

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lisa Benlon at 3:30 p.m. on January 31, 2001 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Tom Sloan (E)

Committee staff present: Carol Rampey, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Paul West, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Avis Swartzman, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Dee Woodson, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:  
Sheila Frahm, Executive Director, Kansas Association of Community  
College Trustees

Others attending:  
See attached sheet.

Chairperson Benlon called for bill introductions by Committee members. Representative Phelps asked the Committee to review and introduce a bill that would allow for the exchange of property between Fort Hays State University and the Fort Hays State University Endowment Association. He said that such an exchange would permit the construction of an Alumni and Endowment Center to be built by private funds. Representative Phelps said that the proposed bill had been approved by the Kansas Board of Regents, and there would be no cost to the state. Representative Phelps moved that the Committee agree to hear this bill, and Representative Reardon seconded the motion. (Attachment 1) The Chair asked if there was any objection to the introduction of or discussion on this proposed legislation; and seeing none, vote was taken and the motion carried.

The Chair introduced Sheila Frahm, Executive Director of the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees, who gave an overview and presentation regarding community colleges. She introduced two of her colleagues that were in attendance; Beverly Bideau, Trustee and member of the Association's board, Neosho County Community College at Chanute; and Dr. Tom Burke, President of Kansas City Kansas Community College and formerly President at Independence and past President of the Council for 19 colleges. Ms. Frahm also introduced the Association's staff workers that were present, and they were Gayle Shaw, Executive Assistant in the Association's office, and Jim Allen, the Association's Lobbyist.

Ms. Frahm directed the Committee's attention to the black notebooks (Attachment 2) handed out to Committee members, and explained all the information that her office had compiled for ready reference and resource purposes by Committee members. She pointed out that in the Tab 2 section there was a list of the Eight Critical Components for Community Colleges which set the community college apart from all other educational institutions and enable the community colleges to provide vital and effective services not available from any other source to many Kansas citizens and businesses. Ms. Frahm said there were 19 community colleges and each have 6 or 7 trustees elected within their own communities. She added that 45% of the funding for the community colleges come from the local property taxes.

Several Committee members had questions regarding the work force development training programs and individual college Mission Statements. Ms. Frahm referred the Committee to Tab 3 of the notebook which has a breakdown of the various revenue sources for the different colleges and the uniqueness of the 19 colleges. She pointed out the page that showed the breakdown of the different tuitions for the colleges,

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and also a spreadsheet showing the various 1998-1999 estimated mill levies for the various counties for out-district tuition billings. Ms. Frahm also explained the service areas for the Kansas Community Colleges as depicted on a Kansas map with each college numbered for easy location.

Ms. Frahm referred the Committee to the latest brochure that KACCT has published and distributed. She did an overview of the information contained in the brochure and the web page, and answered various questions regarding qualified admissions, remedial and developmental courses, non-resident issues, out of county fees, variation in tuition between the different colleges, and KACCT's initiatives for 2001-2003, . She also clarified the KACCT's Vision Statement and Mission Statement. Dr. Burke explained what all was on KACCT's web page and also shared with the Committee information about the courses that are offered on-line. Beverly Birdaeu told the Committee about what is happening in southeastern part of the state, which included sharing instructors between the consortium of colleges in southeast Kansas. Dr. Burke also gave an overview of the southeastern area and the six community colleges in that 14 county part of the state. He said that these colleges have been in existence since the 1920's, and they are a product of those communities that recognize the need for post-secondary education in Kansas.

The Chair expressed the Committee's appreciation to Ms. Frahm and her colleagues for their informative presentation.

Chairperson Benlon adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m. The next meeting of the House Higher Education Committee will be Monday, February 5., Room 231-N at the Capitol.