

**OGDEN-WEBER TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

February 25, 2021  
Electronic Meeting Via Zoom  
4:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Kearston Cutrubus	WSU Board of Trustees
Mark Jenkins	Business/Industry
William Shafer	Business/Industry
Richard Taylor	Business/Industry
Toni Ure	Business/Industry
Matt Wardle, Chair	Business/Industry
Paul Widdison	Weber School Board
Joyce Wilson, Vice Chair	Ogden School Board

**MEMBERS EXCUSED**

Cameron Cook	Business/Industry
Kori Ann Edwards	Business/Industry
Slade Opheikens	

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**

James R. Taggart	Ogden-Weber Technical College
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**GUESTS**

Jesslie Anderson	Utah Board of Higher Education
Chad Burchell	Ogden-Weber Technical College
Tyler Call	Ogden-Weber Technical College
Sanchaita Datta	Utah Board of Higher Education
Joshua Gardner	Student of the Year
Crystal Kemp	OTECH Student Guest
Geoffrey Landward	Utah System of Higher Education
Brynn Murdock	Ogden-Weber Technical College
Monica Schwenk	Ogden-Weber Technical College
Cidnee Shaw	OTECH Student Guest
Dave Woolstenhulme	Utah System of Higher Education
Tina Smith	Recording Secretary

The Board of Trustees of the Ogden-Weber Technical College held an electronic meeting as allowed under the Board of Directors By-laws on Thursday, February 25, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. The public was provided with a link to livestream the proceedings. Chair Matt Wardle conducted the meeting, and the agenda proceeded as follows:

Mr. Wardle read the following statement regarding the college's anchor location for meetings: *"Pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-207, part 4, the Ogden-Weber Technical College Board of Trustees has determined that conducting their February 25, 2021, meeting with an anchor location presents a substantial risk to the health and safety of those who may be present at the anchor location. The determination is based on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic and the current risk phase as identified by the Weber-Morgan Health Department and guidelines found in the Utah Leads Together plan. The February 25, 2021, meeting will be held electronically without an anchor location. The public can view the open portion of the board of trustees meeting via a link located on the Board of Trustees' web page ([www.otech.edu/about-us/board-of-directors](http://www.otech.edu/about-us/board-of-directors)) under 'Board Meetings'."*

**1. STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: JOSHUA GARDNER, 2021 STUDENT OF THE YEAR; CRYSTAL KEMP, BUSINESS; AND CIDNEE SHAW, COSMETOLOGY**

President Taggart related students are highlighted at Utah Board of Higher Education (UBHE) meetings. The board used to rotate its meeting locations around the state but has suspended this practice due to the pandemic. However, the board continues to highlight students on a regional basis and recognized students from OTECH, DTECH, and Weber State University two months ago.

Board meetings generally focus on policies, budgets, and critical processes; however, students are the heart of what the college does. As a result, college administration decided to emulate the UBHE and will highlight students at each meeting.

Joshua Gardner, OTECH Student of the Year, Culinary Arts program: Mr. Gardner is a senior at Ogden High School and enrolled in the program in July 2020. He became interested in the culinary field because he wanted to help his mother with the family cooking and aspires to be a chef. He plans to enroll in business at Utah State in the fall, and with his business degree and Culinary Arts certificate, hopes to open his own restaurant in the future.

Crystal Kemp, Business program: Ms. Kemp recently lost her job as a result of the pandemic and enrolled in the Business program. She is enjoying the opportunity to update her skills and interested in enrolling in other programs.

Cidnee Shaw, Cosmetology program: Ms. Shaw started the program when she was a high school senior and has 130 hours left to complete. She took her state boards on Monday and passed. She plans to enroll at Dixie and will use her cosmetology skills to find employment while she goes to school.

President Taggart indicated the success of students is due to the efforts of faculty and staff, especially during the pandemic. The college closed for two days in March 2020, the entire month of April (employees continued to work remotely), and reopened in May.

Some programs offer hybrid training but most are providing face-to-face instruction. The college has helped 883 students complete their certificates since March 2020—all during the pandemic.

## **2. STUDENT SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS**

The Student Services Division has been surveying students about their interactions within the division for the past two years. The data helps identify trends, concerns, and areas that need improvement. Students are surveyed no more than six times per year to avoid survey fatigue.

Services are rated on a scale of 1-10, with 10 being “very likely to recommend the college.” To date, approximately 5,000 surveys have been sent out, with a response rate of 18.4 percent (very high). The overall promoter score is 8.9.

