

M I N U T E S

LEGISLATIVE EDUCATIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE  
(1202 COMMISSION)

November 9, 1977

Room 522 - State House

Members Present

Representative Ruth Luzzati, Chairperson  
Senator Joseph C. Harder, Vice-Chairperson  
Senator Ross Doyen  
Senator Billy McCray  
Senator Jan Meyers  
Senator Tom Rehorn  
Representative Kalo Hineman  
Representative Loren Hohman II  
Representative Bill Reardon  
Representative Fred Weaver

Staff Present

Carolyn Rampey, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Linda Tigges, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Deb Krajnak, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Marlin Rein, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Avis Badke, Revisor of Statutes Office

Conferees Present

Dr. Robert Haywood, Vice-President of Academic Affairs, Washburn University  
Dr. Wayne McElroy, President, Fort Scott Community College  
Henry Singer, Education Officer for McConnell Air Force Base, Wichita

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The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Postsecondary Data Collection Activities

The staff presented the Kansas Higher Education Enrollment Report for the 1977 fall semester and informed the Committee that the fall, 1977, headcount enrollment for all postsecondary institutions, excluding the area vocational schools and the proprietary schools, is 126,118. This is a 4.5 percent increase over the fall, 1976, headcount enrollment. The current full-time equivalent enrollment is 98,834, up 2.7 percent over comparable figures a year ago. The greatest increase in full-time equivalent enrollment over the previous year occurred for the Kansas Technical Institute (14.0 percent), the public community colleges (5.8 percent), and Washburn University (5.4 percent).

The staff speculated that the greater increase in headcount enrollment compared to full-time equivalent enrollment indicated a large number of non-traditional students were attending school part-time. The staff also reported that a number of institutions indicated they had stepped up their recruitment activities. Several Committee members noted that the recruitment activities of various alumni associations had also increased.

Regarding enrollment projections, Mr. Rein noted that institutional enrollment projections made for budgetary purposes tended to be conservative in the sense that they were almost always based on the prior year's enrollment and budget figures. He said schools generally did not like to predict decreases in enrollment because they feared budget cuts. Nor did they like to predict large increases in enrollments for fear that, if they added new faculty and services, cuts would have to be made in the future if enrollments began to decline. Consequently, Mr. Rein said institutions preferred to take the more stable middle road by always basing each year's enrollment projection and budget request on the prior year.

Mr. Rein also noted that it was possible that those institutions whose budgets were based on fall enrollments made a greater effort to offer extension courses in the fall semester in order to be able to count more students in the funding base.

Regarding the Information Exchange Procedures (IEP) at community colleges, the staff informed the Committee that a meeting of community college representatives had been held October 22 which had been attended by representatives of the two pilot schools (Coffeyville and Hutchinson Community Colleges) as well as by representatives of twelve other community colleges and a representative of the Regents' institutions. The staff said that at the meeting interest was expressed in a uniform accounting system for the community colleges.

In response to a question about progress being made by the Regents' institutions to implement IEP, Dr. Tom Rawson, Research Officer, Kansas State Board of Regents, said the Regents' institutions were in the final year of the three-year program to implement IEP. He said no decision had been made to continue IEP beyond the third year.

The staff informed the Committee that the next meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee on Data Collection would be November 30 at which time the Committee would discuss developing a data base for non-credit continuing education.

#### Extension Course Guidelines

Dr. Haywood told the Committee that Washburn University, in addition to its statewide mission, had a special responsibility to serve Shawnee County. He said Washburn University could live with the 20-mile radius concept contained in the guidelines adopted by the Kansas State Board of Regents, but preferred the county as the service area unit. He defined "off-campus courses" to mean courses offered outside the county in which the institution was located.

Dr. Haywood said that Washburn University would not offer lower division courses in the county (or within a 20-mile radius, depending upon which guidelines are adopted) where a Regents' institution or community college is located without approval from the local institution. Regents' institutions and community colleges would also need the approval of Washburn University in order to offer undergraduate courses in Shawnee County.

Dr. Haywood told the Committee that credit courses offered by Washburn University would be taught by "regularly appointed faculty who would meet the same requirement as faculty appointed as full-time members of the departments or schools."

Dr. Haywood emphasized the fact that Washburn University made great use of adjunct faculty and did not want to be under guidelines requiring the use of regular faculty members for off-campus courses.

In response to questions, Dr. Haywood said there were certain programs that Washburn University was not interested in developing, such as environmental and special education programs. He said those were examples of programs Washburn University would approve to be offered in Shawnee County by other schools.

He told the Committee Washburn University had found extension course offerings to be expensive to the school. He said Washburn University had, in an effort to be more competitive, reduced graduate student tuition.

Dr. McElroy addressed the issue of "quality" and said it was a difficult matter to regulate. He praised the efforts of Wichita State University in the Fort Scott community and said that two courses were being offered in the area of criminal justice this fall, with two more to be offered next spring. He said the course instructors were not regular Wichita State University faculty members but were people from Fort Scott (one of them a judge) who had extensive knowledge in the subject area.

