

UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND ARTS OF OKLAHOMA
1727 W. Alabama Avenue, Chickasha, OK 73018
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS REGULAR MEETING
For Thursday, April 9, 2026

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Diane Ming called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
2. **Announcement of the Filing of Meeting Notice and Posting of Agenda in Accordance with the Open Meeting Act:** President Hale announced the filing of the meeting notice and posting of agenda was done in accordance with the Open Meeting Act.
3. **Roll Call:** Regents in attendance were JJ Francais, Chet Hitt, Diane Ming, Suzanne Reynolds, Cale Walker and Kelly Wilkerson. Regent Amanda Conley was absent.
4. **The Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by those in attendance.
5. **Introductions:** President Hale introduced and welcomed Kyle Shifflett, deputy general counsel for the Oklahoma Office of the Attorney General. President Hale also introduced Jessica Russell of the J. Russell Consulting.
6. **Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove the minutes of the February 12, 2026 Regular Meeting:** Minutes of the February 12, 2026 regular meeting were presented with no additions or corrections. Regent Walker made a motion to accept the minutes, and Regent Reynolds seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.
7. **Presentations:**
 - a. Regents Teaching Awards 2026 were presented to: Dr. Brian McWilliams for Faculty Service; Ms. Katie Davis for Scholarly & Creative Activity and Dr. Andrea Wood for Superior Teaching.
 - b. The Bill & Pat Smith Scholar Athlete Awards for 2026 were presented to: Malea McMurtrey and Mohand Ammad.
8. **Communications to the Board On Upcoming Events and Special Programs:** President Hale shared upcoming on-campus and sporting events for April, noting that Commencement will be held Saturday, May 2, 2026 at the Chickasha Public Schools Activity Center.
9. **Presidents Report**
 - Update from the OK State Regents for Higher Education
 - Legislative and federal funding updates
 - Enrollment Management report
 - Division of Professional Studies updates
 - Fundraising and general campus updates

Update from OSRHE

- Funding formula continues to be refined. Implementation date remains uncertain.
- New program requests will require Lightcast data analytics
- Regent Brian Beller begins July 1. Replaces Regent Jeff Hickman; Trevor Pemberton fills unexpired seat of Dustin Hilliary.

Update from OSRHE

State budget negotiations finalized

- Higher Education budgets will stay largely flat with increases earmarked for OHLAP and Rising Scholars programs
- USAO will receive an additional \$1.75M for deferred maintenance

Legislative Update

Pending legislation that could impact higher ed

- 90-hour degree programs
- Five-year academic program review
- Concurrent enrollment upper age limit cap

Enrollment Management

- Momentum Scholarships
- \$750 – 3.5 to 3.74
- \$1000 – 3.75 to 4.0
- Professional Advising Integration
- Strategic Enrollment Alignment

New Director of Housing Mark Moultrip has started

- Implementing new Residential Curriculum to support retention
- Implementing more robust Resident Assisting training and professionalization

Toast Creative – Marketing Partner

- 90-day goals include:
 - Onboarding a new Coordinator of Marketing and Communication
 - Evaluation of departmental tech stack to improve data integration and cost savings
 - Standardizing workflows to reduce production bottlenecks and increase output
 - Developing an integrated calendar
 - Development and delivery of a brand integrity and governance guide

Workforce Development Efforts

- Developed a 90-hour degree program and an online psychology degree to better serve adult learners
- Participated in the inaugural Workforce Day at the State Capitol.
- Collaborating with the South Central Oklahoma Workforce Board and CareerTech to develop a Police Apprenticeship Program for the City of Chickasha
- Developing a new micro-credential focused on creating neuro-inclusive workplaces.
 - *Partnering with the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitative Services.*
 - *Actively developing additional partnerships with Goodwill Industries and CL Boyd, a John Deere construction equipment dealer, to expand workforce training opportunities.*

Fundraising

- Total cash in the door as of 4/6/26: \$3,470,007
 - 569 donors/1,059 gifts
 - 83.2% ahead compared to FY24
 - Growth not counting the \$2M gift = 22% behind
 - 10th Annual Giving Day was a success

- Total raised: \$156,623
- Largest Giving Day since 2023 (\$158,537)
- 19 Giving Day challenges from community partners and university leadership
- 100% participation from USAO Board of Regents and USAO Foundation Board of Trustees

