

**MEETING #403**  
**OREGON STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**  
**Friday, October 22, 2010**  
**Office of the Commission – Columbia Room**  
**Eugene, OR**

**COMMISSIONERS**

Bart Howard, Chair  
Cap Sharples, Vice Chair  
Glenda Melton  
Alethia Miller  
Ben Eckstein  
Gary Weeks

**STAFF**

Josette Green, Executive Director  
Beverly Boyd, Executive Assistant  
Susan Degen, Opportunity Grant Administrator  
Peggy Cooksey, OOG Program Analyst  
Jennifer Diallo, ODA Program Evaluator  
Alan Contreras, ODA Administrator  
Lori Ellis, ASPIRE Team Lead  
Vicki Merkel, Scholarship & Access Program Director  
Cheryl Connolly, Operations Assistant  
Lara Wilburn, Office Specialist  
Anna Houpt, Fiscal Services

**GUESTS**

Margie Lowe, Governor's Office  
Gary Andeen, OR Independent Colleges Association  
Trisha Tate, Ford Family Foundation  
Tracy Reisinger, Marylhurst University  
John Wykoff, Oregon Community College Association  
Gena Wikstrom, NW Career Colleges Federation  
Bob Kieran, Oregon University System  
Mike Marsh, Former Interim Executive Director

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commission Chair, Bart Howard, called the meeting to order at 9:32 am. Having a quorum present, the meeting proceeded. Commissioner Mike Holland was unable to attend.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Josette Green was welcomed by Chair Howard as the new Executive Director.

**CHAIR'S/OTHER COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Chair Howard attended the State ASPIRE Conference. He commended Vicki Merkel, Scholarship and Access Program Director, and Lori Ellis, ASPIRE Team Lead / Outreach Supervisor, for a job well done.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Josette Green thanked the Commission for their support and approval of her appointment. Ms. Green also expressed appreciation for the assistance of former Interim Executive Director Mike Marsh in reviewing current issues and policies for the agency. Ms. Green met with agency staff and was in the process of meeting individually with each person.

Ms. Green stated that OSAC's appeal was submitted on Thursday, October 21, 2010 by 5:00 PM.

**ODA ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

**Program Activity**

Alan Contreras, ODA Program Administrator, reported that the program had entered an expected busy period of reviews, and the ODA should be caught up by early 2011. Revenue projections have been reviewed and updated.

provided by December 1, 2011. The new Governor's Recommended Budget will be released February 1, 2011.

### **ALLOTMENT REDUCTION UPDATE**

A brief overview of the allotment reduction process to date was provided by Ms. Houpt. General Fund allotment occurred in June and September this year. BAM anticipates that additional cuts in December will not be needed.

Ms. Houpt provided a hand out with detailed information regarding the September 2010 Allotment Reductions.

#### **Appropriation 80000, Operating Expenses**

Cuts of \$86,167 came from Information Technology, ASPIRE and ODA.

#### **Appropriation 81000 Special Payments**

The total reduction is \$2,775,657. Oregon Opportunity Grant (OOG) cuts of \$2,734,827 will affect eligible applicants for the 2010-2011 academic year. The Student Childcare reduction of \$40,830 has reduced OSAC's ability to re-award Student Childcare Grant funds for the 2010-2011 academic year. More information regarding the application of the OOG cuts will come from future Steering Committee meetings.

Ms. Houpt also reported that state Department of Administrative Services (DAS) deposited \$1.25 million of lottery funds in September 2010. The agency does not have enough expenditure limitation available for the 2009-11 biennium to spend all the lottery funds cash balance. Excess cash could carry forward to the next biennium, or a request to the Emergency Board could be made for additional limitation for the current biennium. Margie Lowe suggested the possibility of an Emergency Board action in December regarding the application of excess funds.

#### **Appropriation 81005 Nursing Faculty Loan Repayment Program**

This program received a cut of \$6,035 in September.

### **EMERGENCY BOARD UPDATE**

Ms. Merkel attended the Emergency Board meeting in September. She reported the hearing went well with one comment regarding the ability of the agency to provide timely information to the legislative fiscal staff. The original agency budget request was \$901,159 for Other Funds. The legislative analyst recommended \$849,430 due to calculations regarding agency limitations and reductions accrued from shifting new grant funded staff to a later start date. The Emergency Board request included grant funds for ASPIRE and several outreach projects.

