

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
THE BOARD REGIONAL UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF OKLAHOMA BOARD OF REGENTS
OCTOBER 4, 2024

A regular meeting of the Board of Regents governing East Central University, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Northeastern State University, Northwestern Oklahoma State University and the University of Central Oklahoma was called to order at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, McKinney Ballroom, Room A, at 9:00 a.m., on October 4, 2024.

The following Regents were present for all or parts of the meeting: Jane McDermott, Chair of the Board, presiding; Regents Susan Winchester, Chris VanDenhende, Lake Carpenter, Chuck Perry, Connie Reilly, Amy Anne Ford, and Thomas Kupiec.

Others attending all or a part of the meeting included Dr. Brandon Tatum, President Wendell Godwin, President Rodney Hanley, President Bo Hannaford, President Thomas Newsom, President Diana Lovell, President Todd Lamb, Debra Lyon, Hayley Thompson, Joely Smith, Darrell Morrison, Christy Landsaw, David Pecha, Dennis Westman, Lori Boyd, and Kevin Freemna

Notice of the time, date and place of this meeting was submitted to the Secretary of State, and the agenda was posted on the RUSO website and on the door of the meeting room on or before 9:00 a.m. on October 3, 2024, both as required by 25 O.S., Sections 301-314.

I. Presentation by Regent Jane McDermott regarding the Chairman's Report.

Regent McDermott reported that it has been a great start to the year, and she is proud of all the RUSO Presidents and the hard work they are doing.

Regent McDermott reported the current RUSO headcount is 36,305 students, and that RUSO has 391,243 total credit hours being produced this Fall semester alone. Regent McDermott reported that Brandon would be sharing more data later in the meeting but wanted to express her excitement for those two statistics that stood out to her.

- II. (Action) Discussion and possible action regarding the Consent Docket consisting of previous minutes and academic program modifications.

Regent Ford commended Joely, RUSO Executive Assistant, for her work on the minutes.

A. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting, September 6, 2024

 [Final Sept 2024 minutes.pdf](#)

B. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

1. Northeastern Oklahoma State University

- a. NSU Letter of Intent for a Doctorate of Education in Community Based Leadership.

 [NSU LOI EdD Community Based Leadership 8.2024.docx](#)

2. Northwestern Oklahoma State University

 [Academic Affairs Agenda Letter.doc](#)

- a. Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting (001) – reduction of one-hour required in major; total hours for degree reduced by one-hour; reducing 45 upper-level business hours to 40 for graduation.

 [NWOSU BBA Accounting 001 ProgMod RUSO.pdf](#)

- b. Bachelor of Business Administration in Business Administration (007) – reduction of one-hour required in major, no change in total hours for degree, will increase electives one-hour; reducing 45 upper-level business hours to 40 for graduation.

 [NWOSU BBA BusAdmin 007 ProgMod RUSO.pdf](#)

3. Southwestern Oklahoma State University

 [ProgModLtrOct24.pdf](#)

- a. AAS Surgical Technology

 [Program Modification- AAS Surgical Tech.pdf](#)

- b. AS Wildland Firefighting

 [Program Modification- AS Wildland Firefighting.pdf](#)

- c. BFA Art

 [Program Modification-BFA August 2024.pdf](#)

d. MBA Data Science and Technology

 [Program Modification-Master of Business Admin.pdf](#)

Motion:

Motion to approve the Consent Docket consisting of previous minutes and academic program modifications.

Motion moved by Regent Kupiec and motion seconded by Regent Ford. Voting for the motion: Regents Winchester, VanDenhende, Carpenter, Perry, Reilly, McDermott, Ford, and Kupiec Voting against the motion: none

III. REPORT OF RUSO COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

Regent McDermott called on Regent Ford to present the facilities stewardship committee report.

A. FACILITIES STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE – Regent Amy Anne Ford

Regent Ford reported that the facilities stewardship committee met on Tuesday, October 1st and Regents Ford, Carpenter, and McDermott all attended the virtual meeting. The committee discussed a few topics:

- The committee discussed and reviewed each university's deferred maintenance projects and the new tracking document.
 - Regent Ford reported to have received SWOSU, NWOSU and ECU's new deferred maintenance tracking documents. She requested that these documents moving forward be submitted before every facilities committee meeting, and for presidents to plan on having the document as part of the materials they submit for each board meeting.
- The committee discussed and reviewed each university's request for facilities approvals.
 - Regent Ford reported that it is important to the Regents that contracts are approved by RUSO legal counsel. She will be asking if legal as approved contracts each month when reviewing requests.

1. (Action) Discussion and possible action of the Deferred Maintenance Tracking Document for each university.

2. (Action) Discussion and possible action regarding facilities approvals for East Central University.

 [Facilities Stewardship October.docx](#)

Motion:

Motion for the Board to grant an exception to RUSO policy 5.10.1 for naming classroom or administrative buildings and allow ECU to name its new STEM Center the Dan Hays STEM Center.

