

M I N U T E S

LEGISLATIVE EDUCATIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE  
(1202 Commission)

November 13 and 14, 1975

Room 519 - State House

Members Present

Senator Joseph Harder, Chairman  
Representative Jim Maag, Vice-Chairman  
Senator Ross Doyen  
Senator Billy McCray (November 14)  
Senator Jan Meyers  
Senator Jack Steineger (November 14)  
Representative John Bower  
Representative John Carlin  
Representative Don Crumbaker  
Representative Ruth Luzzati  
Representative Roger Robertson

Staff Present

Dr. James W. Drury, Legislative Research Department  
Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research Department  
Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department  
Avis Badke, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees

Max Bickford, Executive Office, Kansas State Board of Regents  
Dr. Merle Bolton, Commissioner, State Department of Education  
Dr. Joe McFarland, Academic Officer, Kansas State Board of  
Regents  
Vic Miller, Associated Students of Kansas  
Dr. George B. Smith, Kansas University

November 13, 1975

Kansas Technical Institute (KTI)

Dr. Bolton presented a position paper on KTI in behalf of John W. Frazier, Chairman, State Board of Education. In it, he traced the history of KTI and observed that the institute has never enjoyed support from the legislature but has been under constant threat of being phased out or relocated. Such a lack of support has created unstable conditions leading to a high faculty turnover and low student enrollment.

Dr. Bolton pointed out that the lack of support for KTI comes at a time when, according to a survey done by KTI of 154 Kansas industries, industrial development in Kansas has been hampered by a shortage of skilled craftsmen and technicians such as those produced at KTI.

Dr. Bolton suggested that the 1202 Commission conduct a study of KTI as part of a comprehensive plan for postsecondary education and assure KTI of at least four more years of status quo existence with two years lead-time before any changes are implemented.

In response to questions, Dr. Bolton said the State Board of Education is making no recommendation concerning governance of KTI except that, whatever the governance, KTI should remain a free-standing two-year technical institute.

In the Committee discussion that followed Dr. Bolton's presentation, mention was made of the consortium with KTI, Kansas Wesleyan, and Marymount College and the arrangement between KTI and the Kansas Neurological Institute (KNI) whereby staff at KNI may receive an AA degree from KTI in the field of Human Development Technology. Committee members noted that changing the location of KTI would affect these inter-institutional arrangements.

There was general agreement among Committee members that the stability of the institution has always been in jeopardy and that, whatever decision is made relating to KTI, the programs deserve support from the legislature.

There was general agreement among Committee members that KTI belongs under the Board of Regents because it is a state supported school and is entirely postsecondary.

Regents Enrollment Study

Dr. Smith presented the enrollment study for Fall, 1975. The study, which Dr. Smith has done for a number of years, includes enrollment data for the Regents institutions, Washburn University, KTI, the independent colleges and universities, and the community junior colleges. The data serves as the basis for state appropriations based on enrollment and for the enrollment projections made by Dr. Kenneth Anderson.

Dr. Smith explained that the Regents are not charged with collecting the data and rely upon the voluntary cooperation of the postsecondary institutions that participate. He described the basis for determining such things as graduate and undergraduate FTE and said he believes institutions are using more uniform definitions than they once were.

#### Out-of-State and Extension Programs

Mr. Bickford spoke to the Committee about out-of-state institutions offering courses in Kansas that do not meet Kansas standards for degrees. He said some of these offerings are legitimate, but presently there is no way to regulate or screen them to know what is being offered and ensure that they are up to the same standards as those courses offered by Kansas institutions. He said other states (among them Oklahoma) have enacted measures to control the influx of out-of-state offerings and suggested that Kansas might do the same.

Regarding extension or off-campus courses, Mr. Bickford said the offering of such programs by Regents' institutions used to be hit and miss, but now the offerings are coordinated and standards are imposed to insure that the quality of the programs is high. He expressed concern that community college extension programs are not as closely regulated and may be taught by unqualified faculty on an overload basis.

Mr. Bickford said most Regents extension courses are for graduate credit and an effort is made not to compete with community colleges or independent colleges offering similar programs in the same part of the state. To this end, a three-man committee (Dr. Arthur Zook, Dr. Joe Miller, and Dr. Gene Kasper) representing the independent schools, the community colleges, and the Regents institutions, respectively, work to coordinate extension offerings.

Dr. Miller pointed out to the Committee that the large number of extension courses offered by some community colleges (Colby Community College, for example) indicates there is a need to be met that is not being addressed by the Regents institutions.