Endowment Growth and Major Gifts

- Melba Talley Family Endowed Education Scholarship established (Rocky Talley & family)
- Charlotte Worley Mollett Endowed Scholarship in progress
- Elmer and Laura D. Hart Endowed Scholarship in progress
- \$220,000 estate gift from Susan Sutter for Owen and Susan Sutter Endowed Scholarship
- \$20,000 endowment from Sheila Whitley (Echo Society) for Sylvia Myatt Student Emergency Fund

Campus Updates

- The HLC Composite Financial Index (CFI) has been completed and validated against the FY25 audited financial statements.
- Our CFI (excluding GASB 68/75): 3.67, which places the University in a financially healthy position above the 3.0 threshold.
- Importantly, our results show a clear positive trend over the past two years:
 - FY23: .06
 - FY24: 2.21
 - FY25: 3.67
- Brightwell Solar Project to be installed on the Drover Field House roof.
- Will allow USAO to lock in a lower cost of solar energy in year one while protecting against future rate increases.
- Over 30 years, the system will offset 67% of the Fieldhouse's energy consumption which will result in cost-savings of almost \$1M.

IT Realignment & Leadership

- Effective March 1, 2026, Robyn Rogers was appointed Executive Director of Financial Aid & Informational Services.
- In this expanded role, Robyn provides overall leadership and strategic direction for campus-wide technology initiatives and serves as the primary liaison with vendors and service providers.

Student Financial Services – One-Stop Shop

- Effective March 23, 2026, the Financial Aid and Bursar functions merged to form a unified department.
 - Students will access financial aid, billing, and account support in one centralized location.
 - Processes are streamlined to reduce confusion and improve response times.
 - Coordination between aid and billing functions are strengthened.
 - This realignment reflects a student-centered approach—simplifying how students navigate financial matters and ensuring clearer, more efficient service delivery.
- In the coming weeks, we will add a Student Financial Wellness (Money Coach)

within this office.

- This role will provide proactive financial education, budgeting guidance, loan counseling support, and one-on-one coaching to help students make informed financial decisions.

- 10. Reports from Association Representatives:** Updates and reports were submitted in advance from the Faculty Association, the Staff Association and the Alumni Association.
- 11. Presentation of Monthly Financial Statements:** Vice President Brian Maddy presented the financial statements. No action was necessary. Appendix A, pp. 9-11
- 12. Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove 2026-27 Housing Rate Adjustment:** Vice President Maddy presented the proposed 2026-27 housing rate adjustment. On behalf of the Finance & Audit Committee, Regent Walker made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Regent Reynolds seconded the motion and the motion carried by unanimous vote.
- 13. Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove the proposed Davis Hall Elevator Replacement:** The Finance & Audit Committee met prior to the Regents meeting to review the replacement elevator proposal for Davis Hall. On behalf of the committee, Regent Walker made a motion to approve the proposal. Regent Francais seconded the motion and the motion carried by unanimous vote.
- 14. Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove the Medical Emergency Transport Policy:** The Policies & Procedures Committee met prior to the meeting to discuss the Medical Emergency Transport Policy. On recommendation of the committee Regent Hitt made a motion to approve the policy as presented. Regent Walker seconded the motion and the motion carried by unanimous vote.
- 15. Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove Curriculum Changes:** The Academic & Administrative Affairs Committee met prior to the meeting to review the following curriculum changes:
 - a. Accounting 2901 Workshop
 - b. Biology with Teacher Certification
 - c. Music 4901 Small Ensemble
 - d. Physical Education (Minor)

On behalf of the committee, Regent Wilkerson made a motion to approve the list of curriculum changes as presented. Regent Francais seconded the motion and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 16. Discussion and Acknowledgement of Academic Programs:** The Academic Program & Administrative Affairs Committee reviewed the following items:
 - a. Kinesiology Program Review
 - b. Online Psychology ProgramThe Regents acknowledged receipt of the (a.) Kinesiology Program Review. The Online Psychology Program (b.) was tabled at this meeting and no action was taken.
- 17. Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove the proposed Personnel Actions:**
 - a. Appointments**
Mark Moultrup, effective March 2, 2026; Director of Housing Operations
Kylie Bremenkamp, effective March 30, 2026; Accounting Clerk

b. Changes in Status

Ashton Callahan, effective February 9, 2026; Administrative Assistant USAO Foundation
Esther Lynn, effective February 9, 2026; Administrative Assistant to Grants & Special Initiatives
Dianne Carroll, effective February 9, 20206; Administrative Assistant to Academic Affairs (part-time)
David Smith, effective March 1, 20206; Executive Director of Operations & Controller
Robyn Rogers, effective March 1, 2026; Executive Director of Financial Aid & Information Technology Services

c. Resignations: None

d. Retirements: None

e. Adjuncts for 3rd Quarter

School of Arts and Humanities

Adam Heilman	Art
Andrew Myers	Art
Cadyln Wollenberg	Art
Emily Maddox	Art
Audrey Oden	Music
Corey Hubbard	Music
Guilherme Lopes Correa	Music
Ronald Blankenship	Music
Jerry Weems	English