Voting for the motion: Regents Winchester, VanDenhende, Carpenter, Perry, Reilly, McDermott, Ford, and Kupiec Voting against the motion: none

- a. Naming new STEM Center at East Central University in honor of Daniel Hays.

Regent Ford reported that ECU has requested this Board authorize it to name its new STEM center the Dan Hays STEM Center. The person after which ECU seeks to name its new STEM center does not technically meet the requirements of RUSO policy. However, the selection is justified. Therefore, Regent Ford moved that the Board grant an exception to RUSO policy 5.10.1 for naming classroom or administrative buildings and allow ECU to name its new STEM Center the Dan Hays STEM Center.

Motion:

Regent Ford motioned to table the ECU Ideal Impact Inc. contract until RUSO legal completes their review.

Motion moved and motion seconded. The motion to table does not require a second.

- b. Request for Contract with Ideal Impact, Inc.

 [Request for Contract.docx](#)

3. (Action) Discussion and possible action regarding facilities approvals for Northeastern State University.

Regent Ford reported that the committee discussed NSU's facilities approvals in their committee meeting and did not see any concerns with the requests.

 [2024.09.16 NSU Facilities Stewardship Committee -October 2024.docx](#)

Motion:

Motion to approve NSU facilities requests and any item that requires a review of legal it is pending approval of the RUSO legal staff.

Motion moved by Regent Ford and motion seconded by Regent Reilly . Voting for the motion: Regents Winchester, VanDenhende, Carpenter, Perry, Reilly, McDermott, Ford, and Kupiec Voting against the motion: none

- a. Project #485-0073 – Broken Arrow Administration Building Automation Control System

Project Description: Requesting permission to design, bid, and award the installation of the campus standard automation controls system. This will be the first step to convert the entire BA campus to the university standard control systems Automated Logic.

Requested Funding Approval: \$300,000

Budget Breakdown: Renovation/Repairs

Revenue Source(s): 751 Fund

- b. Project #485-0073 – Muskogee Campus Exterior Door Replacement

Project Description: Requesting permission to design, bid, and award to the most responsive bidders the removal and replacement of exterior doors and ADA openers. This work will focus on the Muskogee Administration building and portions of the Muskogee Synar Building.

Requested Funding Approval: \$180,000

Budget Breakdown: Renovation/Repairs

Revenue Source(s): 600 Fund

- c. Project #485-0073 – Physical Plant Mechanical Room Renovation Phase I

Project Description: Requesting permission to design, bid, and award to the most responsive bidders the renovation of the Tahlequah Campus physical plant. Phase I scope will focus on removal of most old mechanical components to create a secure file storage room with conditioned air.

Requested Funding Approval: \$200,000

Budget Breakdown: Renovation/Repairs

Revenue Source(s): 295 Fund

- d. Project #485-0073 – Mesh Radio Fire Alarm Communicators
Project Description: Requesting permission to design, bid, and award to the most responsive bidder the creation and installation of a radio communication network for our existing fire alarm panels. This will replace analog communication for the fire alarm panel monitoring and communication. This is a phased approach with initial investment to install ten mesh radio communicators on existing systems.
Requested Funding Approval: \$180,000
Budget Breakdown: Renovation/Repairs
Revenue Source(s): 650 Fund
 - e. Project #485-0043 – Webb Building Lower Flat Roof Replacement
Project Description: Requesting permission to design, bid, and award to the most responsive bidder the removal and replacement of the existing lower flat roof and associated components.
Requested Funding Approval: \$325,000
Budget Breakdown: Renovation/Repairs
Revenue Source(s): 600 Fund
 - f. Project #485-0043 – Broken Arrow Campus Flat Roof Replacement
Project Description: Requesting permission to design, bid, and award to the most responsive bidder the removal and replacement of select sections of flat roof on the BA Administration, Liberal Arts, and Library buildings.
Requested Funding Approval: \$150,000
Budget Breakdown: Renovation/Repairs
Revenue Source(s): 600 Fund
 - g. Informational: Project #485-0073 – Multipurpose Event Center Gym Floor Resurface and Bleacher Service
Project Description: NSU Requests permission to bid, design, and award to the lowest responsive bidder the resurfacing of the Gym floor and perform service and maintenance to the mechanical bleacher seating.
Requested Funding Approval: \$65,000
Budget Breakdown: Renovation/Repairs
Congruent with Facility Master Plans or Strategic Plans: Yes
Revenue Source(s): 600 Fund
4. (Action) Discussion and possible action regarding facilities approvals for Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

Regent Ford reported that the facilities stewardship committee discussed SWOSU's facilities approvals in the committee meeting and the committee did not see any concerns with this request.

 [Oct 24 Facilities Agenda Items Ltr.docx](#)

Regent Vandenhende asked if all these items were on the original deferred maintenance list. Regent Ford confirmed that every item was on the original list.

Motion:

Motion to approve SWOSU's facilities requests and any item that requires a review of legal is pending approval of the RUSO legal staff.

