

**UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND ARTS OF OKLAHOMA
BOARD OF REGENTS
MINUTES
April 8, 2020**

The Board of Regents for the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma met Wednesday, April 8, 2020, via teleconference. 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 1:38pm and asked for roll call. Members remotely present via teleconference (audio only): Tom Cordell, Bill Lance, David McLaughlin, Diane Ming, and Cale Walker. Members physically present on campus: David Ferrell. Members absent: Chris Mosley. 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 teleconference: Vice President Donna Gower, Vice President Mike Coponiti, Vice President Sid Hudson, Vice President Monica Trevino, Director of Communications and Marketing Amy Goddard, Director of Alumni Development Misti McClellan, Faculty Association Chair Katie Davis.

Introductions: None.

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

Vice President Gower announced the Regents Faculty Awards

Superior Teaching awarded to Dr. Ben Wetherbee, Assistant Professor of IDS
Service awarded to Dr. J. C. Sanders, Associate Professor of Physics
Scholarly Activity awarded to Ms. Jordan Vinyard, Associate Professor of Art

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

Reyna Ammons, Physical Education major, Women's Basketball
Haddon McIntosh, Biology major, Baseball

Approval of the Minutes of the February 12, 2020, meeting: On a motion by Regent Lance, seconded by Regent Cordell, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Communications: None.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

1. Personnel –

a. Appointments

Hunter Bishop, effective March 1, 2020, full-time, Women's Head Volleyball Coach, salary \$32,000

Autumn Dalman, effective March 2, 2020, full-time, Academic Technology Administrator, salary \$35,000

Zachary Banker, effective March 23, 2020, full-time, Security, salary \$22,880

Paul Regier, effective August 26, 2020, full-time, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, salary \$49,130

b. Resignations

Sarah Swift, effective February 7, 2020

Benny Blain, effective February 14, 2020

c. Summer 2020 Faculty and Adjuncts

Summer Session 2020

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|---------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|
| Tonnia Anderson | 11,584.00 | Yunjae Hwang | 6,350.00 |
| Annick Bellemain | 13,120.00 | Rachel Jones | 10,860.00 |
| Nicholas Boyd | 3,810.00 | Aleisha Karjala | 9,840.00 |
| Brenda Brown | 13,920.00 | Sean Kelley | 4,920.00 |
| John Bruce | 13,120.00 | Jackie Knapp | 13,120.00 |
| J.C. Casey | 5,220.00 | Jeannette Loutsch | 1,640.00 |
| Shaylee Chester | 8,800.00 | Linda McElroy | 13,120.00 |
| Kevin Crow | 4,920.00 | Robert Newbrough | 8,880.00 |
| Katie Davis | 11,340.00 | Matt Reynolds | 7,770.00 |
| Dany Doughan | 10,136.00 | Jason Shaw | 10,136.00 |
| James Finck | 1,448.00 | Johnathan Thomason | 11,480.00 |
| Christopher Garneau | 13,084.00 | Layne Thrift | 11,584.00 |
| Devon Gunter | 7,620.00 | Quan Tran | 8,688.00 |
| Joshua Hakala | 7,620.00 | Jordan Vinyard | 11,584.00 |
| Nancy Hector | 4,920.00 | Brandon Wood | 10,160.00 |

Independent Study- Summer 2020

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|----------------|-----------|----------------|----------|
| Nicholas Boyde | 1,500.00 | Shelley Rees | 1,500.00 |
| Katie Davis | 1,500.00 | Matt Reynolds | 1,500.00 |
| James Finck | 1,500.00 | Jason Shaw | 1,500.00 |
| Chris Garneau | 1,500.00 | Layne Thrift | 1,500.00 |
| Rachel Jones | 1,500.00 | Jordan Vinyard | 1,500.00 |
| Jackie Knapp | 13,120.00 | Brandon Wood | 1,500.00 |
| Linda McElroy | 1,500.00 | | |

Adjunct Faculty- Summer 2020

| | | | |
|------------------|--------|---------------|--------|
| Cornel Pewewardy | 700.00 | Bill Robinson | 500.00 |
|------------------|--------|---------------|--------|

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

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 Approval of External Auditor for 2019-2020 – Vice President for Business and Finance Mike Coponiti stated Finley & Cook, PLLC has agreed to perform the audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, for a fee of \$34,000, an annual assessment consistent with the agreement approved by the Regents in the initial 5-year proposal.

On a motion by Regent Cordell, and seconded by Regent Lance, the Board voted unanimously to approve the external auditor for 2019-2020.

