

Interim President's Blog

This blog does not officially represent Northeastern State University. It is solely for the purpose of conveying information, seeking input, and expressing viewpoints.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2011

Update on Title III grants

Northeastern State University is pleased to announce the receipt of two significant Title III grant awards: Part A, Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP) and Part F, Native American Serving Nontribal Institutions (NASNTI). The SIP provides \$1,607,616 over the next five years to establish a Student Academic Success Center on the Tahlequah campus, which will provide academic program consultation, referrals, and career advisement for all students at Northeastern, especially those identified as high risk and/or minority student populations. The NASNTI grant award in the amount of \$1,843,959, also over a five year period, will create an Indigenous Scholar Development Center to provide American Indian students with extensive academic services and programming, as well as provide for faculty and staff development and community outreach projects. The Student Academic Success Center and the Indigenous Scholar Development Center will work in tandem to significantly increase the retention and graduation rates of high risk, low-income, American Indian and other minority students at Northeastern State University.

Posted by Martin Tadlock at 10:31 AM 0 comments



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2011

Facilities update 10.18.2011

NSU Facilities Management Project update for week of 10/17/2011

Administration Building Roof

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ABOUT ME



Martin Tadlock
Tahlequah,
Oklahoma, United
States

Martin Tadlock is

- Finalizing Bid Package with Engineer and Roofing Consultant

BA Fitness Trail

- Boy Scout Fence gate installation complete

Deloache Soccer Sign

- Project complete

Fine Arts Green

- Drainage pipe installation complete
- Collection box install in progress
- Grading for turnaround in progress

Fitness Center Renovation

- Bids in progress for pool filtration system, locker room matting and shower work
- Estimating heating capacity upgrade for pool area

National Science Research Lab

- Value Engineering items complete, budget update in progress

Stadium Press Box Renovation

- Budget being adjusted to include window replacement

Wadley Reading Lab

- Sheet rock installation in progress

Library Exterior Door Replacement (Tahlequah)

- Developing door schedule and bid package

Garrison Street Parking lot

- Bids to be opened 10/18/11

NEW PROJECTS

Broken Arrow Low Vision Clinic

- Programming complete, design in progress

Broken Arrow Cadaver Room

- Design in progress

Departmental Capital Projects

Interim President of Northeastern State University, where he has been serving as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs for the past two years. Before coming to Northeastern State, he served as Assistant Vice-Chancellor for Lifelong Learning and Community Engagement at the University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh, responsible for off-campus degree programs and services to working adults throughout eastern Wisconsin, including online degree programs offered worldwide. Prior to UW Oshkosh, Tadlock was Dean of Graduate and Professional Studies at California State University - Monterey Bay, Dean of the College of Professional Studies and Graduate Studies at Bemidji State University in Minnesota, Associate Dean and professor of Education at Utah State University, and a faculty member and Director of the nationally recognized Center of Education for the Young Adolescent at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. Martin began his educational career teaching grades 7-9 for seven years and serving as an assistant principal in a 7-12 school. He was awarded a Ph.D. in Educational Administration and Leadership from Miami University of Ohio in 1990.

[View my complete profile](#)

- . Committee has met, projects in budget phase

Residence Halls Replacement Projects

- . Contract to begin master planning phase under review

Muskogee Administration Building Remodel

- . Bid document development and bid notification in progress

UC Market Café Remodel

- . Initial bid document responses due 11/08/11

Posted by Martin Tadlock at [4:46 AM](#) [0 comments](#)



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2011

Welcome to Dr. Turner

Dear colleagues,

With the announcement this week of Dr. Steve Turner as the next president of NSU, we bring closure to several months of uncertainty regarding that position. Please know that I sincerely appreciate the contribution each of you made, and continue to make, in moving NSU forward during the search process. We are here to serve our students and our region first and foremost, and despite periodic distractions along the way we continue to improve in areas critical to our ability to serve those students and that public.

We will insure a smooth transition and warm welcome for Dr. Turner in this office, and I invite you to do the same.