Following Dr. McElroy's statement, the Committee raised several questions about the use of adjunct faculty to teach Regents' off-campus courses. Dr. John Breazeale, Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculties, Wichita State University, told the Committee that the Regents' institutions used adjunct faculty to teach off-campus courses. (He said adjunct faculty taught approximately one-third of the off-campus courses offered by Wichita State University.)

Dr. Breazeale said the Regents' institutions subscribed to the standard that off-campus courses should be taught by regular faculty as the best guarantee that the quality of off-campus offerings would be comparable to regular campus offerings. However, he said it was not possible to use regular faculty members to teach all off-campus courses, so use was made of qualified adjunct faculty. Credit hours taught by adjunct faculty were not eligible for state reimbursement. Dr. Breazeale said he did not believe the use of regular and adjunct professors resulted in two levels of quality in instruction since the adjunct faculty was qualified. He said students usually took most of their extension course work from regular professors.

Questions were also raised about the use of graduate assistants by the Regents' institutions, both for on-and-off campus courses. Dr. Gene Kasper, Extension Officer, Kansas State Board of Regents, said only 3 percent of the Regents' off-campus courses are taught by graduate students. When asked to comment on the charge that some Regents' courses were taught by foreign students who did not speak English well, Dr. Kasper said every effort was made to ensure that graduate teaching assistants were proficient in English.

Dorothy Groesbeck, Chairperson, Kansas State Board of Education, said she believed each postsecondary segment was trying hard to ensure a high level of quality and had developed standards that were applicable to its institutions. She told the Committee she did not believe the standards adhered to by one segment should necessarily be applied to all segments.

Mr. Singer described the educational needs at McConnell Air Force Base in Wichita and said there were 4,000 airmen stationed there, 2,400 of whom had only a high school education. He described the results of a recent survey of the airmen in which 40 percent said they had irregular work schedules. Sixty-four percent said they planned to be stationed at the base less than three years.

Mr. Singer said programs on base are currently being offered by Wichita State University, Kansas Newman College, Butler County Community College, Webster College, and the Wichita Area Vocational School. He said there was a great interest among the airmen in vocational and occupational programs. He told the Committee the Air Force promoted educational opportunities for airmen and paid 75 percent of their tuition when they enrolled in courses.

Mr. Singer said Butler County Community College had made a serious effort to accommodate the irregular schedules of the airmen and had arranged to have some classes taught back-to-back. He urged the Committee not to adopt extension course guidelines that would restrict the community college offerings on the base.

After hearing the conferees, the Committee discussed the options before it. Representative Luzzati said it was her opinion that the guidelines should not be statutory since they would eventually become part of the state-level plan for postsecondary education being developed by the Committee. She said the Committee was interested in working with the educational segments to develop a workable arrangement among institutions offering extension courses. She said it was her opinion that the Committee should recommend guidelines and then continue to monitor extension course offerings in order to determine whether the guidelines were working successfully.

The Committee decided to recommend those portions of the guidelines that had been agreed to by the Kansas State Board of Regents, the Kansas State Board of Education, the Associated Independent Colleges of Kansas, and Washburn University. Upon a motion by Senator Harder, seconded by Representative Hineman, the Committee voted to recommend the following:

1. General Principles

Kansas Colleges and Universities should:

- A. Maximize communication and cooperation in offering credit continuing education courses.
- B. Offer a coordinated program which will avoid unnecessary duplication of courses.

- C. Maximize opportunity for quality instruction and learning environments.
- D. Provide access to appropriate supportive resources for undergraduate credit courses.

2. Missions of Schools

Primary responsibility of each segment:

- A. Community Colleges -- citizens in district (county) in which institution is located.
- B. Independent Colleges and Universities -- individuals and groups, often religious in orientation, within and outside state.
- C. Regents' Institution -- citizens of Kansas, statewide.
- D. Washburn University -- statewide mission and special mission to serve urban area of Shawnee County.

3. Quality of Offerings

Credit courses should be of high quality. Personal interest, hobby, and recreational courses usually will not be offered for credit, nor will they receive state general fund support.

Additional sections of the guidelines will be considered at the next Committee meeting. Sam Newland, Education Specialist for Community Junior Colleges, Kansas State Department of Education, told the Committee he was in the process of contacting the community colleges to ascertain the specific steps each school takes to hire and evaluate off-campus faculty. He said he would be able to make a report to the Committee at the next meeting.

The Committee also asked the staff to prepare a comparison showing the effects upon off-campus offerings of the 20-mile radius concept of institutional service areas as opposed to the county-unit concept contained in the guidelines adopted by the Kansas State Board of Regents' and the Kansas State Board of Education, respectively.

Next Meeting

The Committee will meet again on January 11, 1978, at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned.

Prepared by Carolyn Rampey

Approved by Committee on:

December 31, 1977  
(date)

CR/dmb