4. President's Report

a. Campus update on COVID-19 –

- Online classes will continue through the 5-week Independent Study and 10-week summer terms; hoping to reopen in the fall;
- Faculty are stepping up to assist with students completing degrees with enthusiasm and perseverance;
- Staff showing extraordinary outpouring of support working efficiently, effectively while telecommuting;
- Network Services people have been extremely beneficial with technical needs and support;
- Housing operations- supporting food services, security and safety of students who remain on campus;
- Custodial working each day to keep areas cleaned and sanitized for the health and safety of our campus community.

b. HLC update –The exit interview was held on March 31,2020, with a report coming in 24-48 hours. Due to the accrediting team communicating with each other remotely, the report has not yet been received, but once received we would have an opportunity to respond. Vice President for Academic Affairs, Donna Gower, addressed the Board regarding the HLC visit. The interview team listed a long list of strengths including our people being very dedicated, work very hard, and are optimistic. They were pleased with our new mission statement and how engaged and supportive our Board is of the university. They also felt our students were well informed and talked about support for our students, not only reported by faculty but by students reporting support from faculty, staff, and administration. They also liked our IDS and team-teaching format and were enthusiastic of plans for improving the IDS program over the next couple of years. One of the challenges mentioned was retention and persistence. We will be enrolling in the HLC Student Success Academy to address these areas.

c. Other –

1. JP Audas, Director of Development reported on the USAO Foundation. The instability of the stock market could very well impact confidence in giving going forward. USAO nationally recognized for our e-letter sent from President Feaver to alumni, donors, and friends; how quickly it was sent out; and the transparency of the communication. Also recognized for the thank you video from the Alumni Association developed by alumni director Misti McClellan. Foundation is checking in on the health and well-being of donors, expressing our appreciation for their support. Foundation decided to not make an application for monies from the Coronavirus Relief Bill due to stipulations of grant.
2. Sheppard McConnell, Dean of Admissions and Recruitment addressed the Board. Adjustments are being made on the admissions website, which is launching today. Forms will be available online, moving to virtual tours, adding an academic intent letter modeled after the athletic intent letter. Yield plan will include emails being sent out weekly to various groups; phone call campaigns (those who haven't completed process); looking into a virtual enrollment program and a way to do online assessment; day of faculty advising will be done via Zoom along with a Q & A. Still developing the rest of the process.

All scholarships have been aggressively awarded; when it comes to the yield, some will be removed and re-awarded. Funds are presently available for funding scholarships.

3. \$400 million shortfall projected for this fiscal year. The Governor and Legislature are going to try to cover that shortfall for state agencies for the remainder of FY20. Could possibly be half a billion dollars less than anticipated being available in preparing FY21 budget. OSRHE has requested institutions submit how a 3% cut would affect their institutions. This will be submitted in the coming days.

5. Remarks from Representatives to the Board

- a. Faculty Association –Remarks were submitted by Faculty Association President, Ms. Katie Davis.
- b. Staff Association – Remarks were submitted by Staff Association President Mr. Dwight Yokum.

Regent Ferrell commented favorably on faculty accomplishments and community service and staff participation on Giving Day, reaching their goal.

6. Time and Place of Next Meeting – The next meeting will be held Wednesday, June 10, 2020, at 1:30 p.m. on the USAO Campus.

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

8. Executive Session – Regent Ferrell asked for a motion to move the meeting into executive session. On a motion from Regent Lance, seconded by Regent McLaughlin, the Board voted unanimously to move into Executive Session at 2:48pm in order to address the remaining agenda items.

- a. Consideration of Reappointment of Professional and General Staff for FY2020-2021
- b. Consideration of Tenure Decisions for 2020-2021
- c. Consideration of Appointment of Faculty and Division Chairs for 2020-2021
- d. Consideration of Promotion Decisions for 2020-2021

9. Return to Open Session – Regent Ferrell asked for a motion to move the meeting into open session. On a motion from Regent Lance, seconded by Regent Cordell, the Board voted unanimously to return to open session at 3:27pm.

- a. Action on Reappointment of Professional and General Staff for FY2020-2021
- b. Action on Tenure Decisions for 2020-2021
- c. Action on Appointment of Faculty and Division Chairs for 2020-2021
- d. Action on Promotion Decisions for 2020-2021

On a motion by Regent McLaughlin and seconded by Regent Cordell, the Board voted unanimously to approve all Executive Session items.

10. Adjournment – On a motion by Regent Lance, seconded by Regent Ming, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn. Chair Ferrell declared the Board meeting adjourned at 3:32 p.m.

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