#### Regents Procedure for Program Approval

Dr. McFarland told the Committee that requests for new programs are made to the Council of Chief Academic Officers which submits a recommendation to the Council of Presidents. The Council of Presidents in turn makes a recommendation to the Academic Committee, a subcommittee of the Board of Regents. The Academic Committee is the final authority on requests concerning redesignation or consolidation of already existing programs. In cases where new programs or new degree levels are proposed, the Academic Committee makes a recommendation to the full Regents Board.

Dr. McFarland said decisions of the Academic Committee are guided by four considerations:

1. Is the proposal academically sound?
2. Are the estimates of required resources realistic?
3. Where does the proposal rank in institutional priorities?
4. Where does the proposal rank in state priorities?

#### Postsecondary Student Loans

The subcommittee on student loans (Representative Jim Maag, Chairman, Senator Billy McCray, and Representative Don Crumbaker) made a report to the Committee concerning student loans. Given the unwillingness of commercial lenders to make federally insured loans to students, the subcommittee recommended that the state become the lender and issue revenue bonds to create a fund from which loans to postsecondary students would be made.

The subcommittee endorsed the concepts embodied in 1975 H.B. 2480 which provides for the Board of Regents to issue up to \$50 million in revenue bonds. The Board of Regents would also administer the program. Loans would be made entirely from funds derived from the sale of the bonds or from repaid loans and would not constitute a debt or obligation of the state. Loans would be made to any qualified postsecondary student attending public or private institutions in Kansas (including KTI, the AVT schools, and licensed nationally accredited proprietary schools). Students could borrow up to \$2,500 per academic year and take up to 10 years to pay back the loan, beginning 9 to 12 months after graduation. Interest on the loan would be 7%, partially subsidized by the federal government. In the event the student defaults or becomes unable to repay the loan, the federal government would reimburse the state 100%.

Mr. Miller, representing the Associated Students of Kansas, appeared before the Committee in support of the program. He said the unwillingness of commercial lenders to make federally insured student loans has created a real need for some kind of program to enable students to stay in school. He said his organization favors even stricter requirements to obtain loans since, by limiting eligibility to the most responsible students, the default rate might be cut.

Mr. Harold Stones, representing the Kansas Bankers Association, said his organization is taking no official position on the proposed legislation although he agrees there is a need for such a student loan program.

Because Congressional action is pending on the federal guaranteed student loan program, the Committee decided to wait until its next meeting to make a final decision on a proposed bill that would establish a student loan program.

### Nursing Education

The Nursing Education Subcommittee (Senator Doyen, Chairman, Senator Meyers, and Representative Robertson) made a progress report to the Committee. Their position is that they believe changes in the nursing profession necessitate changes in nursing education so that Kansas nursing programs will graduate nurses who are able to meet health care demands. They cited the need for more nurses trained at the Baccalaureate and Masters degree level as well as the need to insure that nurses are able to continue their educations with the minimum difficulty.

The subcommittee reported that it considers a study of nursing education a worthwhile pursuit of the 1202 Commission and is presently at the stage of determining the best way to proceed to coordinate data gathering activities already underway in the state and to generate new data that is needed before the Committee can make final recommendations concerning changes in nursing education that must occur if programs are to be responsive to changes in the nursing profession.

### KTI, continued

Discussion of KTI resumed with the suggestion that the state hire an outside consultant to do a study of technical education in Kansas, including an evaluation of present programs and the manpower needs of the state.

There was general agreement that such a study could be helpful, although there was uncertainty as to how quickly it could be made and whether it was advisable to make a change in governance of KTI before the study was completed.

A motion was made by Senator Meyers, seconded by Representative Carlin, to transfer KTI to the Board of Regents with the statutory provision that it remain at its present location four years. In discussion following the motion, the point was made that putting a moratorium on changing KTI's location probably would not have the desired effect of making the institution more stable. Furthermore, Committee members said they did not want to bind KTI's governing board to any one location as much as they wanted to lend support to the concept of two-year technical training such as that offered at KTI and ensure that any program or location changes would be smooth and orderly. It was also the Committee's understanding that any changes made at KTI would be

brought before the legislature for review during the regular budgetary process.

In light of the Committee discussion, Senator Meyers changed her motion to move that KTI be transferred to the Board of Regents and that the Committee, in its report to the Legislature, endorse two-year technical training in Kansas. The motion carried.

Other Matters

The minutes of September 23 and 24 were approved. The minutes of October 13 and 14, as corrected, were approved.

Next Meeting

The date for the next meeting has been changed to Tuesday, November 25, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 510 of the State House. Items on the agenda will include action on the proposed student loan bill and review of the Committee report.

The meeting adjourned.

Prepared by Carolyn Rampey

Approved by Committee on:

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(Date)