

OSU-Okmulgee Presidents' Roundtable Minutes

March 7, 2007

Student Union Harlan Room

Present: Matt Davis and Joseph Davis, ACR; Jamae Eakins and Fred Norman, BCM; Brian Elam, CMI; Felix Cuellar and Stefan Swaggerty, C³; James McCullough and Jose Rivas, FAD; Brian Webster and Michael Grob, Horology; Art Visconti, ISA; Aaron Stephenson and Logan Thomas, NGE; Kenton Morrow, PTK; Mary Bell, R.E.B.E.L.; Melanie Champion, Bo Hudson and James Thye, RHA; Devin DeBock, Residential Life; Charles Young, SkillsUSA VICA; Sara Van Eaton, SGA; Leah Torbett and Josh King, SNA; Pat Braithwaite, guest; and Bruce Force, Kevin Monteque, Steven Rubert and Doreen White, Student Life.

Meeting called to order at 11:40 a.m.

Bruce Force welcomed first time attendees to the Presidents' Roundtable and asked them to introduce themselves: Josh King, SNA; Jamae Eakings, BCM; and Stefan Swaggerty, C³.

Force made some announcements and reminders:

- Thanks to Culinary for the meal.
- Activity Requests should be turned in to the Student Life Office "a little ahead of time," and Trip Insurance Forms must be submitted at least 24 hours before departure time. Please do the best you can.
- Student Life will need club participation at Springfest, and Steven Rubert will talk about that.
- Another opportunity for club participation will be May/June's Relay for Life.

Force then introduced Devin DeBock, Residential Life Director, who is on the agenda to speak about an increase in the housing rate.

DeBock stated that OSU-Okmulgee prefers to seek student input, questions, concerns and approval when preparing to propose changes in housing rates to the regents. This year administration is looking at a three percent adjustment for next year. In anticipating the increase, they look at the amount of money left after deducting needs from the total amount received from students.

Residential Life is an auxiliary department, meaning that they receive no State appropriated funds, and must rely solely on room rate revenue. OSU-Okmulgee does not make a big profit from this. Residential Life was \$4,000 within budget last year after a six percent rate adjustment to account for the rising utility costs.

Administration does its best to keep the cost down for students, but there are increases in the cost of running the dorms. This past year saw many increases: 14 percent in utilities; 142 percent in supplies and materials; 46 percent in repair and maintenance; and 336 percent in equipment purchases. The largest expense in the equipment purchase increase was the \$42,000 for the new air conditioning/chiller unit acquired for England Hall. Next year, Hannigan Hall will incur the same equipment expense, as well as a foundation settlement problem that needs repaired. Additional expenses are due to increased vandalism. For example, recently someone punched a hole in the wall on the third floor of South Miller-Kamm, and soon the hole grew big enough for a grown man to enter into. Residential Life has increased the Community Assistant "rounds" without trying to turn the dorms into a penal institution. Residential Life's payroll increased eight percent due added student workers and the anticipated increase in minimum wage.

Other universities still charge much more for housing than OSU-Okmulgee. Some examples include:

Conners	\$1,900
East Central	\$1,700
Murray	\$2,450
NSU	\$1,800
Stillwater	three to room/\$1,500 up to \$700 each month
OSU-OKM	\$1,500 up to \$1,545

This increase, on average, will amount to an increase of about \$45 per semester, per student. About 90 percent of OSU-Okmulgee's students are on student financial aid, so comparatively, our housing rates are low.

Housing rate open forum meetings this time around include the Student Government Association yesterday, the meeting with Presidents' Roundtable attendees today, March 15, 3 pm, Covelle Hall, and then with the Residence Hall Association on March 27, 8:30 pm, Wilson Commons.

Pat Braithwaite asked when the new rates will go into effect. DeBock replied Fall 2007. He continued that OSU-Okmulgee prefers to initiate its housing adjustments separately from its regular budget, so it doesn't become just another line item, as it does in other universities – just pushed through.