Motion moved by Regent Ford and motion seconded by Regent Kupiec. Voting for the motion: Regents Winchester, VanDenhende, Carpenter, Perry, Reilly, McDermott, Ford, and Kupiec Voting against the motion: none

a. Parker Hall 3rd Floor Repair and Renovation

Project Description: Southwestern requests permission to bid and award a contract(s) for 3rd Floor Parker Hall. This top floor of a former residence hall has been unused for several decades and is slowly deteriorating from lack of use. Over time, the first two floors of Parker Hall have been repurposed into academic spaces. This floor needs repair and renovation for use as classroom, lab, and office space. This space is also in critical need for modification of HVAC for the entire building.

Requested Funding Approval: Not to exceed \$3,087,000

Congruent with Facilities Master Plan or Strategic Plan: Yes

Revenue Source: Fund 295, Section 13 (Deferred Maintenance One-Time Funding Revenue)

b. Hibler Education Space Repair and Renovation

Project Description: Southwestern requests permission to bid and award a contract(s) for the Hibler Education Building repairs for boiler/chiller replacement, HVAC controls, and building upgrades.

Requested Funding Approval: Not to exceed \$465,000

Congruent with Facilities Master Plan or Strategic Plan: Yes

Revenue Source: Fund 295, Section 13 (Deferred Maintenance One-Time Funding Revenue)

c. HVAC Upgrades and Modifications

Project Description: Southwestern requests permission to bid and award a contract(s) for the HVAC upgrades and modifications for the following buildings across campus: Science Building, Art Building, and Chemistry, Pharmacy, and Physics Building. Library Rankin

Requested Funding Approval: Not to exceed \$400,000

Congruent with Facilities Master Plan or Strategic Plan: Yes

Revenue Source: Fund 290 and Fund 295, Section 13 (Deferred Maintenance One-Time Funding Revenue)

d. Fine Arts Center

Project Description: Southwestern requests permission to bid and award a contract(s) to modify and upgrade the house lighting in the Fine Arts Center. The upgrade would replace all lights with LED. This request is required due to low light levels becoming a hazard for guests.

Requested Funding Approval: Not to exceed \$70,000

Congruent with Facilities Master Plan or Strategic Plan: Yes

Revenue Source: Fund 290

5. (Action) Discussion and possible action regarding facilities approvals for the University of Central Oklahoma.

Regent Ford reported that the facilities stewardship committee discussed UCO's facilities approvals in the committee meeting. The committee did not see any concerns with this request.

 [Facilities Stewardship October 2024.docx](#)

 [Campus Map October 2024.pdf](#)

Motion:

Motion to approve UCO's facilities requests and any item that requires a review of legal is pending approval of the RUSO legal staff.

Motion moved by Regent Ford and motion seconded by Regent Reilly . Voting for the motion: Regents Winchester, VanDenhende, Carpenter, Perry, Reilly, McDermott, Ford, and Kupiec Voting against the motion: none

- a. Project # 120-0027 Major Repairs and Deferred Maintenance
- Project Description: Request approval to award Johnson Controls International (JCI) a contract not to exceed \$1,050,000 for the replacement of (4) 4mBtu (million British thermal units) boilers and a water filtration system at the Boiler Plant building. The new boilers will replace the existing same-sized boilers (22 years old); however, the new boilers are approximately 12.5% more efficient. JCI utilizes General Services Administration (GSA) pricing for their quotes.
- Requested Funding Approval: \$1,050,000
- Budget Breakdown: \$1,050,000 for engineering, equipment, and installation
- Vendors: Johnson Controls International (JCI)
- Congruent with Facility Master Plan or Strategic Plan: Yes
- Fund Source(s): Section 13 & New College
- b. Project # 120-0027 Major Repairs and Deferred Maintenance
- Project Description: Request approval to award Chickasaw Telecom a contract not to exceed \$1,015,000 for the replacement of 197 Cisco network switches. The current switches are at their end of life and are located in multiple buildings across the campus. Chickasaw Telecom has a state contract number ITSW1006.
- Requested Funding Approval: \$1,015,000
- Budget Breakdown: \$1,015,000 equipment and installation
- Vendors: Chickasaw Telecom Inc.
- Congruent with Facility Master Plan or Strategic Plan: Yes
- Fund Source(s): Technology Fee
- c. Project # 120-0032 Sports Complex Improvements
- Project Description: Request approval to award Performance Surfaces a contract not to exceed \$230,000 for the replacement of the chairback style seating at Chad Richison Stadium. The replacement will be for 773 seats. Due to age and weather, the original seats, installed in 2004, have deteriorated and become brittle. Performance Surfaces has a state contract, and the seating manufacturer will be Irwin Seating, for which they are the authorized local representative.
- Requested Funding Approval: \$230,000
- Budget Breakdown: \$230,000 removal of old seating, new seating and installation
- Vendors: Performance Surfaces
- Congruent with Facility Master Plan or Strategic Plan: Yes

Fund Source(s): Section 13

d. Project # 120-0060 Health and Safety Projects

Project Description: Request approval to award contracts to multiple vendors in a total amount not to exceed \$220,000 for the purposes of adding electronic access control and/or video surveillance at multiple locations across campus. Video surveillance cameras to be added near exterior doors of: Education, Human Environmental Sciences, Wantland Hall, Health and Physical Education, and daycare. Card swipe access would be provided at all of these locations as well as clinic areas inside the library, Education building and the Child Study Center.

