regent Walker made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 11, 2026 meeting, and Regent Ming seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.
10. **Presentation of Monthly Financial Statements**: David Smith, Executive Director of Operations and Controller, presented the financial statements for the University. Going forward, financial statements will be provided quarterly for more accurate reporting. No action was necessary.
11. **Presentation of Financial Aid Report for Fiscal Year 2025-26:** Robyn Rogers, Director of Financial Aid and Information Technology Services, gave the report for financial aid for the 2025-26 fiscal year. No action was necessary.
12. **Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove Willard Hall Technology Equipment Purchases:** David Smith presented the proposed technology purchases for Willard Hall. On behalf of the finance and audit committee, Regent Ming made a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Regent Walker seconded the motion and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approved Nov. 12, 2026

13. **Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove New HVAC System:** David Smith presented the proposed contract for HVAC services for the University. On behalf of the finance and audit committee, Regent Ming made a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Regent Walker seconded the motion and the motion carried by unanimous vote to award the contract to DeHart Heating and Air of Chickasha, Oklahoma.

14. **Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove the proposed Identity Theft and Fraud Prevention Policy:** Robyn Rogers presented the proposed policy on identity theft and fraud prevention. On behalf of the policies and procedures committee, Regent Walker made a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Regent Wilkerson seconded the motion and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

15. **Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove the proposed Personnel Actions:** The personnel actions were presented. Regent Walker made a motion to accept the personnel actions. Regent Wilkerson seconded the motion, and the motion carried with a unanimous vote.

a. APPOINTMENTS:

Kristina Belanger; effective August 20, 2026; Assistant Professor of Business Administration
Conner Dantzler; effective August 20, 2026; Assistant Professor of Psychology
Maedeh Cholamzadehmir; effective August 20, 2026; Assistant Professor of Psychology
Thomas Conner; effective August 20, 2026; Assistant Professor of Psychology
Alejandro Roman-Ochoa; August 20, 2026; Assistant Professor of Video Production & IDS
Sarah Moore; effective August 20, 2026; Assistant Professor of English Composition
Enchi Ho; effective August 20, 2026; Staff Pianist (Part-time)
Thiago Fasano; effective August 13, 20206; Human Resources Coordinator
Danner McGarrah; effective August 12, 2026; Administrative Assistant – SSS Trio (Part-time)
Alisha Robinson; effective August 3, 2026; Executive Director of Institutional Research and Project Management
Rob Pegg; effective July 15, 2026; Head Coach - Baseball
Jaxon Brewer; effective July 15, 2026; Head Coach - Men & Women's Golf
Matija Malenovic; effective July 1, 2026; Webmaster
Anthony Davis, effective June 29, 2026; IT Tech II
Naton Herchock; effective June 23, 2026; Campus Security Officer (Part-time)

b. CHANGE IN STATUS:

Reece Reading; effective September 1, 2026; Assistant Coach – Baseball (Part-time)
Haley Green, effective September 1, 2026; Compliance Director/Title IX Coordinator
Bill Berumen; effective August 31, 2026; Education & Engagement Coordinator and Lab Manager
Deb Barger; effective July 1, 2026; Accounting Clerk (Part-time)

c. RESIGNATIONS:

Joeseph Ellison; effective August 31, 2026; Assistant Coach - Baseball
Donald Morris, effective August 31, 2026; Director of Strategic Initiatives & Workforce Development
Melanie Bileyue, effective August 31, 2026; Instructional Designer - NASNTI
Kyle Cox; effective August 31, 2026; Administrative Assistant for the School of Arts & Humanities
Joshua Taylor; effective August 7, 2026; Campus Security Officer
Jennifer Flores, effective August 6, 2026; Administrative Assistant - NASNTI
Margaret Lucero, effective July 31, 2026; Administrative Assistant – NASNTI
Travis Mammedaty; effective July 28, 2026; Campus Security Officer (Part-time)
Josh Price; effective June 18, 2026; Office Facilities Office Assistant (Part-time)
Steven Holden, effective June 30, 2026; Head Coach – Men's and Women's Golf
Tyle Hankins, effective June 12, 2026; Head Coach - Baseball

d. RETIREES:
Jose Gonzales; effective June 30, 2026; Custodian

President's Report: At this time, President Hale presented her report and statement to the Board of Regents. This was agenda item #25 on the list.