Enjoy the homecoming festivities today and tomorrow, and join us in welcoming back our alumni and friends to NSU. This is a great time of year; enjoy it!

Posted by Martin Tadlock at [6:03 AM](#) [0 comments](#)



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2011

Expanded cabinet notes 9.27.11

CABINET MEETING NOTES
Tuesday, September 27, 2011

Enrollment Report: Shelly Dreadfulwater and Jason Jessie reported a small decrease in enrollment for fall 2011. Exact reasons have not yet been determined but there was a decrease in first time freshman numbers. Recruiters are already working on fall 2012 efforts. NSU will host a college fair that will include eight area high schools. They discussed the GoNSU Portal. Financial Aid portals have been tested to ensure they are working properly for the Student Go Live date. Financial aid staff is still working out of two systems. Approximately 25 million in federal aid has been disbursed (this amount does not include tribal or tuition waivers). New SAP policy requires changes due to new Dept. of Ed Program Integrity Rules. These changes make the reinstatement of aid requirements stricter. Institutions must implement an academic success plan for those students who are allowed to continue receiving federal aid yet are not meeting the minimum requirements of the academic progress policy. This plan must be monitored after every semester of attendance for which the student is allowed to continue to receive federal aid. The program integrity rules reiterate that financial aid's main purpose is to help students obtain a college degree while ensuring that funds are being utilized for that purpose. The Strategic Enrollment Plan process is in its final stages. Expansions within Career Services will include an online resume service. Implementation of services into mainstream student life is a priority of the department.

New Hire Background Checks: Dr. Martha Albin discussed the new policy in the final stages to require the completion of background checks on potential new employees. These checks will focus on criminal and sex offender backgrounds only. The checks will not be the only determination of hiring. HR will work with Public Safety and departments on any issues that arise. Costs will be covered through HR. Turnaround time should be quick and no slowdowns in the hiring process are expected.

Employee Drug and Alcohol Testing: Dr. Martha Albin discussed efforts toward implementing a drug and alcohol testing program. This testing will not be random or periodic but based on certain criteria determined within the policy. This program is consistent with peer institutions with NSU being the first RUSO institution to implement it. Testing will only be utilized for "cause" with HR determining the need. It was reported that NSU's EAP program is doing an excellent job working with employees in this area.

EthicsPoint: Dr. Martha Albin RUSO EthicsPoint Service Tip Line. This system will provide a way for anyone to discreetly and confidentially report activities which may be unethical or otherwise inappropriate behavior in violation of established policies. The Tip Line will be made available on all RUSO institution websites. A letter will go out to employees when the system is made available. This system is a three phase process. The first phase is the report that is submitted to the RUSO office for review based on predetermined criteria. RUSO will then disburse a report to the institution. The third phase will include an investigation by the institution with a report submitted to RUSO of any findings. All information will be stored off site for system integrity purposes.

Expanded Cabinet: Discussions continue on the beneficial outcomes of this group. A value approach may lead to better group dialog that will produce

effective and purposeful outcomes. Notes from previous Cabinet meetings will be distributed to the group in an effort to help define expectations of this specific group. It was determined that more discussion will be needed at the next meeting.

Posted by Martin Tadlock at 4:11 AM 0 comments



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2011

[cabinet notes 9.20.11](#)

CABINET MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Meeting conducted while in transit to Oklahoma City for Regents Education Program.

University of Arkansas: Dr. Bahr met with the Dr. Todd Shields, Graduate Dean and Dr. Stephan Sheppard, Professor of Law from of the University of Arkansas regarding partnerships in academic areas and other opportunities. It was decided not to partner with U of A in developing a Naval ROTC program due to space limitations, finances, and competition with our Army ROTC program.

Capital Project Update: A brief update was provided with more information to follow on the printed facilities management updates to accompany the minutes.

Career Services Initiative: Continued discussion of the Career Services build out. We are continuing to evaluate appropriate space needs. Need a more detailed plan including specific goals and objectives with quantifiable measures for assessment based on best practices.

Nigh Academy Nomination: Decided to have Dean Boren develop an application process to select a student to attend the Nigh Academy. Nominations are due November 15.

