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Approved: February 19, 1998
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson David Adkins at 5:00 p.m. on February 2, 1998 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present: Julian Efird, Legislative Research Department
Leah Robinson, Legislative Research Department
Alan Conroy, Legislative Research Department
Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research Department
Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes
Jim Wilson, Revisor of Statutes
Leona Fultz, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: David Monical, spokesperson for the Shadow Committee of this committee.

Others attending: See attached list

The committee continued to discuss the issues pertaining to higher education in the State of Kansas. Representative Adkins asked Representative McKechnie to present the committee with a "rough draft summary" that he had prepared from notes and thoughts from the previous meetings. (Attachments 1 and 2) Representative Adkins then asked David Monical to report back to this committee the views and discussions of the "Shadow Committee" that had met earlier in the day.

The balance of the time was spent in discussion regarding these issues.

The Committee meeting adjourned and the next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, February 3, 1998 at 12:00 noon.

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Summary

I. Educational Leadership

Finding: If Kansas is to reach its economic potential, the Kansas post-secondary educational system needs to meet the challenges of access, quality, articulation, accountability and enhanced research and service. Currently there is a vacuum of leadership in the governance and coordination of post-secondary education in Kansas. The result has left institutions without the support of a single advocate to clearly articulate the needs of post-secondary education and thereby compromised post-secondary education's key role of assisting with the academic and economic development of Kansas.

- * Focal point lacking
- * Unnecessary duplication
- * Legislative confidence low
- * No central data resource
- * A system that fosters leadership accountability
- * Gravity, not centrifical force system of self-accountability

II. Educational Commitment

Finding: The Legislative and Executive branches have traditionally found the responsibility of community college education to be vested in communities and the student. The committee finds the missions of community colleges have evolved from the junior college concept into centers of life-long learning with a state-wide mission. This requires the state to become more of a partner in funding and coordinating the state-wide community college mission with the mission of the four-year institutions.

The committee further finds that property taxes have become too prevalent as a funding source for community colleges and Washburn University.

Furthermore the committee further finds that Washburn University is defacto an institution of the regents system. However, it is treated in a way that fails to recognize its partnership in the family of post-secondary education. This lack of appropriate recognition has led to a disparity in funding to an important municipal university in the state's capital city.

The committee also finds the current system of funding community colleges lacks the incentives to encourage communities to redefine the evolving missions of community colleges and consider more appropriate forms of governance reflective of their differing status.

The committee further finds the missions of Area Vocational Technical Schools have evolved from being institutions of training for secondary students desiring low technology employment to institutions serving lifelong learning, high technology employment, skilled work force needs with predominant enrollment of post-secondary students seeking good jobs, or reentry to the workforce with enhanced economic security.

- * Legislative confidence low
- * Lack of trust
- * Lack of understanding funding and missions
- * Lack of executive branch ownership
- * State resource
- * Flexibility and adaptability to meet needs of Kansas citizens and industry
- * Statewide coordinated effort to achieve accessible, affordable world class education
- * Financially sustainable
- * Incremental phase in
- * Fair but distinct

III. Educational Excellence

Finding: The Legislative and Executive Branches of government have failed to insist upon and meet the needs of post-secondary education to attain and continue world-class standards. In order to meet the evolving needs of consumers of higher education in Kansas, there should be a commitment by the Legislative and Executive branches of government to sharpen the distinct areas of excellence at Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University, Kansas State University, Pittsburg State University, University of Kansas, and Wichita State University.

The committee further finds that Kansas State University, the University of Kansas and Wichita State University should seek to increase their national ranking as research institutions within their missions and with relevance to Kansas educational consumers.

- * Legislative confidence low
- * Finance -- Access before quality
- * Lack of understanding funding and missions
- * Lack of executive branch ownership
- * Statewide coordinated effort to achieve accessible, affordable world class education
- * Fair but distinct

IV. Educational Access

Finding: There are continued Legislative concerns over the access of post-secondary education to the citizens of this state. Recognizing the historical changes since the creation of our current system of governance and coordination, specific attention should be given to the concept of a virtual university and a commitment to assist students in graduating and entering the work force in four years.

- * Boundaries
- * Distance Learning
- * Lack of executive branch ownership
- * Statewide coordinated effort to achieve accessible, affordable world class education

V. Educational Guidance

Finding: The Legislative and Executive Branches have failed to provide the guidance and support necessary in order for institutions of the Board of Regents and the State Board of Education to attain world-class standards.

- * Focal point lacking
- * Legislative confidence low
- * Failure of Legislative Leadership (LEPC)
- * Lack of coordinated strategic planning
- * Lack of executive branch ownership
- * A system that fosters leadership accountability
- * Gravity, not centrifical force system of self-accountability

DRAFT Summary

I Educational Leadership

Finding: If Kansas is to reach its economic potential, the Kansas post-secondary educational system needs to meet the challenges of access, quality, articulation, accountability and enhanced research and service. Currently there is a vacuum of leadership in the governance and coordination of post-secondary education in Kansas. The result has left institutions without the support of a single advocate to clearly articulate the needs of post-secondary education and thereby compromised post-secondary education's key role of assisting with the academic and economic development of Kansas.