Receipt of College Access Challenge Grant Program (CACGP) monies, a federal formula grant administered by the Oregon University System, and a grant from TG in Texas allowed the agency to recruit for three additional ASPIRE positions. Nearly half the CACG grant will be sub-granted to OSAC for the ASPIRE and Outreach. The remaining CACGP funds were sub-granted to college access programs statewide. Ms. Merkel served on the committee that chose those recipients. There were sixty applications and twelve awards. In an effort to begin recruiting additional ASPIRE sites, Ms. Merkel presented ASPIRE program application packets to the commissioners. The CACG has the potential to be awarded for an additional four years. The Governor determines who will be the CACG administrator in the state.

Ms. Merkel and Susan Degen, Opportunity Grant Administrator, attended the National Association of State Student Grant & Aid Programs (NASSGAP) conference mid-October in Seattle where Ms. Merkel took office as NASSGAP President.

### **POTENTIAL OOG POLICY ADJUSTMENTS**

Ms. Degen, presented documentation regarding actual and projected numbers of Free Applications for Federal Student Aid (FAFSAs) for 2010-11 filed by students through October 15, 2010. An increased number of applications have been filed compared to last year at this time. The community college sector shows the most growth. The report includes counts of "viable" FAFSAs, "eligible applicants," and awarded applicants; not every applicant is eligible for OOG funds. Ms. Degen also presented past actual and current-year estimated OOG award statistics. To be eligible for a grant of 2009-10, students had to meet the application deadline and be enrolled fall term. For the past three years, OSAC has controlled costs by setting application deadlines and limiting eligibility to students enrolled fall term: students who delayed enrollment beyond fall term have not received awards because of limited OOG funds.

Ms. Degen continued with statistics covering disbursements since the implementation of the Shared Responsibility Model in 2008-09. With guidance from the Steering Committee, 2010-11 application deadlines were set under the assumption that \$35 million would be available for awards and that 100 percent of eligible students would enroll fall term, use the grant, and remain enrolled full time for the full year. After state budget allotment reductions, the total remaining funds available for OOG awards are closer to \$17.8 million, or \$22 million including \$4.3 million in OUS funds to offset a percentage of recent budget reductions. The schools' pre-enrollment award estimates were optimistic at \$25 million. November's fall disbursement reports will supplant the pre-enrollment award estimates with actual figures. Excess state lottery funds are not included in the \$17.8 million figure.

John Wykoff expressed concern regarding the assumption of a 100 percent award pick-up rate by grant recipients at community colleges because that percentage is not attainable for the sector. Commissioner Sharples suggested that the commission may address the topic of proportionality in the future, since the awards for fall term 2010-11 are already in place.

Further discussion regarding pick-up rates and proportionality is expected to occur at the Steering Committee meeting scheduled for October 25, 2010.

### **VICE CHAIR ELECTION**

Commissioner Glenda Melton nominated Commissioner Sharples for the position of Vice Chair. Commissioner Sharples accepted. Commissioner Weeks moved to vote. The appointment of Commissioner Sharples as Vice Chair was approved by unanimous vote.

### **NEW COMMISSIONER TRAINING/LIASON ORIENTATION & ASSIGNMENTS**

Ms. Green stated that Commissioner Reference Manuals were created with sections for each department. Training is to be held at 11:30 a.m. following the next commission meeting scheduled for December 3, 2010. Mr. Andeen offered to include his aforementioned presentation at the training session.

Commissioner liaison assignments were agreed upon as follows:

Commissioner Howard	General Administration and Scholarship & Access Programs
Commissioner Sharples	ODA and Stakeholders
Commissioner Melton	Steering Committee and OOG
Commissioner Miller	Steering Committee and Public Programs
Commissioner Eckstein	Scholarship & Access Programs
Commissioner Weeks	Budget, Steering Committee and Legislative
Commissioner Holland	Stakeholders, ODA and Legislative

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

The board agreed that along with the commission chair, executive staff persons may sign publically approved meeting minutes in lieu of having every board member sign.

Commissioner Melton made the motion to approve meeting minutes #401 July 23, 2010 and #402 September 2, 2010. Commissioner Weeks seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

The commissioners agreed to change meeting #404 to December 3, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Howard moved to accept the calendar as amended. The adjusted calendar was approved by unanimous vote.

**OTHER BUISNESS AND ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business, Vice Chair Sharples moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



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*Bart Howard, Chair*