16. **Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove the Academic Calendars for Fiscal Years 2027-28, 2028-29 and 2029-30:** Mr. Tony Hutchison, current executive director of the Division of Professional Studies, and former interim Vice President for Academic Affairs, presented the changes to the academic calendars. After discussion, Regent Ming, on behalf of the Academic and Administrative Affairs Committee, made a motion to accept the academic calendars as presented. Regent Walker seconded the motion and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

17. **Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove the 90-hour Degree Program:** Tony Hutchison presented and explained the 90-hour degree program. After discussion, Regent Ming, on behalf of the Academic and Administrative Affairs Committee, made a motion to accept the program as presented. Regent Wilkerson seconded the motion and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

18. **Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove the 2026-2027 Prior Learning Assessment for Course Catalog:** Tony Hutchison presented the proposed Prior Learning Assessment for Course Catalog 2026-27. After discussion, Regent Ming, on behalf of the Academic and Administrative Affairs Committee, made a motion to accept the program as presented. Regent Walker seconded the motion and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

19. **Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove the Professional Studies Program Approval Process:** Tony Hutchison presented the proposed 90-hour degree program. After discussion, Regent Ming, on behalf of the Academic and Administrative Affairs Committee, made a motion to accept the program as presented. Regent Walker seconded the motion and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

20. **Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove the Program Modality for Course Catalog:** Vice-President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Makenna Garrison, presented the proposed Program Modality for Course Catalog to the group. Regent Ming, on behalf of the Academic and Administrative Affairs Committee, made a motion to accept the program as presented. Regent Wilkerson seconded the motion. After discussion the vote was taken with unanimous approval.

21. **Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove an Amendment to the Faculty Handbook: Governance Realignment of the Curriculum Development Committee:** Vice-President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Makenna Garrison, presented the proposed Governance Realignment of the Curriculum Development Committee: Regent Ming, on

behalf of the Academic and Administrative Affairs Committee, made a motion to accept the program as presented and Regent Walker seconded the motion. After discussion the vote was taken with unanimous approval.

22. **Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove the Academic Council Operating Procedures:** Vice-President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Makenna Garrison, presented the proposed Academic Council Operating Procedures. Regent Ming, on behalf of the Academic and Administrative Affairs Committee, made a motion to accept the program as presented. Regent Walker seconded the motion. After discussion the vote was taken with unanimous approval.

23. **Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove an Amendment to the Faculty Handbook: Faculty Workload, Overload, and Course Instruction Policy:** Vice-President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Makenna Garrison, presented the proposed amendment to the faculty handbook concerning faculty workload, overload and course instruction policy. Regent Ming, on behalf of the Academic and Administrative Affairs Committee, made a motion to accept the program as presented. Regent Walker seconded the motion. After discussion the vote was taken with unanimous approval.

24. **Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove an Amendment to the Faculty Handbook: Academic Tenure:** Vice-President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Makenna Garrison, presented the proposed amendment to the faculty handbook regarding academic tenure. Regent Ming, on behalf of the Academic and Administrative Affairs Committee, made a motion to accept the program as presented. Regent Walker seconded the motion. The vote was taken with unanimous approval.

25. **Presidents Report:** The President's report was given earlier in the meeting.

26. **Time and Place of Next Meeting – November 12, 2026, 1:00 p.m., USAO, Student Center, Regents Room, 1727 W. Alabama Ave., Chickasha, Oklahoma 73018**

27. **Discussion and vote to adjourn:** Having no other business, Regent Walker made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Regent Wilkerson seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 2:18 p.m.