Ethics Point: This was discussed at the RUSO board meeting. Rollout is set for October 17. Initially all complaints filed by RUSO institutions will go to Regent Jan Gordan for review.

Title III Grants: A small Steering Committee will be formed to coordinate planning for implementation of the two Title III grants. Laura Boren will organize the small group. The release of publicity regarding these two grants was discussed. The steering committee will draft an initial PR release and all cabinet members will be asked to critically review the draft.

New ID Cards: The design for new ID cards was discussed. It was decided to let NSGA and student senate provide feedback on what design they liked best.

Non-Academic Program Reviews: David Koehn provided a draft to cabinet members of a review process for non-academic programs. Cabinet members were asked to review the draft and be ready to discuss at the next full cabinet meeting and to be thinking about the committee structure for review of plans.

IT Positions: David Koehn provided a handout of IT positions. There are currently 10 unfilled positions. 4 of these positions will be placed on hold and not filled immediately. 3 other positions have been reorganized to better meet our needs as we go forward with Banner and other IT projects. Eliminating these 3 positions will provide for an annual savings of \$103,000 including benefits.

ITV Rooms: David Koehn initiated a discussion regarding the continued use and upgrade of ITV rooms. We will ask the CTL Steering Committee to take the lead in recommending a strategy for transitioning away from ITV instruction and moving to desktop based technology.

Posted by Martin Tadlock at 9:31 AM 0 comments



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2011

Unlearning....education as training or education as something else?

You may want to read through these:

<http://www.truth-out.org/henry-giroux-democracy-unsettled-critical-pedagogy-war-youth/1313679897>

<http://www.truth-out.org/higher-education-under-attack-interview-henry-giroux/1303196400>

Henry was my adviser in my doctoral program at Miami University, and presented me with perspectives concerning the purposes of education that resulted in a dramatic change that went to the core of my belief system. Isn't that what a doctoral program should do...present you with perspectives that you have never considered previously? Isn't that what higher education should be about regardless of degree?

Or should we be about 'training' for the job market?

Being 'trained' to teach through my bachelor's program and 'trained' to be a school administrator through my master's degree program, I had to unlearn those patterns of thought and accompanying practice while in the doctoral program with Henry, Peter McClaren, and their colleagues. If I didn't unlearn, I was going to leave education.

You see, I enrolled at Miami U to pursue professional writing, NOT to continue

my path in education. I was disenchanted with teaching. However, I had to take ONE curriculum course and transfer it to Utah State University in order to complete my master's degree there. That one course was with Henry during the summer of my arrival at Miami U. During that course, an awakening occurred. I began to unlearn all of the technocratic, drill and skill, teach for the test, prepare for the world of work, etc. philosophical and practical beliefs ingrained in me throughout my own schooling. As a result, by the end of that course, I recommitted to staying in education as a professional path, applied for admission in the Educational Leadership Ph.D. program, and withdrew from the professional writing program.

After the two year residency in the Ph.D. program, I returned to teaching middle school for two years while completing my research and dissertation, and my approach to teaching and learning was a 180 degree change from the previous years. I was no longer disenchanted. Even middle school students need to unlearn as well as learn; just as I needed to do.

Why am I sharing this?

Because I still believe that Henry Giroux is more right than wrong. I still believe that we need to unlearn as well as learn during our lifelong pursuit of knowledge and understanding. I also believe that higher education is under attack, that the attack is purposeful, and that the ultimate goal is the privatization of education... commodification of courses, programs, and degrees...such that schooling, not education, is what we are all about. If schooling, then our work is to prepare people for jobs, jobs, jobs; get our students to pass the tests, tests, tests; and implement a curriculum that aligns with those tests.

What about democracy? Democratic processes? Democratic principles? Equity, justice, critique? Dialogical conversations? Inquiry? Freedom of expression? Freedom to speak without fear of losing your job or of receiving a bad grade?

Shall I go on?

Read what Giroux has to say in the above interviews.