Requested Funding Approval: \$220,000

Budget Breakdown: \$132,500 access control hardware, \$40,000 data cabling and camera installation, \$35,000 video surveillance equipment, \$12,500 licenses and infrastructure costs

Vendors: Transact Campus (sole source), Telco (state contract), Digi Security Systems (state contract)

Congruent with Facility Master Plan or Strategic Plan: Yes

Fund Source(s): College of Education & Professional Studies
Course Fees

e. Project # 120-0027 Major Repairs and Deferred Maintenance

Project Description: Request approval to award contract to Johnson Controls International (JCI) in an amount not exceed \$110,000 for the purpose of replacing the dedicated outdoor air system at Coyner Hall, which services the cadaver lab. The unit has a capacity of 13 tons and operates continuously to provide the appropriate ventilation required to meet accreditation standards. The old unit has recently had several service issues and is at the end of its recommended life span of 15 years. JCI utilizes General Services Administration (GSA) pricing for their quotations.

Requested Funding Approval: \$110,000

Budget Breakdown: \$110,000 equipment and installation

Vendors: Johnson Controls International

Congruent with Facility Master Plan or Strategic Plan: Yes

Fund Source(s): Section 13 Offset

f. Informational: Project# 120-0027 Major Repairs and Deferred Maintenance

Project Description: Issued contract in the amount of \$66,747 to Johnson Controls International (JCI) for replacement of exterior

pipe insulation at the Math and Computer Science building. Work also includes reconfiguration of the valving for increased efficiency. JCI utilizes General Services Administration (GSA) pricing for their quotes.

Fund Source: Section 13 Offset

- g. Informational: Project# 120-0027 Major Repairs and Deferred Maintenance

Project Description: Issued contract in the amount of \$66,431 to Johnson Controls International (JCI) for the procurement of 18 variable frequency drives (VFD's), varying in size from 1-hp to 50-hp. These will be utilized as shelf stock, as the university has approximately 59 VFD's that are now obsolete, and this shelf stock represents one of every size on campus. JCI utilizes General Services Administration (GSA) pricing for their quotes.

Fund Source: Student Facility Fee

- 6. Discussion of facilities tour at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Regent Ford reported that Regents Carpenter, Vandenhende, and herself toured the science building and explored the area in which a new addition will be added, and an elevator built. They then moved to the Fine Arts building and saw how SE is rebuilding the water pipes in the building. Then, they went to the dorm facility and went to the roof and was able to get a great view of the entire campus and all of the campus's updated roofs. She reported that it was a great tour and the committee was able to see all of the projects that are being worked on. Regent Ford commended Dr. Newsom for all the work he is doing on campus.

Regent Ford concluded her committee report.

Regent McDermott called on Regent Carpenter to discuss the personnel agenda item.

- B. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE- Regent Lake Carpenter

- 1. (Action) Discussion and possible action regarding the Executive Director title.

Regent Carpenter reported that the personnel committee met regarding the Executive Director role and title. He reported that the committee is happy with the work Brandon is doing and how quickly he has jumped in to learn the RUSO system, schools, and each of the

regents and presidents individually. Regent Carpenter expressed his excitement about the work Brandon is doing for RUSO and explained that in an effort to professionalize RUSO the personnel committee would like the board to make a minor change to Brandon's title. Regent Carpenter reported that currently, the bylaws state that the Executive Director is the Chief Executive Officer of the Board of Regents and stated that it is the committees desire to drop Executive Director from the title and leave his title as simply the Chief Executive Officer.

Motion:

Motion to change the Executive Director title to Chief Executive Officer.

Motion moved by Regent Carpenter and motion seconded by Regent Reilly. Voting for the motion: Regents Winchester, VanDenhende, Carpenter, Perry, Reilly, McDermott, Ford, and Kupiec Voting against the motion: none

Regent Carpenter concluded his committee report.

Regent McDermott called on Regent Winchester to present the system advancement committee report.

C. SYSTEM ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE- Regent Susan Winchester

Regent Winchester reported that the system advancement committee met on Tuesday, October 1st and herself, Regent Carpenter and Regent Kupiec attended the virtual meeting. She reported that the committee discussed a few topics:

- The committee discussed the legislative goals document that the RUSO staff compiled. The list is a comprehensive list that includes RUSO's commitment to affordability and the critical workforce needs of the state.
- The committee had a lengthy discussion about RUSO's role in legislative priorities and the role of the individual schools. It was pointed out that RUSO staff will advocate on behalf of our system as a whole and not for individual institutions unless specifically asked to do so by the university. The committee also created a short section on handling conflict in the legislative process when it arises. Concerns will immediately be elevated to the chair of the board and system advancement committee.

