

OSU-Okmulgee Presidents' Roundtable Minutes

June 14, 2006, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Student Union Harlan Room

Present: Matt Davis and Gary Daniels, ACR; Jerry Baker and Casey Campbell, ADDA; Danny Claborn and Glenn Helmuth, AITP; Jenny Duncan and Brian Elam, Campus Ministries International; Tim Sharp and Karen VanMeter; Brian Webster and Michael Grob, Horology; Misty Rogers and Nick Farrow, NGE; Marci Lyn Hardesty, PTK; Greg Grogan and James Thye, RHA; Devin DeBock, Residential Life; Kevin Hulett, Student Ambassadors; Thomas Holman and John Teeple, Student Senate; Leah Torbett and Teresa Hargis, SNA; guests Ken Morris, Business Affairs and Pat Braithwaite, Student Affairs; and Bruce Force, Kevin Montequé, Steven Rubert and Doreen White, Student Life.

Meeting called to order at 11:40 a.m.

Pat Braithwaite and Ken Morris had other appointments to attend to, so the Possible Tuition Increase item was moved to first place on the agenda. Braithwaite began by stating Oklahoma's income currently is at a record high, while Morris distributed a June 12, Tulsa World article about the legislature adjourning without approving a budget for next fiscal year. The article also stated that the legislature has entered a special session, called by Gov. Brad Henry, to approve a budget before June 30.

Braithwaite said the Oklahoma Government could shut down, as has historically happened in other states (Tennessee), if the legislature does not approve a budget. Various budget proposals are on the table, which could help, harm or maintain the status quo of the budget for higher education. The worst scenario may cause higher education to raise tuition 15% or more.

OSU-Okmulgee administrators will have more insight during an Oklahoma State University and A&M Colleges Regents meeting next week held on the OSU-Okmulgee campus. When the legislature approves a State budget, the regents will most likely have an emergency meeting to approve budgets.

Brian Elam asked when an increase would be effective. Braithwaite said the increase would come into effect the Fall 2006 Semester and would be considered "high" if it were a 4% increase. Elam asked if Student Financial Aid will increase to cover the cost of any tuition increase. Braithwaite stated that financial aid is slower to react to increases, but is based on cost and financial need. There may be a period of time that financial aid needs to "catch up" with the cost adjustment. Morris added that students may have to obtain a higher student loan in order to finance their future semesters.

Braithwaite explained that OSU-Okmulgee's tuition already is relatively inexpensive compared to other state colleges. He said from this angle, even a 5% increase "would not be huge". Devin DeBock commented that most financial aid is a federal program not controlled by the State or OSU-Okmulgee.

Braithwaite also mentioned discussion of a new \$2.00 per credit hour "Information Technology" to upgrade campus technology, such as wireless internet connections. He said that the fee seems small per student, but when added together, it makes a big difference.

Also, some other Oklahoma campuses are incorporating energy fees to help cover the higher cost of energy everyone is currently experiencing. OSU-Okmulgee will not do this. He also mentioned that it is important for all of us to pay attention to the performance of our State legislators. Braithwaite said campus officials will keep employees and students informed of the situation. Morris concluded by saying that the Stillwater campus does not have a summer two-week break like us, so they may have more time to discuss this with their students, where it was important for them (Morris and Braithwaite) to tell OSU-Okmulgee students about these possibilities before they left on break. There were no further questions.

Bruce Force welcomed first time attendees to the Presidents' Roundtable and asked them to introduce themselves: Phil Hill, ISA; Gary Medlock, ISA; Teresa Hargis, SNA; Karen VanMeter, CFFA. (See Good of the Order for items mentioned here.) Also new were Marci Lyn Hardesty, PTK, and Misty Rogers, representing NGE.

Announcements:

Any changes to the Student Life Points System will take place at the beginning of the Fall 2006 Semester. AITP won last year. Student Life made changes to the system at the beginning of last year, where it took five members' participation to be eligible for points during any one event. This is not conducive for those clubs who have a low or non-fluctuating membership, such as Student Ambassadors. A change might be made where the requirement for member participation might be lowered to four people, with one of those being a Club Sponsor. Club Sponsors are required to be present at each club event already. An ad hoc committee is being formed to investigate the points system rules. If sponsors only are interested in serving, contact Steven Rubert. Student Life is hosting East Central Electric Company's Annual Meeting on July 20. Three or four more clubs are needed to provide refreshments at the event as a fundraising activity. Food handling permits are required. If your club is interested, contact Bruce Force.