Posted by Martin Tadlock at [4:48 AM](#) [0 comments](#)     

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2011

Skype Drop In Hours

We have tried to maintain a drop-in hour from 4-5 p.m. each day. Unless I am out of town for meetings, we have been able to keep that open.

I would like to provide that hour via skype as well, so that those in Muskogee and BA can chat if they wish. Therefore, skype me if you see me online from 4-5 p.m.

My skype name: martin.tadlock

Posted by Martin Tadlock at 9:41 AM 0 comments    

Campus Update 9.25.11

Dear campus community,

This is an exciting time for Northeastern State University! While we are busily engaged in Banner implementation, preparations for our NCATE and HLC accreditation visits, and a host of other projects, we continue to receive good news. I would like to share some of that good news with you.

Notification of two major grant awards

We received notification that at least one of the two U.S. Department of Education Title III grants applied for last year has been funded. We are anxiously waiting to hear on the second proposal. The already funded award will support our efforts to provide new approaches to mentoring and advising students, professional development for faculty and staff, consolidation of student support services already in place, and planning/design and initial staffing for a Student Success Center. As soon as we hear formally on the second proposal we will immediately form a small steering committee comprised of those involved in writing both proposals to design an implementation strategy, bring a broad base of faculty/staff/students/community members into the implementation process, define steps needed to accomplish the grants' objectives, and develop a timeline delineating tasks that must be accomplished and responsible parties for completion of those tasks.

Congratulations go out to those whose work was responsible in securing the initial \$1.8 million dollar award, including members of Research & Sponsored Programs, Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.

Approval of facilities projects

Our RUSO Board of Regents has approved several campus projects that will begin over the next few months:

1. Construction of an Events Center/Arena
2. Re-roofing of the Administration Building
3. Remodel of the Muskogee campus student services area to integrate Connors/NSU financial aid and enrollment services
4. Preliminary planning for two phases of construction for new student residential facilities on the Tahlequah campus, replacing antiquated residence halls
5. Fitness Center upgrades to the pool
6. Remodel of old OSBI facility for new National Science Foundation funded research labs
7. Remodel of space at the BA campus for creation of a new Low Vision Clinic for the community of Broken Arrow

Work continues on:

1. Cappi Wadley reading and technology center in the College of Education
2. Renovation of stadium press box
3. Construction of new entryway for soccer field
4. Completion of the Redmen Heritage Wall and Second Century Plaza for dedication this semester
5. Campus lighting enhancements
6. Parking lot upgrades for Garrison and Seminary Street parking lots on the Tahlequah campus
7. Center for Performing Arts green and circle drive construction
8. Completion of Cue/Bowl in the UC Basement and the BA Fitness Trail

Miscellaneous

- Friends of NSU have offered significant financial support for the Events Center that allows us to add approximately 20,000 sq.ft. of additional space to the original design to use for conferences, workshops, trade shows, career fairs, etc. We have friends of NSU who have offered financial support for a variety of other projects listed above in the facilities area as well. Many of our facilities projects would not be possible without that support. More information about that support will come throughout the year as appropriate.
- NSU will be a sponsor for the City of Tahlequah's winter festival this year. One component of that festival will be an ice skating arena at Norris Park from Thanksgiving through Christmas, open to the public. You will hear more about this as we approach the holidays. As a sponsor, NSU will host two 90 minute time periods for faculty/staff and students to skate for free.
- Due to implementation of a student fee for career services, we will be greatly expanding our Career Services office, providing additional support services for students on all three campuses in their pursuit of career readiness, internships, and career placement. We expect that students will be immediately connected to Career Services upon arrival at NSU and will sustain a close working relationship with center staff throughout their time with us.
- We are entering into an agreement with the Cherokee Nation and KATS to offer shuttle services from NSU Tahlequah to Reasor's/Wal Mart and along Downing Street on a set schedule several times each day for our students, faculty/staff. There will likely be a small charge to take the shuttle, but regular routes/times are being planned, and the shuttles should be running on those schedules within the next few weeks.
- We have permission from the City of Tahlequah to install two table-top speed bumps along Grand Avenue which runs through the middle of the Tahlequah campus. Those should be installed this semester, which we hope will greatly enhance pedestrian safety.
- We recently visited a FAB Lab (fabrication lab for developing prototypes) that is connected to middle/high school curriculums in math/science and is also used by community inventors/entrepreneurs, business and industry, and college/university students. We believe that there is high probability that we will secure funding for a FAB Lab in Muskogee and in Tahlequah soon. There are still conversations that need to occur, but we have high interest among some friends of NSU to pursue development.
- Our Strategic Enrollment Management Plan is nearing final draft. We plan to have that draft out to the campus governance groups soon for review.