- Legislative events were discussed although no actions are required. It is the committee's understanding that the Presidents would discuss this in the president's council meeting.
 - The committee discussed the HR8451. This federal legislation would create investments for universities in designated low-income districts.
1. (Action) Discussion and possible action regarding RUSO legislative goals and policy statements.

Motion:

Motion to approve the legislative goals document.

Motion moved by Regent Winchester and motion seconded by Regent Ford. Voting for the motion: Regents Winchester, VanDenhende, Carpenter, Perry, Reilly, McDermott, Ford, and Kupiec Voting against the motion: none

Motion:

Motion to acknowledge RUSO's support of HR8451.

Motion moved by Regent Winchester and motion seconded by Regent Ford. Voting for the motion: Regents Winchester, VanDenhende, Carpenter, Perry, Reilly, McDermott, Ford, and Kupiec Voting against the motion: none

Regent Winchester concluded her committee report.

Regent McDermott called on Regent VanDenhende to present the audit and finance committee report.

D. AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE- Regent Chris VanDenhende

Regent VanDenhende reported that the audit and finance committee met on Tuesday, October 1st and himself, Regent Ford, Regent Kupiec and Regent Perry all attended the virtual meeting. The committee discussed a few topics:

- The committee had two matters to discuss at this meeting regarding a refinance opportunity for UCO.
 - First, refinance opportunity is with the Oklahoma Development Finance Authority (Oklahoma State System of Higher Education 2014A Master Real Property Lease Bonds) for the remaining term of 20 years in the approximate amount of \$18,900,000. The

original bond was for the original construction of their newest residence hall the Quad.

- The second opportunity is the 2014C Master Real Property Lease Refunding. They are requesting to refinance the Oklahoma Development Finance Authority (Oklahoma State System of Higher Education 2014C Master Real Property Lease Bonds) for the remaining term of 15 years in the approximate amount of \$2,537,000. Estimated net present value savings is \$80,298. The proceeds from the original bond issue were associated with the construction of the Mitchell Hall Backstage Facility.

Both of these refinance opportunities have been brought to UCO by the State of Oklahoma on behalf of a broader state portfolio. Regent VanDenhede reported that he thinks this is a good opportunity for UCO and that the committee has also found that ECU, NSU, and NWOSU have similar refinance opportunities. He reported that this is a minor detail that does not require a vote, but the committee is supportive of this refinance.

- Regent VanDenhede reported that he has met with FORVIS and they are planning on having all audit drafts done by the 4th week of October. The audit and finance committee will be meeting with Forvis on October 30th at 10am.
- Regent VanDenhede requested that when presidents turn in audit reports or receive audit reports back from consultants, that they please send those to Dr. Tatum and himself.

1. (Action) Discussion and possible action regarding UCO approval for 2014A Master Real Property Lease Refunding

 [Audit & Finance October 2024.docx](#)

2. Discussion of Forvis and upcoming audits of universities.

Regent VanDenhede concluded his report.

Regent McDermott called on Regent VanDenhede to discuss the one policy item on the agenda.

E. POLICY COMMITTEE- Regent Chris Vandenhede

1. (Action) Discussion and possible action regarding the RUSO staff implementing a systematic review of the RUSO policies.

Regent VanDenhede reported that this item needs no vote but is to request the RUSO staff to start a review of the RUSO policies. The policy committee would like a thorough review of RUSO's policies. Regent

VanDenhende requested to have an update on this review by the April meeting.

Regent McDermott introduced the guest speaker, Dr. April Grace.

Regent McDermott reported the following about Dr. Grace:

- Dr. April Grace's is the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Public School Resource Center.
- Dr. Grace has a 35-year public education career. She has served as a classroom teacher, site-level administrator, an assistant superintendent of human resources, and, ultimately, district superintendent.
- Dr. Grace was named the 2021 Oklahoma Association of School Administrators Oklahoma Superintendent of the Year.
- Dr. Grace has also been involved in leading, serving, consulting and policy development. She has designed university education curriculum for both masters and doctoral programs and has served as a training specialist and leadership consultant at the Marzano Evaluation Center. She has served in leadership roles in numerous education organizations, including a term as president of the Oklahoma Association of School Administrators, only the second woman in the organization's history.

- IV. Presentation by April Grace, Executive Director of Oklahoma Public School Resource Center and possible discussion with RUSO Regents regarding EPP program and apprenticeships

Dr. Grace discussed the registered apprenticeship model for the State of Oklahoma. Paraprofessionals in school systems can become register apprenticeships and enrolled in EPP programs at RUSO universities. OPSRC is willing to partner with RUSO education departments to help them add this program into their education programs.