A majority of the scores in FY20 were fair (8s), and in FY21, a majority of the departments have increased their scores to 9s.

The college reaches out to students in many ways to ensure they have a good experience. Pre-enrollment advisors are the first line of defense and are set up in clusters so they are the experts in their assigned programs. They follow up on leads, walk prospective students through the enrollment process, and take them on tours and to meet instructors. These activities set students up for success and make them feel like they have a connection when they enroll. The survey scores show they are satisfied with their experiences.

These are real-time Qualtrics surveys that are launched when a student completes an interaction with a department. Similar surveys will be implemented in the Instructional Services Division, and the college will share the data with the board on a regular basis.

## **3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD OCTOBER 22, 2020**

A motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held October 22, 2020, was made by Paul Widdison, seconded by Kearston Cutrubus, and carried unanimously.

## **4. APPROVAL OF DIFFERENTIAL TUITION**

The college asks the board to approve its differential tuition rate (\$20) each year as required by Utah System of Higher Education (USHE) policy. Differential tuition is lower than the college’s basic tuition and covers academic learning services which help students be successful in their programs. Courses include math, writing, literacy, and basic business courses taught in Spanish.

If approved by the board, the college will forward its differential tuition request to the UHBE for final approval. The rate expires at the end of each fiscal year and must be reapproved per policy.

The college is requesting continuation of the \$20 differential tuition rate for FY22. The college is not requesting any other increases in tuition and fees.

A motion to approve a differential tuition rate of \$20 for FY22 was made by Joyce Wilson, seconded by Will Shafer, and carried unanimously.

## **5. APPROVAL OF FY22 STRATEGIC PLAN**

The college is required to review its Strategic Plan on an annual basis as a requirement of accreditation through the Council on Occupational Education (COE). The college completed a comprehensive review last year, and as a result, made only minor revisions this year.

The UBHE is currently going through a strategic planning process for the system, and once its Strategic Plan is approved, the tech colleges and degree-granting institutions will incorporate critical components into their plans. The institutions are currently providing USHE with feedback. The system's larger themes—access, cost-effective tuition, retention, completion—already fit within the college's Strategic Plan.

Mr. Wardle asked about the college's metrics and how they tie in with measuring real-time performance and achieving strategic goals and initiatives. President Taggart explained every employee has access to real-time performance data in Tableau. The college has developed concise dashboards with key indicators so employees can see if they are meeting departmental and college-wide goals.

Mr. Taylor asked if the college anticipates adding or deleting programs after the system completes its strategic planning evaluation. President Taggart stated avoiding duplication was the main goal for combining all higher ed into one system. He did not feel the system's evaluation would impact the college's programs, especially since OTECH works closely with WSU to avoid duplication. Changes in program offerings are driven by the college and are put into place to meet market needs.

A motion to approve the FY22 Strategic Plan was made by Richard Taylor, seconded by Kearston Cutrubs, and carried unanimously.

## **6. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

President Taggart reported on the following:

- Thanked Geoffrey Landward, USHE, deputy commissioner and general counsel, for his expertise in reviewing the hundreds of bills submitted during the legislative session.
- OTECH presented its budget to the Higher Education Appropriations Committee on January 25, 2021.
  - Rep. Kelly Miles and Rep. Melissa Garff Ballard are the co-chairs, and they are very supportive of the tech colleges. They asked about enrollment data, graduation rates, secondary completion rates, workforce alignment, COVID impacts, pathways and credentials, challenges, and how they can support the system.

- Legislature is recommending a three percent labor market pay increase (compensation; not a COLA) and 4.3 percent for health insurance.
- The college requested \$480,000 for market-driven programs, the bulk of which will be used to expand apprenticeship programs. A small portion will be used to support health programs.
- Requested \$370,000 for capital equipment. Won't know how much will be allocated until the end of the session.
- The college was approved for Strategic Workforce Investment (SWI) funding last year, but it was taken back by the state due to budget reductions. The college partnered with Ogden School District, Weber School District, and Utah State to resubmit a proposal to expand the Industrial Automation Youth Apprenticeship program.

The college has offered the program at Ben Lomond High school for three years. If the proposal is approved, the program would be expanded to Ogden High School and one high school in the Weber School District (currently considering Roy High School).

Companies like Autoliv, Fresenius, Kimberly-Clark, Parker Hannifin, and Northrup Grumman are interested in the program since they are finding it difficult to hire technicians and specialists.

