

**UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND ARTS OF OKLAHOMA  
BOARD OF REGENTS  
MINUTES  
November 13, 2019**

The Board of Regents for the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma met Wednesday, November 13, 2019, in the Regent's Room on the USAO campus. 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. Chair Ferrell led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and then called the meeting to order at 1:30 and asked for roll call. Members present: Tom Cordell, David Ferrell, Bill Lance, David McLaughlin, Chris Mosley, and Cale Walker. Members absent were Diane Ming. Also present were: President John Feaver, Vice President Donna Gower, Vice President Mike Coponiti, Vice President Monica Trevino, Director of Communications and Marketing Amy Goddard, Staff Association Chair Alexis Avery, Director of Alumni Development Misti McClellan, Student Government Association Vice President Jamilyn Alexander, Faculty Association Chair Katie Davis, and Vanessa McNabb, Executive Assistant to the President and Secretary to the USAO Board of Regents.

**Introductions:** Rick McCharen, of CBTS; this organization along with Aruba and Hillary Communications installed fiber optic digital network across the entire campus and will do a presentation November 19, 2019 for all faculty and staff.

**Presentations:** None

**Approval of the Minutes of the September 11, 2019, meeting:** On a motion by Regent Cordell, seconded by Regent Lance, the minutes were approved unanimously.

**Communications:** None.

**Unfinished Business:** None.

**New Business:**

**1. Personnel –**

a. **Appointments**

Franklin Prieto, effective September 1, 2019, part-time, Assistant Softball Coach, salary \$18,000

Jackson Parker, effective September 17, 2019, full-time, Security, salary \$22,880

Kyla Patterson, effective September 23, 2019, part-time, Administrative Assistant Admissions, salary \$10.00 per hour

Autumn Dalman, effective September 25, 2019, part-time, NASNTI Administrative Assistant, salary \$12,960

Karl Tyler II, effective December 1, 2019, full-time, Assistant Housing Director, salary \$32,000

b. **Change in Status**

Donna Gower, effective August 22, 2019, full time Interim VP Academic Affairs

Sarah Layman, effective September 1, 2019, full time Interim Chair of Education

Ginger London, effective September 16, 2019, full time Director Instructional Technology

Marissa Amos, effective September 20, 2019, full time Success Retention Coach

Emily Baker, effective October 1, 2019, full time Enrollment & Records Specialist

Chisum Lane, effective October 1, 2019, full time Assistant Men's Basketball Coach/Assessment

c. **Resignations**

Chelsea Paul, effective November 9, 2019

Stacy Smith, effective September 30, 2019

Garrett Stancil, effective October 16, 2019

On a motion by Regent McLaughlin, seconded by Regent Walker, the Board voted unanimously to approve these changes.

**2. Financial Statements** – Vice President for Business and Finance Mike Coponiti covered the monthly and quarterly financials with the group.

No action was necessary.

**3. Request for Approval of USAO Mission Statement** – “meaningful, purposeful lives” was placed back into the Mission Statement along with “productive” to read “help students realize meaningful, purposeful, and productive lives as global citizens...”.

On a motion by Regent Cordell, seconded by Regent Lance, the Board voted unanimously to approve these changes.

**4. Request for Approval of USAO Strategic Plan** – a copy of the Interpretative History of the MEP was distributed to the Board. Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Donna Gower shared how attending the HLC Assessment Academy helped in writing the Strategic Plan. She also reiterated to the Board the Strategic Plan is a key component for our Higher Learning Commission (HLC) reaccreditation argument and will be important to the institution moving forward.

On a motion by Regent Mosley, seconded by Regent Walker, the Board voted unanimously to approve.

**5. Request for Approval of Curriculum Changes**

Proposed curriculum changes:

- Deletion of two courses no longer needed for completing the SLP degree
- Change in title and course description to better equip our students for graduate school.

In Chair Ming's absence Regent Mosley reported out. On a motion by Regent McLaughlin, seconded by Regent Cordell, the Board unanimously approve these changes.