Posted by Martin Tadlock at 4:38 AM 3 comments



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2011

[cabinet notes 9.13.11](#)

CABINET MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

Capital Projects Update: Current projects are progressing as planned (see attached).

Three important dedications are being planned in the near future. Second Century Square dedication is being planned for October 10 as part of homecoming events, the Deloache Soccer Sign dedication will be on October 23, and the Redman Heritage Wall dedication will be on the day of our last home football game which is November 12.

IKON Print Manager Software: Sometime in October 2011 IKON personnel will begin training that will allow for more effective utilization of our copiers as printing devices as a cost cutting measure. More information will be made available as this process is developed.

New Student/Employee ID Cards: A system is being implemented to replace the current ID cards for faculty, staff, and students. This updated system will be more secure by changing to the unique Banner ID number and removing all use of SSN references as an identifier.

In-House Consultant Usage: Discussions are ongoing regarding the use of in-house professionals for consulting purposes. With this, faculty and/or staff with expertise in needed areas will be given the opportunity to offer competitively priced consulting services. More information will be provided as these discussions are finalized.

Unduplicated Headcounts: Dr. Bahr explained how unduplicated headcounts have been produced in past. A specific matrix has been utilized for several years in the way each student is counted at each location enrolled. As our systems are updated, there is a potential to produce these numbers by different methods. After discussions of the need for changes, it was decided that no change will be made in this calculation method at this time.

Indigenous Center Update: Dr. Ron Cambiano briefed members on the history of plans for an Indigenous Center. Based on the work of Wilma Mankiller, while a Sequoyah Fellow at NSU, and a dedicated group of people, plans continue to develop this center.

Career Services Initiatives: Funds are now available to expand services for students at both the Broken Arrow and Muskogee campuses. Locations are being surveyed as

anticipated needs for space are evaluated. Discussions will be ongoing as plans develop.

Expanded Cabinet: Discussions continue on the outcome needs of this group. A more focused approach may lead to better group dialog that will produce effective and purposeful outcomes. Discussions will continue with this expanded group at our next meeting.

Business and Finance Updates

Major Initiatives

- Banner implementation – Finance system went live on July 1, and work continues to completely migrate accounting system into Banner. Teams continue to work extremely hard as we move towards scheduled go live dates for the Student, Payroll/HR and Development systems.
- Budget Oversight Committee is working on development of a budget plan for FY 2012-13.
- Compensation Review Committee is continuing to work on a comprehensive review of our employee classification and compensation system.
- Non academic program review – planning and development of evaluation criteria is ongoing.

Business Affairs

- Accounting department is focused on the annual financial audit currently underway by the accounting firm of Cole and Reed.
- Accounting department is continuing to test and adjust temporary interfaces between the new Banner Finance system and legacy systems. These systems are primarily the student accounts receivable system currently in Osage, and payroll which is currently in Oracle.
- The student ID staff are preparing for the process of re-carding the entire campus due to the transition to a Banner ID number from using the SSN for identification.
- The student accounts receivable (AR) staff are preparing for the conversion to Banner. This change will impact how students access their account information and how payments are processed.
- Payroll staff are also preparing for the Banner conversion, working toward changes in the time and attendance system.

Budget

- Budget staff is working on year end reporting to the State Regents, RUSO and other external entities.
- Also beginning work on the annual budget needs survey for fiscal year 2012-13 due within the next month to the OSRHE. This report submits prioritized request for new budget, mandatory cost increases and cost saving reporting for inclusion in the OSRHE annual budget request to the Legislature.