School of Science and Kinesiology

Ryan Chester	Kinesiology
Meredith McCormick	Kinesiology
Meredith Noland	Math

School of Social Sciences and Business

Chris Garneau	Sociology/Business Administration
Abigail Caselli	Psychology/Business Admin.
Tamara Powell	Psychology/IDS
Elizabeth Throop	Sociology/IDS

School of Education and Speech-Language Pathology

Krystal Hutchison	Assessment & Instruction of Literacy
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18. Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove Reemployment of Professional and General Staff for FY 2027: The Professional and General Staff list was reviewed by the Academic & Affairs Committee prior to the Regents meeting. Regent Wilkerson, upon recommendation of the Committee, made the motion to approve the Reemployment of Professional and General Staff for Fiscal Year 2027 as listed. Regent Walker seconded the motion and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Dawn Reitan-Brockman, Dean of Students
Monica Trevino, Executive Director of Grants & Special Initiatives
David Smith, Executive Director of Operations & Controller
Robyn Rogers, Executive Director of Financial Aid & Information Technology Services

Amy Goddard, Director of Workforce Education & Online Programs
Chelsea Phillips, Registrar, Director of Enrollment & Records & Veteran's Office Coordinator
J.C. Sanders, Director of Institutional Research
Kelli Monroe, Director of the Student Success Center

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Sharon Greene, Executive Assistant to the President and Secretary to the Board of Regents
Shelby Hurst, Director of Development
Whitney Palesano, Director of Alumni Relations and University Development
Emily Baker, Associate Registrar
Lisa Hanks, Assistant Director of Financial Aid
Tarrah Kinney, Associate Director for Neill-Wint Center for Neurodiversity
Lisa Wegener, Program Coordinator for Neill-Wint Center for Neurodiversity
Chad Wollenberg, Database Manager
Wendy Mitchell, Director of Institutional Assessment
Kendall Walker, Program Director of Student Support Services (TRIO)
Barry Feuerborn, Director of Recruitment, Scholarships, and First Year Retention
April Lawrence, Director of Admissions and Enrollment
Kyla Patterson, Assistant Director of Admissions Operations
Riley Coop, Senior Recruitment Coordinator
Don Morris, Director of Strategic Initiatives & Workforce Development
Sharon Ast, Bursar
Violet Vardaman, Staff Accountant
Pam Neron, Staff Accountant
Erin Glass, Associate Director of Human Resources
Haley Green, Program Director (NASNTI Part F)
Melanie Bilyeu, Instructional Designer (NASNTI Part F)
William Berumen, Experiential Learning Coordinator (NASNTI Part A)
Emily Maddox, Digital Marketing Manager
Hannah Thompson, Public Relations Coordinator
Kristi Trapp, Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) & Licensed Alcohol & Drug Counselor (LADC)
Rachel Drechsler, Coordinator for Student Wellness and Accommodations
Annie Roberts, Director of Student Life
Mark Moultrup, Director of Housing Operations
Sidney Wilson, Academic Advisor & Success Coach, Student Success Center
Craig Caffrey, Academic Advisor & Success Coach, Student Success Center
Dan Harper, Academic Advisor & Success Coach, Student Success Center
Galen Phillips, Housing Facilities Coordinator
Skyler Sturgis-Garneau, Residential Outreach and Housing Coordinator
Sydney Dacus, Career Readiness Specialist, Student Success Center
Caitlin Brown, Student Coordinator
Rebecca Snider, Institutional Research Analyst
Sarah Lane, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Education Navigator
Karean Jumper-Barron, Advisement and Engagement Specialist (TRIO)
Jeff Rutherford, Technical Director for Theatre Arts
Andrea Freymiller, Head Athletic Trainer
Tanner Shoemaker, Assistant Athletic Director for Media Relations and NIL
Robert Blakley, Head Coach - Volleyball
Luke Burns, Head Coach - Men's Golf
Steven Holden, Head Coach – Women's Golf
Tony Orsi, Head Coach - Men's Soccer
Llewellyn Evans, Assistant Coach – Men's Soccer Coach
Malik Mohammed, Head Coach – Men's/Women's Reserve Soccer
Niall Crick, Head Coach -Women's Soccer

