Meeting of the

Council on Instruction

April 13, 2023

The Council on Instruction (COI) met at 1:00 p.m. Thursday, April 13, 2023 by Zoom.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Landry welcomed members and guests.

Institutional representatives attending included Dr. Richard Beck (RSU), Dr. James Bell (NWOSU), Dr. Theresa Billiot (OPSU), Dr. Amanda Estey (SCC), Dr. Chris Francisco (OSU), Mr. Greg Gardner (CSC), Dr. Jeffrey Gibson (ECU), Dr. Dustin Grover (NEOA&M), Ms. Becky Henthorn (MSC), Dr. Donna Hunnicutt (EOSC), Mr. Travis Hurst (RSC), Dr. Ruth Jackson (LU), Dr. Joel Kendall (SWOSU), Dr. Debbie Landry (NSU), Dr. Donna Miles (USAO and RCC), Dr. Mark Morvant (OU), Ms. Chrystal Overton (WOSC), Dr. Charlotte Simmons (UCO), Dr. Angela Sivadon (TCC), Dr. Jeremy L. Thomas (OCCC), Ms. Diana Watkins (NOC), Dr. Marc Willis (CASC), and Dr. Ronna Vanderslice (CU).

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) staff attending included Dr. Rachel Bates, Dr. Stephanie Beauchamp, Ms. Brittany Blake, Mr. Joel Dean, Mr. Brad Griffith, Ms. Angel Icenhour, Dr. Cassidy Minx, Ms. Heather Peck, Ms. Tracey Romano, Dr. Goldie Thompson, Ms. Elizabeth Walker, and Ms. Jenny Wood.

COI members absent included Dr. Theresa Golden (SEOSU).

Guests included Ms. Crystal Bowles Palacioz (OACRAO), Dr. Liliana Renteria Mendoza (UCO), and Dr. Susan Ronnenberg (SEOSU) (for Dr. Golden).

1. Legislative Update

Mr. Dean reported on legislative developments affecting higher education.

* SB93: Universal FAFSA: passed out of committee and waiting on house floor
* SB550: Out-of-Authorization: to help protect students against diploma mills or other potentially harmful entities
* SB315, 316: Helps institutions retain money from sales: currently in discussion
* SB2885: OK National Guard: passed and in house, going to governor’s desk soon

1. Budget Update

Mr. Tygret reported on the state budget.

1. Minutes of March 2023 Meeting

Minutes of the March 9, 2023 meeting were approved.

1. Tier Meeting Updates

In Dr. Golden’s absence, Dr. Vanderslice reported that the 4-year COI met that morning and discussed HLC requirements, the Post-Secondary Data Partnership, and concurrent enrollment.

* Discussion regarding:
  + How to process Gen Ed substitutions
  + Training required for recruiters
  + Expectation of notifying HLC
  + How micro credentials may be including in transcribing
  + How the 4-year school role is changing regarding concurrent students

Dr. Sivadon reported that the 2-year COI met that morning and discussed faculty evaluation, online program reviews, the OSRHE policy revision process, general education and transfer of credits, and low productivity reports.

* Discussion regarding:
  + Faculty tenure and evaluation
  + Online program reviews (some every year, others every 2 years)
  + Academic Affairs Policies review with Dr. Placido
  + Processes used by Regents’ staff
  + Low productivity reports

1. Committee Meeting Updates

Both scheduled committee meetings were cancelled.

1. Lightcast Demonstration

Dr. Minx provided a presentation on the types and sources of student, graduate, and post-education employment data that she works with and the reports she creates that are available to institutions.