Information Technology

- Focusing on support for Banner implementation, Blackboard upgrade, degree audit upgrade, and housing management system implementation.

- Continuing campus discussions and dialog to put together a comprehensive IT governance plan for the University.
- Putting together an annual PC replacement plan for the university which will allow us to keep our equipment under warranty and current to allow upgrades to new software as available.

Purchasing

- Continuing to focus on building proficiency with the new Banner purchasing module, and assisting departments with training and assistance.
- Working on numerous significant project bids, such as the Housing master plan and the Multipurpose Events Center.

Grants and Contracts Administration

- Compiling requested information for Cole and Reed for the A-133 (Federal compliance) audit.
- Continuing new grant account set-up in Banner, and working through implementation with grant support staff.
- Close-out of grants for the fiscal year end (6).

NSU Facilities Management Project update for week of 09/12/2011

Administration Building Roof

- Finalizing Bid Package with Engineer and Roofing Consultant
- Has been submitted for Board approval

BA Fitness Trail

- Boy Scout Fence gate installation work delayed, work anticipated to begin week of 09/19/11

Cue Bowl Remodel

- Coffee Bar and Café millwork and equipment installation punch list scheduled for completion this week

Deloache Soccer Sign

- Masonry work underway
- Dedication ceremony tentatively set for October 10

Fine Arts Auditorium Seating and Renovation

- Row and seat numbers sequence has been determined, tags ordered
- Lighting system update budget proposal being developed

Fine Arts Green

- Dirt work and demolition underway
- Finalizing turn about layout

Fitness Center Renovation

- Shopping for pool filter system replacement
- Ordering replacement of carpet in pool, showers, locker room with rubber matting
- Estimating budget for improved ventilating system
- Estimating budget for additional heating for pool area

Garrison and Seminary Street Parking Lots

- Engineer finalizing Bid Package

Lighting Improvement Plan

- Consultant provided improvement recommendations
- Plans and budgets for improvement recommendations underway

National Science Research Lab

- Finalizing value engineering opportunities
- Has been submitted for Board approval

Redmen Heritage Wall

- Railing ordered, delivery to be determined
- Letter sign back ground installed

Stadium Press Box Renovation

- Interior remodel in progress

Wadley Reading Lab

- Construction of stud walls in progress
- Floor leveling of constructed stud wall space in progress
- Estimated project completion 12/14/11

NSU Update September 13, 2011

1. Tulsa Chamber of Commerce, working with other chambers in Oklahoma, will work with higher education to develop material for legislators informing them of value of degree attainment and its impact on Oklahoma's workforce.
2. Focus group discussion with Lumina Foundation concerning that organization's role in promoting degree attainment nationally. The Foundation is generating ideas from national focus groups of higher education leaders on how to meet the president's goal of 60% of U.S. adults holding a

degree by 2025.

3. OSRHE phone conference with university presidents concerning Oklahoma joining Complete College America and what that could mean for universities/colleges. OSRHE will receive funding to pursue initiatives that align with CCA purposes.
4. Cherokee Nation retreat with their governmental/education leaders was informative and invigorating. Partnerships with the CN are strong and we will pursue additional cooperative projects.

Student Affairs Updates 9/13/11

Civic Engagement:

NSU hosted National Day of Service programs on Tahlequah and Broken Arrow campuses. A total of 400 student participants assisted with highway clean-up, flower clean-up, cards for nursing home residence, etc. We had 100 students walk up to serve resulting in a shortage of worksites. Our goal next year is to increase worksite options and student participants.

Constitution celebration activities are planned for September 19 - 23 on Tahlequah and Broken Arrow campuses. Voter registration will be available on Tahlequah and BA campuses.

Service Sundays continues with upcoming service projects in partnership with Cherokee Nation.

"Be the Change" Leadership and Service evening conference is scheduled for Tuesday, September 19, 2011. Student Activities is coordinating the conference.

Saturday, Sept. 24 10am - 1pm Service Day with the Humane Society...sign up in Student Activities UC B01

Community Development:

Student Affairs staff are facilitating workshops for Greek student community on preventing sexual harassment. Additional workshops on focused on raising awareness of hazing, alcohol and drugs.