The Firefighter Carnival held by the Student Senate earned \$300. Clubs/organizations that wish to donate should contact Thomas Holman. An e-mail will be sent to advisors requesting donations.

Participating clubs/organizations in this year's Okmulgee County Relay for Life were RHA, Horology, Student Senate, AITP, PTK and SNA. Donations brought \$300.00 for the American Cancer Society. Next year, we need to involve more of the campus in this event, and make sure at least two sponsors are there at any given time.

Steven Rubert then spoke about upcoming Student Life activities/events.

July 17-21 is Student Appreciation Week with ticket give-aways and fun activities such as a water-themed luau. Two leadership programs also will commence during the balance of the summer semester.

Kevin Montequé then addressed current and upcoming intramural sports and wellness activities. The first softball game of the season was played last night between The Heat and ISA's Resisters, who prevailed. Montequé encouraged everyone to come out and support these players. Softball intramurals will continue after Summer Break. July 14 is the Coaches Meeting for Sand Volley ball. SPIN Class is Monday – Thursday, 11:35 a.m. Misty Rogers asked what days/times the softball games occur. Montequé said Monday – Thursday, 6 pm. Steve asked who won the three-on-three tournament. Montequé replied that the Staff Team took that championship. Marci Lyn Hardesty asked what the score was. Montequé said it was a best-of-three elimination, and the staff team won two games.

Force said next month's Presidents' Roundtable will be held on July 12 in the Student Union.

Good of the Order:

Phil Hill, ISA: Currently ISA has about 30 members, of which 17 are members of The Resisters softball team; they will soon tour ABB.

Teresa Hargis, SNA: Currently SNA has about 6 members, and is in the process of rebuilding; members raised \$250 for the Relay for Life.

Karen VanMeter, CFFA: The club currently is a bit disjointed, and is in the process of rebuilding.

Glenn Helmuth, ISA: Members helped with the recent Relay for Life, and are planning a fundraiser after summer break.

Nick Farrow, NGE: Members hosted a LAN Party last Saturday.

James McCullough, FAD: Members will not attend July's Roundtable because they will be in Chicago touring businesses and such.

John Teeples, Student Senate: The Senate is rebuilding after graduating several of its Senators; also in the works is a Leadership Retreat to Lake Murray at the end of July.

Kevin Hulett, Student Ambassadors: Ambassadors recently assisted with the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence awards production; they continue to give tours for Prospective Student Services and serve as graduation ushers.

Marci Lyn Hardesty, PTK: After Summer Break members will continue reading to children in the Campus Childcare Center two times each week; plans are in the works for a Concert on the Square in downtown Okmulgee, July 13, 6 pm. PTK is seeking other club/organization participation to set up booths for the event. Clubs cannot sell food, because Okmulgee Mainstreet has exclusive rights to event concessions. The event is part of the Keep America Beautiful campaign, so bring trash.

Michael Grob, Horology: The club has all new officers; helped with the Firefighter Carnival and Relay for Life; will take a trip to a clockmaker's house tomorrow; and Brian Webster soon will speak about his experiences in at WOSTEP in Switzerland.

Gary Daniels, ACR: Members are planning a BBQ this Friday.

Matt Davis, ACR: The Dunk Tank was not a money-maker, but was a money-taker, so it was sold in the auction. The club will focus on raffles for fundraising from now on out.

James Thye, RHA: Members recently had a water-themed party at the residence halls; are planning a river float July 28-29; and an open forum in the residence halls to discuss any issues residents may have.

Brian Elam, CMI: Members helped with the Firefighters Carnival with Pie in the Eye and Cupcake Walk events; and held their first Outreach last week distributing 20 bibles and obtaining 20 e-mail addresses.

John Teeples, Student Senate: Encouraged those clubs hoping to participate in next year's Relay for Life to get an early start, like just after this Summer Break.

Force said he is looking at some new ideas for next year's Relay for Life.

Debock mentioned that faculty and staff have been on the Relay for Life Committee in times past and that worked well to get broader campus involvement. He jokingly said students need to find time to attend class in between their extracurricular activities.

Force apologized for the new procedure of going through the cafeteria line, and said he talking to some people and exploring alternatives to the way it was done during this meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.