



**Tulsa Community College
Special Meeting of the Board of Regents**

MINUTES

The special meeting of the Board of Regents of Tulsa Community College was held on **Thursday, August 17, 2016 at 12:30 p.m. at Southeast Campus.**

Board Members Present: Paul Cornell, Samuel Combs, Caron Lawhorn, and Ronald Looney

Board Members Absent: Robin Ballenger, Martin Garber, and Bill McKamey

Others Present: Leigh B. Goodson, President and CEO
Clerk for the Board
President's Assistant
TCC Foundation Board Members
Joan Parkhurst
Alana Hughes
Wesley Mitchell
Dr. Cindy Hess and Dr. Bill Ivy
Convocation Speaker, Dr. Rob Johnstone

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair, Paul Cornell, called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. The clerk called the roll. The meeting proceeded with a quorum.

OPEN DISCUSSION WITH DR. ROB JOHNSTONE

President Goodson opened by introducing Dr. Rob Johnstone, President and Founder of the National Center for Inquiry and Improvement. Dr. Johnstone is a leading national expert on the Pathways model for community college student success.

- In opening remarks, Dr. Johnstone stated that community colleges have historically not been given attention by leaders of the nation. However, in about 2008, when national leaders recognized community colleges as an

important leverage to economic sustainability and a living wage for millions. The community college improvement movement this interest generated called for changes in policies, procedures and structures to improve on a national average 35% completion rate whether degree, one-year certificate or higher, or transfer to a four-year institution.

- Generally, students want to be directed and focused as time is a constraint for many. Students want to know what their career options are, the path to those careers, how long and the cost, and whether credits will transfer. Students are internally calculating their return on investment.
- For-profit institutions are guiding students this way by publicizing jobs, careers, clear paths, short time frame to completion, and ease and financial aid. Regrettably, for-profits tend to recruit students who are more likely to be poor and students of color.
- The current cafeteria college model in many community colleges is characterized by :
 - Unclear path to student goals
 - Intake focuses on sorting people into sequences in Math and English rather than students choosing a program of study.
 - Most students receive no feedback until they apply for graduation or are given academic probation.
- Big Ideas in the Pathways Model counter with:
 - Clear paths to student end-goals;
 - Intake design that directs students to a program;
 - Closely tracked student progress;
 - Learning outcomes and assessments aligned across programs

Regent Combs comment:

- Community colleges have a reputation of being a never-ending path where graduation rates are not discussed and the focus is more on intake and enrollment, especially in the minority sector.

Regent Lawhorn question:

How do we improve the intake process?

- Dr. Johnstone response:
 - Help the student choose a program of study
 - Help students with gatekeeper courses.

- Create Structured Programs
- Improve Advising
 - Data reveal students want assistance and do not want to attempt to figure it out on their own.
 - Map out their trajectory.

Wesley Mitchell question:

How has Tulsa Achieves affected enrollment?

- President Goodson response:
 - The number of freshman students increased significantly in 2007 when Tulsa Achieves began; this in addition to the economic recession lead to an increase in enrollment. TCC annual headcount peaked around 32,000 in the following years, but the completion/graduation rate remained unchanged.
 - The College invests in Tulsa Achieves students because they are most likely to graduate if enrolling directly from high school. There are several requirements to be in the program that contribute to program success, including volunteer services.

Dr. Johnstone recap comments:

- What is going to be the best solution to help significantly more students meet their goals and complete?
- How is what are doing now better than what we are proposing? How is what you are doing now helping them?
- One of the arguments from faculty against Pathways is that it takes away from the student's ability to choose their courses each semester. Is this freedom of choice from many options really worth the other clearly negative effects on completion?
- Most faculty are likely to be on-board with the new model.
- The advisor role is significantly changing and will take on a more proactive role.

- President Goodson comment:
 - TCC student/adviser ratio was at 1 to 1,200 when she became President; now at 1 to 754. Our goal is to get to 1 to 350 within the next two years to allow for this proactive approach.

Regent Cornell question:

- What are common industry practices to recruit back students who drop out?
 - President Goodson comment :
 - At TCC, enrollment staff and other staff college-wide takes on the task of calling and other personal contacts with those who don't graduate or re-enroll.
 - The new student orientation requirement is a cultural change for Tulsa students who are used to enrolling the day before classes start. We are working on contacting and enrolling the students who have not at this point.

A **motion** was made by Regent Looney and seconded by Regent Combs to adjourn. Roll call vote followed.

Yes: Cornell, Combs, Lawhorn and Looney

No: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Ballenger, Garber, McKamey

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned August 17, 2016 at 1:53 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Tulsa Community College Board of Regents will be held on Thursday, September 15, 2016, 3:00 p.m., in Room 1315 at Northeast Campus, 3727 East Apache, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Respectfully submitted,



Leigh B. Goodson
President & CEO



Paul H. Cornell, Chairman
Board of Regents

ATTEST:



Martin Garber, Secretary
Board of Regents