Laura Barrantes, Assistant Coach – Women’s Soccer
Tyle Hankins, Head Coach - Baseball
Joe Ellison, Assistant Coach – Baseball
Reece Reading, Assistant Coach - Baseball & Student Advisor
Jadyn Wallis, Head Coach - Softball
Dakota Schmidt, Assistant Coach - Softball
Keely Kingsley, Assistant Coach – JV Softball
Jaye Nayreau, Head Coach - Women’s Basketball
Shaleia Jamison, Assistant Coach - Women’s Basketball
Landon Hughey Head Coach - Men’s Basketball
Tyler Brown, Assistant Coach – Men’s Basketball
Brian Worthington, Head Coach, Men & Women’s Track & Field/Cross Country

GENERAL STAFF

Darla Harris, Cashier
Kylie Bremenkamp, Accounting Clerk
Chloey Orosco, Recruitment and Admissions Specialist
Rilley Merrill, Recruitment and Admissions Specialist
Brittany Banker, Enrollment and Records Specialist I
Magdalene Perry, Financial Aid Specialist and Work-Study Program Coordinator
Jana Ware, Assessment Coordinator
Matija Malenovic, Marketing and Creative Specialist
Kim Chester, Director of the Child Development Center (part-time)
Debra Barger, Administrative Assistant for Student Support Services (TRIO)
Kyle Cox, Administrative Assistant for the School of Arts & Humanities
Blakely Flores, Administrative Assistant for Nash Library
Tom Coker, IT Technician – Level II
Ashton Callahan, Administrative Assistant for USAO Foundation
Esther Lynn, Administrative Assistant for Grants & Special Initiatives
Margo Lucero, Administrative Assistant (NASNTI Part A)
Lana Souders, Administrative Assistant for Athletics
Eileen Thomas, Administrative Assistant, Teacher Education (part-time)
Jennifer Flores, Administrative Assistant (NASNTI Part F)
Jani Houtz, Administrative Assistant for the Schools of Science and Kinesiology, and Social Sciences and Business
Dianne Carroll, Administrative Assistant to Academic Affairs (part-time)
Danielle McAllister, Facilities Coordinator
Josh Price, Facilities Office Assistant (part-time)
L.D. Turner III, HVAC Technician
Derek McNeff, Lead General Maintenance Worker
Angela Kinzinger, Lead Custodian
Joshua Grady, Custodian
Alexa Sevenstar, Custodian
Vienna Gamez, Custodian
Jose Gonzalez, Custodian
Derek Green, Custodian
Oralia Delong, Custodian
Donna Little, Custodian
Maria Lopez, Custodian
Nina White, Custodian
Michael Tartsah, Custodian
Laura Morris, Custodian
Russell Pool, Coordinator for Security and Emergency Preparedness
Joshua Taylor, Security Officer
Conner King, Security Officer

Michael Erwin, Security Officer
Lucretia Scott, Groundskeeper Supervisor
Tristan Percy, Groundskeeper
Erin Doyeto, Groundskeeper
Douglas Bohay, Groundskeeper (part-time)
Richard Miller, Groundskeeper (part-time)
Angelica Bishop, Theatre Arts Costumer (part-time)
Emily Hector, Executive Director of Davis-Waldorf Performing Arts Series, Drover Dancers
Sponsor

- 19. Discussion and possible action to enter into executive session** pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(1) for discussing the employment, promotion, demotion, disciplining or resignation of any individual salaried public officer or employee and O.S. § 307(B)(7) for discussing any matter where disclosure of information would violate confidentiality requirements of state or federal law: regarding Dr. Jared Halphin, Assistant Professor of Business Administration.
- 20. Vote to Enter Executive Session:** Regent Reynolds made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss Item 19. Regent Walker seconded the motion, and the motion passed by unanimous vote. Executive session started at 2:12 p.m.
- 21. Exit Executive Session and Vote to Re-enter Open Session:** Regent Francais made a motion to exit executive session and reopen general session. Regent Reynolds seconded the motion and the motion carried by unanimous vote. General session resumed at 2:45 p.m.
- 22. Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove item discussed in Executive Session:** Regent Wilkerson made a motion to not reappoint Dr. Jared Halphin for the 2026-27 fiscal year term. Regent Francais seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.
- 23. Discussion and vote to approve/disapprove Reemployment of Faculty for FY2027:** Regent Wilkerson made a motion to approve the Reemployment of Faculty for Fiscal Year 2027 as listed. Regent Walker seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- 24. Time and Place of Next Meeting:** June 11, 2026, 1:00 p.m., USAO, Student Center, Regents Room, 1727 W. Alabama Ave., Chickasha, Oklahoma 73018.
- 25. Discussion and vote to adjourn:** Regent Reynolds made a motion to adjourn. Regent Walker seconded the motion and the motion passed by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND ARTS OF OKLAHOMA
 STATEMENT OF CURRENT FUND EXPENDITURES AND BALANCES
 EDUCATION AND GENERAL BUDGET, 2025-26
 FOR PERIOD ENDING MARCH 31, 2026