* Workforce and economic development data sources
  + State Regents employment outcomes report (in house rep)
  + Post-secondary employment outcomes report (a data match with OK Tax Commission and OK Employment Comm (OESC). The limitation to this report is that it is in-state and does not report graduates leaving the state.
* Track 2021 employment outcome by:
  + degree level, 1 year and 5 year post graduation
  + Earnings Outcomes
  + Critical occupations
  + Retention of Oklahoma Promise Graduates across the state and per institution
* PSEO Explorer Tool: interactive data tool that provides information on out-of-state migration patterns (Does not include individuals that do not pay UI).
* An Occupational Snapshot Report formerly known as EMSI
  + Shared data source—ODOC/Oklahoma Works: Critical Occupations, Detailed population demographics for any defined region; CIP to SOC crosswalk
  + Comprehensinv data warehouse from sources such as the Census Bureau, IPDS, DOL, Indeed, ZipRecruiter, etc.
  + Provides key occupational data that is program specific

1. Approval of COI Chair Elect for 2024-2025 – Dr. Ruth Jackson

The COI approved the nomination of Dr. Ruth Jackson as Chair Elect for 2024-2025.

1. Posting of Proposed Fall 2023 COI Meeting Dates

The COI posted the proposed meeting dates.

1. Micro-credential and Online Education Updates

Mr. Griffith reported on various online education and micro credential updates, including the Oklahoma Online Excellence Awards, OER adoption grants, the OCO Technology Pilot grant program, and demonstrations by Securus at the Oklahoma Education Commission’s April 27 meeting. He also reported on discussions of reviving The Eighth Floor Partnership, the initial planned outcomes for the FY 23 Open Textbook Pilot Grant Program, and that managed contracts are in progress for Harmonize, Tutor.com, Simple Syllabus, and YuJa Panorama (an accessibility tool). Mr. Griffith reported that over 180 micro-credential programs have been approved for 20 institutions with 56 industry partners, and that institutions have begun meetings with Coursera to negotiate the FY 24 agreement renewal. Details are in the attachment to these minutes.

1. State Regents’ Update

Dr. Placido assured members that OSRHE staff will work with institutions to aggressively pursue grant opportunities while taking care to support rather than compete with institutions in applying for grants. He said he has noticed that institutions do not have a consistent URL for their online offerings and services across the state system and asked members to considering establishing one. Dr. Placido reported that OSRHE staff have been working with ChatGPT to generate MOUs and similar text, thanked members for their nominations for the ChatGPT group he wants to convene, and said that he will send a Doodle poll shortly to establish a first meeting date. Dr. Placido reported on the progress to date in the revisions to state system academic policy, explaining that once a draft has been developed, it is reviewed first by the OSRHE general counsel and then the COP before being forwarded to the COI for review and input. He added that since he is proposing removing multiple requirements for OSRHE approval of institutional actions, he is also working closely with the State Regents to be sure his changes align with their intent. He thanked COI members for their feedback so far, adding that most of the suggestions have been incorporated in the revisions, and that the policies will be sent once more to the COP to review the new version before being sent to the State Regents for their review. Dr. Placido assured members that final revisions will be available to the COI before being moved forward. Dr. Placido reported that staff are working on automating several areas of operation, including student grant applications, event management, and academic program approvals. He announced that Dr. Beauchamp and her team have been working with Smartsheets to develop an automated system for processing new program requests, and the new system can be implemented once the OSRHE approve the new *Academic Program Approval* policy. He said that in the meanwhile, staff are receiving feedback from institutional volunteers and developing training resources with the intent of having the system ready to go as soon as the State Regents approve the policy. Dr. Beauchamp provided a demonstration of how the Smartsheets academic program request process will work, and requested volunteers to test the system and tell her any difficulties or glitches they find. She also announced that Ms. Angel Icenhour has developed a new CEP faculty nomination form using Smartsheets and institutional presidents will be receiving the request for nominations soon.

1. Campus Share-Out

Dr. Willis reported that CASC has officially notified its governing board of regents of its successful completion of its most recent HCL review, in which it met every criterion, and its reaffirmation of accreditation.

1. New Business

There was no new business.

1. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on May 11, 2023, by Ms. Elizabeth Walker of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

Attachment

ATTACHMENT

Council on Instruction Updates – April 13, 2023

Online Education Updates

* Registration is available until April 19 for the **2023 Oklahoma Learning Innovations Summit** at <https://summit.ocolearnok.org>. Sessions for April 20 are viewable in the Zoom Events platform while the draft program is now available for the April 21 in-person event.
* The **Oklahoma Online Excellence Awards** winners will be announced at the OKLIS event and be recognized at the May State Regents meeting.
* **Open Educational Resource (OER) adoption grants** are available for awarding until May 15 for courses taught in spring or summer using OER.
* OSRHE will also make available institution-level OER **grants for those wishing to pilot the Pressbooks grade pass back feature** for LMS-integrated OER projects with remaining funds from FY23.
* **OCO Technology Pilot grant** project reports were sent to institutions earlier this month and are due tomorrow, Friday, April 14. A virtual roundtable discussion will be held on Tuesday, April 25 from 2-3 pm and is open for [registration](https://onenet.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJIsc-mvqD8qHtcMaH89fqPz1yenvFxvlK4x) to all faculty and staff.
* The **Oklahoma Education Commission** will meet again on Thursday, April 27 which will include:
  + Demonstrations by **Securus Technologies** on how distance education can be offered in correctional facilities. OSRHE will coordinate a series of trainings to initiate in mid-to-late May with Securus for all educational systems, which will include:
    - Overview of Securus network
    - Lantern (LMS) Administrator Training
    - Lantern Teacher Training
    - Recurring bi-weekly drop-in sessions
  + Discussions of reviving **The Eight Floor Partnership** group which was originally conducted between Tulsa Community College and Tulsa Technology center to support online teaching and learning for Tulsa area educators.
* OSRHE and a group of institutions, including representatives from Oklahoma State University, East Central University, Oklahoma City Community College, and Tulsa Community College have met to initiate an application for the **FY23 Open Textbook Pilot Grant** from the US Department of Education. Initial planned outcomes have focused upon:
  + Augmenting general education relevance through identification and development of workforce-aligned micro-credentials
  + Establishing of an OER Commons hub to share and promote OER used and created by Oklahoma faculty
  + Developing a case study of OER advocacy at each Oklahoma institution with emphasis on how connections are made to the state-level OER initiative
  + Funding opportunities to incentivize alignment of general education instructional materials with faculty-industry defined outcomes through OER.
* **Managed contracts** are in progress for Harmonize, Tutor.com, Simple Syllabus, and YuJa Panorama (accessibility tool). Feedback has been provided on the pricing for Tutor.com, which would save one institution about 20% off the current rate.

Micro-credential Updates

* As of April 13, 2023, we have over **180 micro-credential programs** approved for **20 institutions** with **56 industry partners**.
* In FY23, OSRHE has disbursed a total of **$1,150,000 to institutions**, which ranged from $15,000 to $85,000 in total support by institution.
* **Reports on progress for FY23** have been shared to institutions with a deadline of May 1.
* **Coursera** has been meeting with current and potential partner institutions as we enter negotiations for a FY24 renewal of our agreement. Coursera has indicated the current rate will remain the same as long as we do not have a decrease of the total contract price. The renewal timeline will be as follows:
  + June – Webinar will be held to discuss renewal opportunity
  + July – 1st commitments due to OSRHE to determine pricing and discount
  + August – Final commitments due to OSRHE with MOU
  + September – Renewal launch & execution of contract on State Regents meeting agenda
* In the most recent **UpskillOK Office Hours** session, we discussed:
  + Secondary credential partnerships with Oklahoma Job Corps
  + [UpskillOK Employer Partner Training Assessment](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cdr5gZhxVyO07mjKSTWanF8PMlfKIbir/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=114553548056615884456&rtpof=true&sd=true)
  + [Sample Draft – Micro-credential Partnership Agreement](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gecfi2AsUMzt_2zL2YdcqtOYjulUBrwQ/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=114553548056615884456&rtpof=true&sd=true)
  + [Sample Micro-credential Program Evaluation Criteria](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Xuz5RbERq2DPyjy_MCcFOcUJh1kLojYx/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=114553548056615884456&rtpof=true&sd=true)