 [Grace RAP- RUSO Presentation 10 4 24.pptx](#)

- V. Presentation by President Bo Hannaford regarding the President's Council Report and possible discussion with RUSO Regents

President Hannaford discussed the presidents' support for the federal legislation, dates to the cyber security training, and Oklahoma Prosperity day. The theme is strengthening the pipeline for workforce and Dr. Tatum is a speaker. Presidents further discussed the concept of degrees of 120 hours or less. This is something that our universities are exploring. Many universities that have started this are in the 90-hour

degree range. Presidents discussed the RUSO day at the capitol. They have so many events and bringing students, but they would like to bring community members. The timing will be the issue. Finally, the Presidents discussed the Presidential evaluation review, and will further explore the evaluation with Dr. Tatum.

VI. (Action) Presentation and possible action regarding the RUSO University Presidents recommendations presented by leadership at each institution.

A. East Central University President's Recommendations

 [October 2024 RUSO Board Agenda.docx](#)

1. Personnel
2. Grants and Contracts (\$5,368,419.55)
3. Purchases
 - a. THE FOLLOWING PURCHASES ARE PRESENTED AS INFORMATIONAL ITEMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH BOARD POLICY 2.3.3, OVER \$50,000 AND UNDER \$150,000:
Johnson Controls
 - Fentem Hall chiller source
 - Source: *650 New College*
 - \$149,418.00**EBSCO Industries Inc.,**
 - Folio ILS
 - Source: *E&G*
 - \$67,263.00**Compass Group USA Inc.,**
 - Meals for Chickasaw Arts Academy
 - Source: *AUX*
 - \$91,054.80
 - b. ECU REQUESTS APPROVAL TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING PURCHASES IN ACCORDANCE WITH BOARD POLICY, OVER \$150,000:
Convergint Technologies LLC
 - Pontotoc Hall fire alarm system
 - Source: *650 New College*
 - \$156,126.49
4. ECU requests approval to serve alcoholic beverages in VIP areas at sporting events.

Motion:

Motion to approve ECU's President's recommendations.

Motion moved by Regent Reilly and motion seconded by Regent Ford.
Voting for the motion: Regents Winchester, VanDenhende, Carpenter,
Perry, Reilly, McDermott, Ford, and Kupiec Voting against the motion:
none

B. East Central University President's Report

President Godwin reported on the following:

- He is working on the approval of their EDD with HLC and a new Masters degree in Science.
- He hopes to start enrolling students for the Fall.
- ECU is hosting a tribal summit coming up this Fall and would welcome the regents to attend.
- ECU received a grant for \$3.1 million for teacher education recruitment. Coming up he is attending DC next week with his PLC students.
- Report on a feasibility document and discussed an upcoming capital campaign.
- Petes Place in Krebs will be hosting the OSHRE Legislative event on December 3rd, 2024 at 11:30am-1:00pm.

President Godwin concluded his report.

Regent McDermott called on President Hanley to present NSU's recommendations.

C. Northeastern State University President's Recommendations

 [BdRecommendations-Oct 2024-Final Email Version - 9-16-24.docx](#)

1. Personnel
2. Grants and Contracts (\$1,486,125.00)
3. Purchases

None at this time

Motion:

Motion to approve NSU's President's recommendations.

Motion moved by Regent Reilly and motion seconded by Regent Ford.
Voting for the motion: Regents Winchester, VanDenhende, Carpenter,
Perry, Reilly, McDermott, Ford, and Kupiec Voting against the motion:
none

Regent McDermott called on President Hanley to present the NSU President's report.

D. Northeastern State University President's Report

President Hanley reported on the following:

- NSU played their first football game in Broken Arrow in many years. They had great support from the community, and it is a growing relationship with the city.
- NSU received recognition for the most affordable online Master of Education in special education.
- NSU received special funding for the success of Native American students in Oklahoma.
- NSU has their homecoming coming up.
- NSU will be hosting the next regent meeting in November and there will be a hard hat tour of the optometry building.

President Hanley concluded his report.

Regent McDermott called on President Hannaford to present NWOSU's recommendations.

E. Northwestern Oklahoma State University President's Recommendations

 [Presidents Recommendations-NWOSU.docx](#)

1. Personnel

None at this time

2. Grants and Contracts (\$50,000.00)

3. Purchases

- a. The following purchases are being made in accordance with Board Policy (over \$50,000 and under \$150,000):

Educational Supplies for Nursing: Laerdal Medical Corp., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at a cost not to exceed \$100,000 (Fund 705 Auxiliary-ARPA)

Motion:

Motion to approve NWOSU's President's recommendations.

Motion moved by Regent Ford and motion seconded by Regent Reilly.

Voting for the motion: Regents Winchester, VanDenhende, Carpenter,

Perry, Reilly, McDermott, Ford, and Kupiec Voting against the motion:
none

Regent McDermott called on President Hannaford to present the NWOSU President's report.