Requested \$255,900 of ongoing funding and \$101,500 of one-time funding to purchase trainers for the high schools. Students access the programs at their high schools before their regular high school schedules begin.

- OTECH, DTECH, and WSU submitted a joint request for an enhanced articulation partnership pilot (dual enrollment) to increase the number of students taking advantage of pathways. Already have a transfer credit; want to create a dual enrollment credit. Would allow students to generate a WSU transcript while enrolled at one of the tech colleges.

Requested \$500,000 of ongoing funding. A legislator added \$1 million of one-time funding. Not sure if the request will be funded this year; may only receive a small portion of the request or one-time monies only. President Taggart stated the three institutions are committed to ensuring the process is implemented to meet the needs of students and employers.

- Monitoring several bills:

- SB45 – Higher Education Classes for Veterans (Weiler): Allows veterans to audit higher education classes (not for credit) on a space available basis. Passed the House and Senate.
- HB159 – Higher Education Student Speech Rights (Teuscher): Commissioner's Office has worked closely with the sponsor. Deals with protected speech vs. offensive speech. Monitoring.

- HB233 – Education Immunization Modifications (Strong): Institutions cannot require immunizations for enrollment into programs. The college does not have this stipulation for its general programs. There are exceptions for students in health programs if they are going to be involved with clinical sites. Immunizations are generally a requirement of the clinical site. There are waivers for health and religious reasons.
- HB318 – Higher Education Amendments (Ballard): Supported by HBHE. Cleans up SB111 from last year. Aligns the roles and responsibilities of the technical college and degree-granting boards. Prior to this bill, the duties were different. One minor change will be made in the process for selecting presidents. Will no longer require finalists to be publicly announced. Concerned that announcing the names was a barrier. Could cause issues with the finalists' current employers if they are not selected for the position.
- SB136 – Higher Education Scholarship Amendments (Owens): The Utah System of Technical Colleges and USHE had two different legislatively-funded scholarships. The bill aligns them under one umbrella. Students can apply for both scholarships. They can use one scholarship to complete a tech college certificate and another to complete a degree.
- SB163 – Campus Safety Amendments (Iwamoto): Main provision creates a campus safety council with representatives from faculty, staff, and student body from each of the 16 campuses. Council is an advisory body that reviews campus safety and advises the UBHE.
- SB193 – Higher Education Performance Funding (Millner): The tech colleges and degree-granting institutions have received performance funding for the past several years. It comprises a large amount of funding for the degree-granting institutions but is only a small portion of the tech colleges' funding. Under this bill, performance funding would become the primary funding method for all 16 institutions. Full implementation will not take place until 2023.

## **7. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**

President Taggart shared the following:

- The college's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary falls on April 23. The Skills Center was established at the old Madison School with 93 students. Six name changes and 50 years later, the college serves 6,000 students a year. A planning team is developing a list of activities; will share with the board in April.
- The college held a virtual graduation on February 18. Could not hold an in-person event due to social distancing guidelines. Could not hold a drive-through event due to the weather. Streamed the event on social media channels and provided graduates with a gift bag. Governor Cox provided a congratulatory message.

- Completed the expansion of the Nursing (PN) program. The college serves two PN co-horts and two WSU RN co-horts each year, and the Health Building was out of space. The college remodeled the shell space on the east end of the building and added four classrooms and a dedicated lab.
- YCC implemented a “Heart of Ogden” program. WhiteClouds manufactured 30 composite hearts promoting YCC which were located around town. The college’s Welding program created the metal bases, and the YouthBuild program poured the concrete bases. YCC highlighted the college on its social media platforms.
- The college hosts a 9<sup>th</sup> grade exploration program each year, bringing 40-50 junior high students on campus for hands-on experiences. Due to COVID-19, the program was provided as a virtual experience but still included a hands-on component. College faculty built kits and created videos and lesson plans, e.g., building a bird house, baking chocolate chip cookies, painting a design on a nail. Videos also included students talking about their experiences. Feedback has been very positive. The college was able to reach hundreds of students—including 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders—instead of 40-50. Will consider this model for the future.
- William Denslow, a training and safety officer with United, lost his job in March 2020. He enrolled in the Composites program in June and completed in four months. He was hired less than two weeks after completing.

## **8. NEXT MEETING**

The Board of Directors is scheduled to meet on Thursday, April 22, 2021, at 4:00 p.m., via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.