Solution: The Select Committee on Post-Secondary Education recommends the following:

Legislature adopts a resolution consolidating leadership of post-secondary education into one new board, the Board of Curators, during the 1998 session.

- Submitted to voters at August primary
- Governor makes new appointments by Feb. 1, 1999
- Mission is to represent the broad interests of post-secondary education in

Kansas

- 11 members as prescribed by law
- Board has governing authority over: Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University, Kansas State University, Pittsburg State University, University of Kansas, Washburn University, and Wichita State University.

• Board has coordinating authority over community colleges and area vocational technical schools. Board may provide by contract with State Board of Education the mutual coordination of institutions (Vo-Techs) that have overlapping or predominately K-12 missions.

(Governance of Community Colleges and AVTS's not changed, remains current law under authority of local board)

- Board of Regents dissolved on June 30, 2000
- New board assumes responsibility on July 1, 2000

In the enabling legislation

- 11 members
- not more than 6 from one political party
- Elect own chair
- Senate confirmation required
- Two members per congressional district
- Remainder at large
- Not more than one member per county, unless each county in a congressional district has a member of the board.

(In the enabling legislation, the governor is directed to seek input from broad-based constituencies and consumers of education to have a cross-section of interests

on the Board of Curators. The Senate is directed to consider the fulfillment of this representation in their confirmation process.)

- Coordination is defined as
- Governance is the process by which the

II. Educational Commitment

Finding: The Legislative and Executive branches have traditionally found the responsibility of community college education to be vested in communities and the student. The committee finds the missions of community colleges have evolved from the junior college concept into centers of life-long learning with a state-wide mission. This requires the state to become more of a partner in funding and coordinating the state-wide community college mission with the mission of the four-year institutions.

The committee further finds that property taxes have become too prevalent as a funding source for community colleges and Washburn University.

Furthermore the committee further finds that Washburn University is defacto an institution of the regents system. However, it is treated in a way that fails to recognize its partnership in the family of post-secondary education. This lack of appropriate recognition has led to a disparity in funding to an important municipal university in the state's capital city.

The committee also finds the current system of funding community colleges lacks the incentives to encourage communities to redefine the evolving missions of community colleges and consider more appropriate forms of governance reflective of their differing status.

The committee further finds the missions of Area Vocational Technical Schools have evolved from being institutions of training for secondary students desiring low technology employment to institutions serving lifelong learning, high technology employment, skilled work force needs with predominant enrollment of post-secondary students seeking good jobs, or reentry to the workforce with enhanced economic security.

Solution: The Select Committee on Post-Secondary Education recommends the following:

Legislature enacts a bill during the 1998 session that becomes effective January 1, 1999, and upon certification of approval of the Secretary of State, that the educational leadership resolution has been adopted by the voters. Components include:

- Current governance and coordination stay in place at Board of Regents and State Board of Education until the transfer date of July 1, 2000. Boards may provide by contract transfer of programs and policies before that date to allow for an appropriate transition.
- Transition staff, support, structure and funding in place
- Secretary of Administration, or designee, convenes first meeting and serves as temporary chair until the board elects its chair. Also serves as secretary and provides needed staff support from the Department of Administration to the new board until staff is in place.
- Closure procedures of the Board of Regents, effective July 1, 2000, for a

period not to exceed Dec. 31, 2000.

- Funding for community colleges -- (For all funding in this bill, dollars are appropriated during 1998 session for FY99, 00, 01 and 02, to multi-year appropriations, in FY03)

- * Minimum state participation of 30 percent

- * Mill levy capped at 15 mills

- * Increase credit hour and general aid accordingly

- * Eliminate out-district tuition

- * 2 for 1 funding on vocational courses, provides equity funding for five AVTS's attached to community colleges

- In order to provide for the evolving role of community colleges, a provision will allow a community college or area vocational technical school to become an affiliate of any four-year state institution.

- * Board of Trustees develops petition and it is submitted to Board of Curators for approval.

- * Operating mill levy would be eliminated and the only mill levy by a local board would be for facilities and debt retirement. No mill levy for operation, state assumes funding of community effort.

- * Local board would continue to govern economic development (non-credit hour) courses and community identity activities.

- * CEO would be hired by CEO of affiliated four-year institution.

- * Budget request would be made as part of four-year institution

- * This evolving role could also include the merger of community colleges or area vocational technical schools, or creation of a community college system or area vocational technical school systems.

- *Petition of one of the boards of trustees, adopted by other participating school and then approved by the Board of Curators.

- *New joint county mill levy capped at 10 mills.