FUNCTION	E&G BUDGET 2025-26	CURRENT MONTH EXPENDITURES	FISCAL YEAR TO-DATE EXPENDITURES	% OF BUDGET EXPENSED 2025-26	ESTIMATE AT COMPLETION 6/30/2026	PROJECTED VARIANCE TO BUDGET (OVER)/UNDER
Instruction	5,864,116.00	551,218.77	3,807,101.48	65%	5,076,135.31	787,980.69
Research	201,945.00	19,170.00	124,940.69	62%	166,587.59	35,357.41
Public Service	5,000.00	-	-	0%	3,650.00	1,350.00
Academic Support	1,680,543.00	121,974.84	1,017,026.77	61%	1,356,035.69	324,507.31
Student Services	1,606,585.00	152,891.99	1,256,515.19	78%	1,675,353.59	(68,768.59)
Institutional Support	2,643,736.00	154,637.60	1,696,615.25	64%	2,262,153.67	381,582.33
Physical Plant	2,559,055.00	181,565.16	1,982,261.20	77%	2,643,014.93	(83,959.93)
Scholarships	728,048.00	-	861,290.00	118%	861,290.00	(133,242.00)
TOTAL E&G	15,289,028.00	1,181,458.36	10,745,750.58	66%	14,044,220.77	1,244,807.23

UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND ARTS OF OKLAHOMA
EDUCATION AND GENERAL INCOME STATEMENT
FOR PERIOD ENDING MARCH 31, 2026

INCOME CATEGORY	ESTIMATED INCOME FOR 2025-26	YTD INCOME	INCOME AS A % OF 2025-26
STATE APPROPRIATIONS	7,107,257.00	6,585,513.00	93%
STUDENT TUITION & FEES, net	8,172,685.00	7,444,793.51	91%
TOTAL FEES AND STATE APPROPRIATIONS	15,279,942.00	14,030,306.51	92%
ORGANIZED ACTIVITIES RELATED TO EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENTS	20,000.00	17,485.00	87%
REIMBURSEMENTS, CONTRACTS, OTHER	1,382,538.00	975,077.56	71%
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 16,682,480.00	\$ 15,022,869.07	90%

UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND ARTS OF OKLAHOMA
 INCOME STATEMENT
 FOR PERIOD ENDING MARCH 31, 2026

	REVENUES	EXPENSES	REVENUE (LOSS)
AUXILIARY SYSTEMS OPERATIONS			
RESIDENCE HALLS	2,367,505.00	1,374,136.68	993,368.32
FOOD SERVICE	2,159,827.29	1,541,281.25	618,546.04
STUDENT CENTER	42,236.00	8,672.00	33,564.00
BOOKSTORE	24,708.96	9,228.98	15,479.98
PRINTING SERVICE	17,154.33	55,003.34	(37,849.01)
TOTAL	4,611,431.58	2,988,322.25	1,623,109.33
AUXILIARY ENTERPRISES OTHER			
ATHLETICS	9,678.40	1,465,423.93	(1,455,745.53)
STUDENT ACTIVITIES	288,239.99	95,159.20	193,080.79
TOTAL	297,918.39	1,560,583.13	(1,262,664.74)
RESTRICTED FUNDS			
STUDENT AID	9,192,274.74	9,535,454.94	(343,180.20)
GRANTS	248,495.62	189,422.21	59,073.41
TOTAL	9,440,770.36	9,724,877.15	(284,106.79)
AGENCY ACCOUNTS			
OTHER INCOME/EXPENSE	806,333.63	885,740.23	(79,406.60)
USAOF	335,829.51	394,163.00	(58,333.49)
STUDENT ORGS	382,832.00	52,467.96	330,364.04
TOTAL	1,524,995.14	1,332,371.19	192,623.95
TOTAL AUXILIARY	\$ 15,875,115.47	\$ 15,606,153.72	\$ 268,961.75