

Approved: February 23, 2012

(Date)

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE VISION 2020 COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Tom Sloan at 3:30 PM on Wednesday, January 25, 2012 in 144-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Michael Peterson

Committee staff present:

Mary Koles, Committee Assistant

Jay Hall, Legislative Research Department

Martha Dorsey, Legislative Research Department

Sean Ostrow, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Matt Sterling, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Dr. Gary Alexander, Kansas Board of Regents

Steve Kearney, Kansas Association of Career and Technical Education

Rob Edleston, Manhattan Area Technical College

Dr. Ron Trewyn, Kansas State University

Jeff Frost, Johnson County Community College

Others in attendance:

See attached list.

Chairman Sloan called for bill introductions. Representative Bill Otto moved the Committee introduce a bill similar to Governor Brownback's vision for the future of school finance. The motion was seconded and passed by consent of the Committee.

Chairman Sloan welcomed Gary Alexander, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Kansas Board of Regents. Dr. Alexander introduced today's conferees.

Steve Kearney, Executive Director, Kansas Association of Career and Technical Education, called attention to a 2010 Senate Bill Number 548, providing sales and property tax authority for counties to support technical colleges. Technical colleges depend on the state for funding and

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Mr. Kearney noted that SB 548 illustrates another source of income for them (Attachment 1). He introduced and asked Rob Edleston, Ed.D, President/CEO, Manhattan Area Technical College, to describe the growth Manhattan Tech is experiencing and issues common to Kansas technical colleges.

Dr. Edleston, reported that Manhattan Tech's current job is to train techs for NBAF and the college is growing rapidly; some programs have two-year waiting lists. He discussed the need for additional physical facilities and for technical colleges to have a means of raising money (Attachment 2). He pointed out that Kansas has the lowest percentage of its citizens enrolled in technical programs. Dr. Edleston responded to questions from Chairman Sloan and Representatives Vern Swanson and Ron Worley.

Dr. Ron Trewyn, Vice-President for Research, Kansas State University spoke about university research: the need to increase faculty interaction with the private sector, the potential for creating a revenue stream, licensing and patenting issues. He mentioned that when completed the Kansas Science and Technology Plan will define pillars of the Kansas economy and should help link our state universities to commercial development by Kansas companies (Attachment 1).

Jeff Frost, Dean and Professor of Mathematics, Johnson County Community College, reported that Johnson County Community College tried classes similar to the Emporium model and found, in general, students in more traditional face-to-face developmental math classes had better success rates. Presently, Johnson County uses an initiative called Accelerated Review Courses; enabling some students to skip a math course. Kansas City Kansas Community College plans to implement a fast track model. Cowley County Community College is piloting a course that blends the instruction of two developmental math courses in one semester, resulting in a savings in both time and tuition costs. The course demonstrates very favorable outcomes (Attachment 1).

Dr. Gary Alexander, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Kansas Board of Regents, discussed plans for assessment of student learning at our state universities and the issue of three-year degrees. Presently, Board of Regents and Department of Education staffs are developing an assessment tool to evaluate a set of common learning outcomes; it will be used across the KBOR system in 2014. Three-year degrees, he said, need to be explored in detail and are not considered appropriate for Kansas' public university students at this time (Attachment 1). Dr. Anderson responded to questions from Representative Worley.

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Chairman Sloan thanked the conferees for their presentations.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 30, 2012.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

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