Art Visconti asked if the rule would be changing that requires under-aged/under-full time students to live in the dorms. DeBock said the rule was that new students under age 21, who live outside a 50 mile radius of campus, are required to reside in the dorms for the first two semesters. The policy was instituted by President Klabenes and DeBock highly doubts that it will change. Reasoning seems to be retention and the student's ability to succeed. Research indicates that in the first two semesters students living off-campus have GPAs of about 2.0, while those living on-campus average at about 3.0. Some advantages include: If the student is experiencing excessive absences, the instructor can call DeBock and he can go check on the student, the student is safe on campus if there are any emergency situations, and the student is more "plugged in" to the institution while living on campus. DeBock has found that during the first semester a student is trying to figure out "which way is up", during the second semester they are trying to remember what they learned the first semester, and by the third, they are "good to go."

With no more questions, Steven Rubert took the floor to discuss upcoming Student Life activities:

March 8 Free Movie Night

March 10 Oilers Game

March 14 P.E.T.E. University

March Madness Brackets

March 15 St. Patrick's Day Party

March 27 Blood Drive

Leaders for Life

March 28 Springfest with X-treme Air mobile sky dive simulator

R.E.B.E.L. President Mary Bell then took the floor to talk about gaining club involvement during Springfest. She encouraged presidents to ask club members to volunteer to assist with the different activities such as Bouncy Boxing, Jousting, Bungie Run, Human Bowling and obtaining student waivers for those activities. Clubs also can vote to showcase their organization by having their own "booth" much like is done at the CarniFall in October.

Matt Davis asked if there would be free food at the St. Patrick's Day Party. Rubert's answer was yes, and the location is PSO Lounge.

Steven then mentioned that a Free Hornets Ticket Giveaway is scheduled on March 16 for the game on March 31.

Leah Torbett asked the time of the St. Patrick's Day Party. Rubert stated 11 to 1.

Brian Elam asked about the location of Springfest. Rubert said in the activities will be spread out from the Reynolds' Center to the Student Union and in the field to the southwest. It was noted that Student Life has five canopy tents available.

Visconti asked if Springfest would be just like the CarniFall. Rubert said, yes, except the community is not invited.

Jose Rivas asked about the deadline to notify Student Life about club participation. Rubert said before Spring Break.

Force added that they need to contact them even if individuals just wanted to help with events.

Visconti asked how many club points could be received. Rubert replied, three.

Kevin Montequé then took the floor to discuss wellness and intramural sports. Dodge ball play began yesterday, and will continue tomorrow, 6 pm. There were many visitors last night who really enjoyed the games. Wallyball Coaches meeting is planned on March 29, 4 pm.

Davis asked what Wallyball was. Montequé said it is Volleyball in the racquetball courts, and that he distributes information packets at the coaches meeting. Play begins April 2, 6 pm.

Montequé announced that Body Mass Index Testing was scheduled for this Friday, and prizes will be awarded to the "Biggest Loser" in both student and employee categories.

SPIN Class is held Monday – Friday, 11:35 am – 12:15 pm, and on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:35 – 5:15 pm. Pilates Class is held Monday – Thursday, 6:15 – 6:55 am.

Elam asked how many people make a team in Wallyball. Monteque stated that there could be eight on the roster and six on the court. Torbett asked the same question for Dodge ball. The answer was seven on the roster, four on the floor. Davis asked about individuals that were unaffiliated with a team. Monteque said send them to him and he will call the captains and get them placed on teams. Sara Van Eaton asked when the Dodge ball games will be played again. The answer was tomorrow at 6 pm. Davis asked what the balls were like. Monteque said they were special dodge balls that do not hurt badly when taken against the face. Force said they resemble nerf balls with a different covering.

Good of the Order:

Logan Thomas, NGE: Members held a LAN Party last week with about 20 people; anyone is allowed to come and watch. If anyone wants to participate, and they are unsure about their computer, just bring it by and they'll look at it; they soon will order network attached storage to assist with the parties.

Kent Marrow, PTK: Members will go to Internationals April 11 – 15.