## 6. President's Report

The President addressed the Board on the following items:

- a. **Faculty/Staff Commendations** – National Award- Kevin Crow, Professor of History—recipient of Freedoms Foundation's National Award- *The George Washington Honor Medal*  
State Awards- Becky Brennan, web coordinator—recipient of the Randy Talley Rising Star Award. USAO Communications and Marketing Department received three awards during the Oklahoma College Public Relations Association annual conference.  
Jani Houtz, administrative assistant for Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences and Business, and Science and Physical Education—received the Regents Staff Achievement Award, 2018-19 and was recently voted Best Secretary in the 2019 Chickasha Express Star Readers' Choice Awards. Mike Ross, USAO head baseball coach—recently voted Best Coach in the 2019 Chickasha Express Star Readers' Choice Awards. Bobbie Shores, Director of Housing and Residence Life—accepted in Leadership Chickasha 2019 and was accepted into and completed the Council on Student Affairs Leadership Academy.
- b. **Advancement** – The Foundation will be able to provide additional scholarships to provide admissions enhanced recruiting capacity.  
The Kirkpatrick Foundation will be visiting this week to tour our Habitat wetlands. They are supporters of the Davis Waldorf Performing Arts series and we hope to interest their support for our outdoor Habitat facility.  
Zarrow Foundation will be visiting in December.

Sports update- men's and women's soccer teams playing for the SAC championship on Friday. In cross country, one male and two female runners have qualified for the NAIA Championship race. The baseball team is projected 3<sup>rd</sup> in the nation and has 3 projected All-Americans. Softball rankings are not yet released.

VP Monica Trevino reported Enrollment Management and Academic Affairs are working on making sure students are getting enrolled for the spring term.

## 7. Remarks from Representatives to the Board

- a. Faculty Association – Ms. Katie Davis touched on the work being done in faculty committees and the Faculty Association. She also commented on high faculty retention.
- b. Student Association – Vice President for Student Government Association, Jamilyn Alexander introduced herself. SGA is working on training new Senators; attended Oklahoma Student Government; introducing three new committees and several other initiatives, some including diversity on campus.

- c. Alumni Association – Misti McClellan, Director of Alumni Development highlighted things from Item 7c insert. Updated the Board on the most recent homecoming/reunion event, over a hundred alums convened at the local Canadian River Brewing Company; recognized head baseball coach Mike Ross for organizing the alumni baseball and softball games; there were several out of state attendees this year. The brunch was well attended, in the past five years, attendance at the brunch (change from a luncheon to a brunch in 2018) has gone from 88 in 2015 to 150 in 2019. The 2019 Hall of Fame inductees are board-certified family medicine physician Dr. Jason A. McElyea and Jacquelyn Knapp, professor of art and art department coordinator at USAO. The Young Alumni Award went to Dr. Natalie Ingraham, assistant professor of sociology at California State University—East Bay.
- d. Staff Association – Alexis Avery shared the Staff Association was working with the USAO Foundation on the Staff Association Scholarship. Fundraisers will continue in order to be able to offer the scholarship.

**8. Time and Place of Next Meeting – The next meeting will be held Wednesday, December 11, 2019, 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 –** Chair Ferrell asked for a motion to move the meeting into executive session. On a motion by Regent Cordell, seconded by Regent McLaughlin, the Board voted unanimously to move into Executive Session at 2:40pm. Chair Ferrell declared the Board in Executive Session in order to address the remaining agenda items.

- a. Evaluation of the President
- b. Request for Approval to Distribute Stipends to USAO Staff

**11. Return to Open Session –** Chair Ferrell asked for a motion to move the meeting into open session. On a motion by Regent Mosley, seconded by Regent Lance, the Board voted unanimously to return to Open Session at 3:12 p.m.

- a. Evaluation of the President.
- b. Request for Approval to Distribute Stipends to USAO Staff

On a motion by Regent Lance, seconded by Regent Walker, the Board voted unanimously to approve distribution of stipends to USAO staff.

**12. Adjournment –** On a motion by Regent McLaughlin, seconded by Regent Lance, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn. Chair Ferrell declared the Board meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

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