F. Northwestern Oklahoma State University President's Report

President Hannaford thanked President Newsom for his hospitality and reported on the following:

- NWOSU's homecoming and students being engaged in very positive ways.
- NWOSU's dorm count is up 6% and their meal count is up 4%.
- NSU is starting the process of exploring a capital campaign.

President Hannaford concluded his report.

Regent McDermott called on President Newsom to present SE's recommendations.

G. Southeastern Oklahoma State University President's Recommendations

 [October Board Meeting Recommendations.docx](#)

1. Personnel
2. Grants and Contracts
None at this time
3. Purchases
None at this time
4. SEOSU requests approval to award a posthumous degree, Master of Education in Curriculum & Instruction, to Solan Genesis Harrison. This request is in compliance with our policy and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education policy.

Motion:

Motion to approve SE's President's recommendations.

Motion moved by Regent Ford and motion seconded by Regent Reilly.
Voting for the motion: Regents Winchester, VanDenhende, Carpenter,

Perry, Reilly, McDermott, Ford, and Kupiec Voting against the motion:
none

Regent McDermott called on President Newsom to present the SE
President's report.

H. Southeastern Oklahoma State University President's Report

President Newsom thanked his team for all the work they have done to get ready to host the RUSO board meeting during homecoming and reported on the following:

- Homecoming was happening over the weekend and there will be a sculpture dedication at 1:30 pm.
- SE will be bringing RUSO its' first doctoral degree in business administration and a RN to BSN program. The hope is to start nursing this summer and the doctoral next Fall or Spring.
- President Newsom commended the speaker today on teacher education. In 2013 there were 37 students in Master of Education and today there are 1,200 students in that program. Their education programs are excelling and are experiencing rapid growth.

President Newsom concluded his report.

Regent McDermott called on President Lovell to present SWOSU's recommendations.

I. Southwestern Oklahoma State University President's Recommendations

 [RUSO Agenda Oct 2024.docx](#)

1. Personnel
2. Grants and Contracts (\$120,839.00)
3. Purchases
 - a. SWOSU presents the following purchases being made over \$150,000 in accordance with Board Policy
Bruker, Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectrometer is used to determine the structure of molecules.
Sources E&G, SWOSU Foundation, SWOSU Pharmacy Foundation.....\$360,000

b. SWOSU presents the following purchases being made in accordance with Board Policy (Over \$50,000 and under \$150,000)

- Touchnet Information Systems, Integrated provider for comprehensive and secure payment system.
Source E&G.....\$117,044

- Softchoice Corporation, Microsoft and cloud solution licensing.
Source E&G.....\$119,544

Motion:

Motion to approve SWOSU's President's recommendations.

Motion moved by Regent Ford and motion seconded by Regent Reilly. Voting for the motion: Regents Winchester, VanDenhende, Carpenter, Perry, Reilly, McDermott, Ford, and Kupiec Voting against the motion: none

Regent McDermott called on President Lovell to present the SWOSU President's report.

J. Southwestern Oklahoma State University President's Report

President Lovell reported on the following:

- SWOSU has launched the new College Tour video, and they had a recognition of the building of the pharmacy building.
- SWOSU hosted several legislators and the Attorney General on campus to do a tour of the Pharmacy building. She would like to invite the regents on a similar tour.
- The SWOSU football team is on a two-game winning streak and hopes are high on campus.
- President Lovell recently visited DC and spent time with Frank Lucas.
- President Lovell is working hard to build strong partnerships across the state. She ended her comments thanking President Newsom for his hospitality and Regent Perry for his recent op-ed.

President Lovell concluded her report.

Regent McDermott called on President Lamb to present UCO's recommendations.

K. University of Central Oklahoma President's Recommendations

[w President's Recommendations October 2024.docx](#)

- 1. Personnel
- 2. Grants and Contracts (\$1,436,938.00)
- 3. Purchases
 - a. Informational Items from Purchasing
 - Forvis Mazars LLP., accounting audit services.
Source: E&G.....\$95,000
 - Overland Charters., sports team post-season transportation.
Source: Athletics Fee.....\$57,787
 - International Business Machines Corporation, SPSS Statistics & Amos license subscription and support.
Source: E&G.....\$52,190
 - Mongoose Research, Cadence text messaging and solution for CRM Recruit.
Source: E&G.....\$58,949
 - IPARADIGMS Holdings LLC., Turnitin plagiarism software.
Source: E&G.....\$81,164
 - Timco Machine Tools and Tooling, Inc., Lathe machine for Makerspace Lab.
Source: E&G.....\$51,529
 - Software House International, Varonis information security monitoring application.
Source: E&G.....\$101,483
 - 36Brickhouse Performance Inc., concert performance.
Source: E&G.....\$50,000
 - Complete Home Assistance LLC., fall housing cleaning.
Source: Auxiliary.....\$60,000
 - Certified Commercial Restoration LLC, water remediation and removal.
Source: Auxiliary.....\$66,431

Motion:

Motion to approve UCO's President's recommendations.