- Washburn University becomes a state institution under the Governance of the Board of Curators. Mill levy only for the purpose of maintaining facilities. Local board maintained for mill levy authority, complete governance shifts to Board of Curators.

- * Mill levy replaced at the rate of:

- FY 00 - 3 mills; FY 01 - 2 mills; and then two mills a year until operating and fringe benefit mill levies are replaced with state general fund dollars.

III. Educational Excellence

Finding: The Legislative and Executive Branches of government have failed to insist upon and meet the needs of post-secondary education to attain and continue world-class standards. In order to meet the evolving needs of consumers of higher education in Kansas, there should be a commitment by the Legislative and Executive branches of government to sharpen the distinct areas of excellence at Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University, Kansas State University, Pittsburg State University, University of Kansas, and Wichita State University.

The committee further finds that Kansas State University, the University of Kansas and Wichita State University should seek to increase their national ranking as research institutions within their missions and with relevance to Kansas educational consumers.

Solution: The Select Committee on Post-Secondary Education recommends the following:

Each of the current Regents institutions will refine areas of national and world excellence that have relevant economic/employment benefit for Kansas. In addition to increased expectations from Kansans will follow the financial resources to enable excellence to be achieved. *(For all funding in this bill, dollars are appropriated during 1998 session for FY99, 00, 01 and 02, to multi-year appropriations, in FY03)*

- For a world class faculty, an enhancement to bring current faculty salaries to the level of their peers.

- For world class relevant academic excellence at: Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University, Kansas State University, Pittsburg State University, University of Kansas, and Wichita State University, an enhancement to allow expansion, improvement and refinement of institutional missions. This includes national and world-wide recognition of areas of distinction in at least one area of each of the four-year institutions.

- Additionally, Kansas State University, the University of Kansas and Wichita State University will improve their national ranking and attain distinct recognition for relevant academic research.

- To provide for world class access, an enhancement for technology acquisitions.

- In order to respond to initial post-secondary education and life-long learning skills, community colleges and Area Vocational Technical Schools will be challenged to provide areas of world-class distinction.

- In order to respond to the economic needs of Kansas, community colleges and Area Vocational Technical Schools will develop the capacity to meet the peak demands of business, industry and consumers.

- The Board of Curators will develop a program review and audit capacity for all governed or coordinated institutions. This will include the development and implementation of quality standards.

- The equity grant recommended in the 1997 summer interim report be funded to Washburn University in their transition to a full state institution.

- Need a funding commitment for Area Vocational Technical Schools

IV. Educational Access

Finding: There are continued Legislative concerns over the access of post-secondary education to the citizens of this state. Recognizing the historical changes since the creation of our current system of governance and coordination, specific attention should be given to the concept of a virtual university and a commitment to assist students in graduating and entering the work force in four years.

In order to provide continued access for Kansans seeking academic excellence, included in the bill: *(For all funding in this bill, dollars are appropriated during 1998*

session for FY99, 00, 01 and 02, to multi-year appropriations, in FY03)

- Creation of the virtual campus, a coordinated effort to provide education access throughout Kansas of programs offered by public post-secondary institutions by technology

- * The Joint Committee on Post Secondary Education will submit a report to the 1999 Legislature on the feasibility and needs to provide for the virtual campus

- Tuition assistance of \$10 million, for scholarships up to \$500 per semester, based on need. (Combined with HOPE Scholarship, this would fund more than 80 percent of a Kansas in-state tuition)

- A waiver for eight semesters for any Kansas resident who is a national merit scholar to attend an undergraduate program at any public university in Kansas. Such students shall be designated Eisenhower scholars by the State of Kansas.

V. Educational Guidance

Finding: The Legislative and Executive Branches have failed to provide the guidance and support necessary in order for institutions of the Board of Regents and the State Board of Education to attain world-class standards.

Solution: The Select Committee on Post-Secondary Education recommends the following:

In order for post-secondary education to develop a critical link with elected policy makers and general consumers of post-secondary education, the bill will include provisions to:

- Abolish the Legislative Educational Planning Committee.
- Replace it with a 12 member committee, eight from House, four from Senate, Joint Committee on Post-Secondary Education.
- Committee can meet anywhere in the state upon the call of the chair
- Committee elects chair, vice chair and ranking minority member. Positions rotate from each chamber each year.
- Compulsory process for any agency or institution under governance or coordination of Kansas Board of Curators
- The Board of Curators will assume responsibility for strategic planning and report to the committee on an annual basis.
- The Board shall develop a planning process for a master plan and include broad representation of post-secondary education consumers, including members of the Legislature and other elected policy makers in Kansas.
- The committee will assist in the development and monitoring of performance measures to insure the fiscal and academic integrity of the post-secondary education system.
- A liaison committee will be created in statute to be consisted of members from the Board of Curators and State Board of Education for the purposes of coordination of seamless education.