

MINUTES OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson David Heinemann at 1:30 on January 26., 1995 in Room 254-E of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Rep. Cindy Empson

Committee staff present: Caroline Rampey, Legislative Research Department
Julian Efird, Legislative Research Department
Laura Howard, Legislative Research Department
Helen Abramson, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Dr. Ed Hammond , Fort Hays State University
Dr. John Masterson, Allen County Community College
Dr. Robert Ratzlaff, Pittsburg State University
Dr. Patrick J. McAtee, Cowley County Community College
Dr. Rodney V. Cox, Jr. Butler County Community College
Dr. Eugene Hughes, Wichita State University

Others attending: See attached list

Representative Heinemann stated basically the Committee is getting up speed by learning what is going on in the field of higher education. The Committee has been informed about cooperation and inter-reaction that has been going on, however, much of that has not been statutory.

Dr. Ed Hammond, President, Fort Hays State University, gave an overview of the Western Kansas Educational Compact, dating back to 1987. Fort Hays State University along with the community colleges in the western half of the State (Pratt, Great Bend, Dodge City, Garden City, Liberal, Colby) decided to pool available resources to support educational efforts in the western half of the state in a way to meet the needs of the citizens. This addressed a whole series of cooperation, first and foremost, being the ability to deliver upper division courses in those communities. Community colleges were limited to the first two years of 100 and 200 level courses. An increasing number of students asked for courses in upper division graduate level areas. A large percentage of students are going into the work force and back into postsecondary education, into the work force again, and again back into postsecondary education. The community colleges were able to meet the need at the lower divisional level, but there was a need for expanding the offerings. In 1987 a service center need concept was developed in which Fort Hays State University offered the upper, and the community colleges offered the lower divisional courses, and series of degrees were targeted. As a result of the compact Fort Hays University has students pursuing bachelors degrees in nursing, elementary education, and business who will never set their feet on Fort Hays campus. Community colleges teach the first two years and Fort Hays offers the second two years. Other areas of cooperation had to do with research. Jointly, federal research grants were pursued regarding faculty development. Financial aid has been a joint venture. This program has expanded since its concept. Growth was facilitated by the fact that courses are offered to 27 sites through two-way promotional interactive video. Growing out of this was a very strong relationship with Barton County Community College. Two years ago, talks started about merger or affiliating the two institutions together. As a result, faculty of the two schools have gotten together and worked out how that would work. Savings would be one result of a merger. Generated savings could be reinvested in the Barton County campus. Saving could be used to bolster the number of full time faculty which has declined. Out of those discussions of last spring, a formal type of proposal was developed. The document was brought to the Board of Regents and the decision was made to move this concept to the discussion level of the new governance committee.

Dr. John Masterson, President, Allen County Community College, and President of the Southeast Kansas Higher Education System(SWKHES) addressed the Committee. The SWKHES current membership includes community colleges of Allen County, Coffeyville, Fort Scott, Independence, Labette, Neosho

County, and Pittsburg State University. It began in 1969 as a loose consortium of the six community colleges, and in 1980 Pittsburg State joined the consortium. The seven member of the SWKHES have undertaken many initiatives to cooperate in academic areas. Currently, a grant that would link the institutions through interactive video is being sought. A means of providing electronic transfer of transcripts within the system is also being developed. The system is also very active in economic development. There are several cooperative programs in place, one being the Higher Education Alliance Team to support business and industry cooperatively in the SE part of the state. SEKHES was actively involved in attracting Cessna to the region. SKILL, KIT AND KIR grants are being administered through the colleges to train or retrain the work force for businesses and industries in the area. Dr. Masterson stated in his opinion the one thing needed to be added to any original consortium is a mediation process if one of more of the members loggerhead.

Dr. Robert Ratzlaff, Pittsburg State University, stated the process of service centers on campus started in 1983-84 and recompletion programs shortly thereafter. In the past five years SWKHES has concentrated on economic programs, and each of the community colleges have something to offer through the service centers. If there is going to be any further change, it has to be in the governance structure. The next act to be completed is the interact connection in the seven sites so programs can be delivered at more than one site at a time. Mr. Ratzlaff feels the vocational schools are recently arrived players, but are not yet part of the system.

Dr. Patrick J. McAtee, President, Cowley County Community College gave an overview of the South Central Kansas Postsecondary Consortium (SCKPC). The main problems with community colleges is one never knows how much money to count on. Cowley County has been involved in partnerships - the South Central Kansas Service Center, Southwest Kansas Higher Education Consortium, South Central Kansas Education Network, South Central Kansas Consortium, and Quality Improvement Network (partnership with industries). The legislature has asked educational facilities to be involved in economic development ventures, and this is being done. The SCKEC put together coordination center for business and industry services inside Sedgwick County. The purpose of the Consortium was to improve the delivery of programs and services to students and business industry, and better meet the needs of South Central Kansas. The consortium comprises the community colleges of Hutchinson, Butler, Pratt, and Cowley, Wichita AVTS, and Wichita State University (WSU). One meaningful program is going on inside The Boeing Company. Being developed currently is the Derby Center - joint educational center in South Sedgwick County; Cowley County Community College will provide developmental courses and technical programs and courses; Wichita State University will provide lower and upper division academic courses, and upper division courses will be offered at Cowley County Community College. Some of the Butler County Community College/Wichita State University consortium efforts are: a cooperative physical therapy assistant program, plans to have Butler County Community College (BCCC) deliver bridging and remedial courses to qualify more students to handle colleges courses at WSU, and to teach lower division fire science and postal administration courses on the WSU campus. Out-district tuition is a major barrier for the consortium.

Discussion followed on out-district tuition and SB 5.

Dr. Rodney V. Cox, Jr. President Butler County Community College stated the college has seven upper division courses being taught through interactive television, and the plan is to expand them into nine high schools. Also being looked at in the future is the need for bridging classes (those people who have high school diplomas, but who are not ready to go to WSU).

Dr. Eugene Hughes, President, Wichita State University, stated there was a lot of media attention to the continuing battles between community colleges and Wichita State University, however, it is apparent from what the Committee has heard today that there are no battles, and all are working for the good of the people of Kansas. SB 5 will really help the consortium. Discussions have been held this past month with Pittsburg State University talking about Pittsburg State coming to Sedgwick County to offer a baccalaureate program in manufacturing technology (an arrangement is being looked at between the community college, Wichita Voc-Tech School, Pittsburg State University, and WSU).

The meeting adjourned.

The next Committee meeting is February 2, 1995 in Rm 522-S (for a briefing on the Joint Advisory Committee on Governance).

SELECT COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: JANUARY 26, 1995

NAME	REPRESENTING
Lodney Cox	Butler Co Comm. College
ERIC Sexton	WSU
Fred Seduncean	WSU
Eugene M. Hughes	W.S.U.
Bill Hollenback	PSU
John MASTEASON	Allen Co Comm Coll.
Yvonne Lowrey	Kelton Dist Boards
Arden Otto	Rep Ballard
Harry Stephens	FHSU
Ed Hammond	FHSU
Tony Cracker	Leadership Ark City
Linda Struck	Leadership A.C. 95
Jolynne Olsson	Leadership A.C.
Kathy Matlocks	Leadership A.C.
Lindy Williams	Leadership A.C.
Joan Warner	" "
Joseph Emmons	KSBE
Pat M'abo	Cowley Co Comm Coll Ark City
David J. Morical	Washburn

SELECT COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: 1-26-95

NAME	REPRESENTING
Stephen Jordan	Bd of Regents
SUSAN PETERSON	Kansas State University