Charles Young, PTK: Members just returned from Regionals, which consists of 41 chapters. Beta Alpha Alpha received the Most Distinguished Chapter of the year; 1st Place Spirit Award; 2nd Place Leadership; 2nd Place Advisor; 2nd Place Web site; 4th Place Scholarship; 4th Place Service; 4th Place Officer of the Year; 4th Place Member of the Year; Pinnacle Platinum Award; and Five-star Chapter Certification.

Stefan Swaggerty, C³: Members have been building associations with their professional organizations: ABC, AGC & CSI; they are planning a golf tournament; and are helping to form the Hispanic Club.

Jose Rivas, FAD: Members submitted 132 entries to the Brass Ring Awards; helped the Art Directors Club of Tulsa with some visual aids; and will take an industry tour to Fossil in Texas this weekend.

Michael Grob, Horology: Members will go to New York next Monday to visit jewelry stores and service centers; three of six graduates recently were placed in New York.

James Thye, RHA: Members recently participated in Mardi Gras with food, many guests and a drag show; plans are in the works to transform the south side of Wilson Commons into a sports bar type setting with a new pool table and a new cover for the old pool table; a housing rate open forum will be held at the commons on the 27th; Monday is the luau; and members will participate in Springfest.

Brian Elam, CMI: Members made 80 contacts at Welcome Back Lunch and gave away some good gift baskets and tracks; the next meeting is the 27th; the club is awaiting new bibles.

Brian Elam, FCA: Members are going to Napa Valley in California soon; encourages students to get involved in clubs/organizations because some of the most vital lessons and greatest experiences in college will come through these avenues.

Sara Van Eaton, SGA: The Senate met yesterday with Devin DeBock about the housing rate increase and passed a resolution approving the change; new members were voted in and there are still yet more openings; the Senate is looking forward to helping in any way to establish the Hispanic and Multicultural clubs; there is a meeting concerning their establishment on March 13 in the PSO Lounge should anyone wish to attend.

Jamae Eakins, BCM: Tuesday Noonday free home-cooked lunches are 11:45 am to 12:30 pm; Late Night Worship Service is held on Wednesdays, 9 pm; Bible Study Group meets on Mondays, 6 pm; a fellowship group hangs out at the BCM on Thursdays; a group is going to Louisiana over Spring Break to help with hurricane reconstruction; after Spring Break they will send a team to Edmond for a basketball tournament.

Josh King, SNA: Members will man tables next Monday in the Student Union to promote awareness of cervical and prostate cancer; last Monday members listened to a recruiter from the Muskogee Hospital; March 23 they will tour a hospital; members will participate in Healthy Kids Day at the YMCA on March 31; they designed a new pin for their pinning ceremony.

Joey Davis, ACR: Recently attended the Locke Supply Trade Show in OKC where they saw a little girl cut a car in half in one minute; they are ordering t-shirts with a new student design; and will help with Springfest. Force asked if they recently had a meeting with Thomas Kipkurgat as speaker. Davis said yes.

Art Visconti, ISA: Members toured Dal-tile; have completed the flow chart for a new Web site, and need to employ a designer to help construct it; members built a air canon for Student Life to shoot t-shirts from; they have new t-shirts with a fresh design.

Charles Young, SkillsUSA VICA: Friday before last they had a district contest and last Friday they hosted the North Central SkillsUSA VICA Spring Leadership Conference; Young, as National President, soon will initiate a five-state tour.

Van Eaton asked what SkillsUSA was. Force answered VICA and Young answered the national trade/industrial organization. Force said Young also won 12th place in the nation for Extemporeous Speaking.

Mary Bell, R.E.B.E.L.: Encourages club presidents to promote the Multicultural Club to their members as a way to help international students succeed; the meetings will be an interesting study in culture.

Van Eaton added that the next meeting will feature an African meal. Felix Cuellar asked what countries are currently represented in the forming of the Multicultural Club. Bell answered Brazil, Scotland, Kenya, Turkey and Germany. The next meeting for the formation of the Hispanic Club is Tuesday, 11:30 a.m.

Adjourned 12:30 pm