Motion moved by Regent Kupiec and motion seconded by Regent Ford. Voting for the motion: Regents Winchester, VanDenhende, Carpenter, Perry, Reilly, McDermott, Ford, and Kupiec Voting against the motion: none

Regent McDermott called on President Lamb to present the UCO President's report.

L. University of Central Oklahoma President's Report

President Lamb reported on the following:

- UCO and is the only university in the country to have an undefeated volleyball team and football team. The morale on campus is very positive right now.
- Last year he notified the board that there were 28 states and 25 countries represented at UCO. President Lamb will be doing an international tour this month.
- President Lamb created a new administrative position of VP of transformational leadership. He then added Allen Wright to the team to be a VP of Advancement.
- ROTC is thriving now on the UCO campus.

President Lamb concluded his report.

Regent McDermott called on Brandon Tatum to give the Executive Director's report.

VII. (Action) Presentation by Dr. Brandon Tatum and possible discussion with RUSO Regents regarding the Executive Director's report.

Dr. Tatum thanked Dr. Grace for coming and presenting at the RUSO meeting. Dr. Tatum discussed data on behalf of the system. The latest enrollment update shows that the RUSO system has 41,000 students and five years after graduation 80% of our students are in Oklahoma working. RUSO graduated 526 nurses and 410 nurses according to the latest data.

 [RUSO Data \(2\) \(1\).pdf](#)

VIII. Regents' Comments and Announcements

No Regents' comments or announcements.

IX. Discussion and possible action regarding New Business (not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of the agenda).

No new business.

X. (Action) Vote to enter into executive session pursuant to 25 O.S. 307(B)(4) and (8) for the purpose of discussion and possible action on the following issues:

Motion:

Motion to enter into executive session.

Motion moved by Regent Ford and motion seconded by Regent Reilly. Voting for the motion: Regents Winchester, VanDenhende, Carpenter, Perry, Reilly, McDermott, Ford, and Kupiec Voting against the motion: none

- A. Jackson Shepherd and Mallory Scott v. Regional University System of Oklahoma County ("RUSO") et al., District Court of Oklahoma Case #CJ-2020-2383
- B. Charles E. Sneed and Tabitha Sneed v. Northeastern State University ("NSU"), Acting President Kim Cherry, and NSU Employees, E.C.A.L. [sic et al.], District Court of Cherokee County, Case #CJ-2007-840
- C. Marci D. Walkingstick Dixon v. State of Oklahoma ex rel. the Regional University System of the Oklahoma Board of Regents sic. d/b/a Northeastern State University ("NSU"), Eastern District of Oklahoma Case #CIV-19-391
- D. Tatum Robertson, Eve Brennan, and Marin Rhodes v. University of Central Oklahoma ("UCO") and Board of Regents for the Regional University System of Oklahoma ("RUSO"), Western District of Oklahoma, Case # CIV-2022-836-HE
- E. Dr. Rachel Tudor v. Marie Galindo et al. and Ezra Young and Brittany Stewart v. Dr. Rachel Tudor, Southeastern Oklahoma State University ("SE"), and Regional University System of Oklahoma ("RUSO"), Western District of Oklahoma Case #CIV-2022-480-C
- F. Noreen Swank v. State of Oklahoma ex rel. the Regional University System of Oklahoma Board of Regents d/b/a Northeastern State University ("NSU"), Eastern District of Oklahoma Case #CIV-2024-102-GLJ
- G. Ronald Wyatt v. Jennifer Kay Wyatt, Patti Buhl, Northeastern State University Police Department, Northeastern State University Board of Regents, and Northeastern State University ("NSU"), District Court of Wagoner County Case #CJ-2017-240
- H. Terry Worcester v. East Central University, District Court of Pontotoc County Case #CJ-2019-37
- I. Alan Scott Asher and Nancy Asher v. Northeastern State University-Broken Arrow ("NSU"), and The Board of Regents of Oklahoma Colleges-Regional University System of Oklahoma ("RUSO"), District Court of Wagoner County Case #CJ-2022-309

- J. Shekhar Rathor v. University of Central Oklahoma ("UCO") EEOC Charge #564-2022-02211
 - K. OCR Docket No. 07-23-2169 - Website accessibility complaint against East Central University
 - L. US Department of Education Complaint by Margo McKenzie against Northeastern State University for alleged FERPA violations
 - M. MidFirst Bank v. James L. Lindsay II, Northwestern Oklahoma State University ("NWOSU") et al., District Court of Oklahoma County Case #CJ-2022-6342
 - N. Northwestern Oklahoma State University Internal Revenue Service Audit
 - O. Oklahoma Insurance Department Consumer Complaint against VOYA
 - P. Discussion of legal opinion provided by John E. Priddy
- XI. (Action) Vote to acknowledge and return to Open Session.
- A. Discussion and possible action to implement matters discussed in Executive Session.
No items needed action from Executive Session.
- XII. (Action) Vote to Adjourn the October Board Meeting
The meeting adjourned by acclimation at 12:20 p.m.