We are supporting HLC awareness efforts through Duck Tape Clothing Contest.

Clothing submissions are displayed in UC Bookstore window.

Student Engagement:

Student Advisory Board for BA campus is in the works. We have an active student group working through details.

NSGA-BA has officers and is moving forward with Fall Fest events.

NSGA - Tahlequah is working on their annual objectives. Freshmen senators have been elected.

Student Affairs staff are working with FYE with University Strategies programs and freshmen outreach efforts.

Student Disability Services has an increase in student registration for services.

Student Health Services staff are seeing record number of students.

Student Counseling Services (HawkReach) staff have an increase in clients.

University Relations Update for the week of Sept. 12

- Office visits were conducted in Washington, D.C., with Senator Inhofe, Congressman Boren and Congressman Sullivan in conjunction with the Oklahoma Fly-in. UR advanced the need for federal support in our programs including: STEM lab build-outs at NSU-BA; American Indian School of Health Professions at NSU-Muskogee; EB-5 reauthorization; Economic Development Administration demonstration grant; and

Department of Defense certification of NSU's online programs for delivery to military units world wide.

- Washington, D.C., conversations with Congressional delegation members and Oklahoma executive officers resurrected the potential for federal funding to support NSU's request for funding CNG buses as a shuttle service between Tahlequah and Broken Arrow. In 2009 the Oklahoma Department of Commerce approved \$800,000 for the purchases of four CNG buses, but the U.S. Department of Energy chose only to fund retro-fits with ARRA stimulus money. This latest initiative could capture some of those unspent funds for new buses if funding is still available.
- Using public databases we have identified about 3,000 NSU alumni who aggregately has sufficient resources to donate \$110 million to non-profits. By national formulas, at least \$20 million of that should go to higher education. We are completing our plan in the Foundation on how best to deploy our existing staff resources, and delineating those needed, to cultivate those donors.
- An alumni gathering in Washington, D.C., and a meeting with alumni in Oklahoma City have resulted in requests to form Alumni Chapters in both cities. We are exploring those opportunities, including identifying possible leaders as well as the clubs' respective purposes of networking, etc.
- Design and editing templates are underway in Communications for the Higher Learning Commission Self-Study, which is currently under review by an outside reviewer. Communications will receive the document on Oct. 1 for layout on the web, in a CD, and as a printed document. Preparation is underway to lay the groundwork for an expeditious project, which must be completed by Dec. 21 for final review before submission to the Site Review Team.
- Communications is reviewing its work flow and project coordination to share timelines and deadlines information with the campus community on new projects. Currently the department is managing 90-some writing, editing and design projects. With the Oct. 1 acceptance of the HLC study its web top priorities will be: No. 1, HLC site build out; No. 1, Departmental web pages build-out; No. 1, Lumina project build-out.
- University Relations has been asked to take the lead coordinating the development of a RUSO system campuses legislative strategy for 2012. This will include: scanning the environment and responding to unfounded criticisms of higher education; describing the specific strengths of the RUSO campuses as the primary educator of Oklahoma's workforce and improving its quality of life; and advocating for our appropriate share of state resources. Groundwork has already been laid and the RUSO board is expected to give its approval for this project to move forward and continue throughout the legislative session.
- The Marketing Communications committee will meet next week to review all collaterals publications currently published by NSU to support student recruitment. This inventory will check for branding and messaging consistency; identify gaps in our communications to prospective students; review this academic year's publication schedule for re-prints and print-on-demand; determine needed collaterals to establish a timely and manageable work flow through communications; and recommend budgetary funding for next fiscal year to more fully support our underfunded student recruitment publications needs.
- Numerous miscellaneous major institutional visibility projects are underway to garner additional media visibility for NSU through

recognition of our alumni and friends.

- Higher Learning Commission "Did U Know" planning continues with the Duct Tape Contest; Found Art Contest; DUK Dogs colleges promotional events; "I Want my HLC" video; and DUK quiz on the NSU phone application.
- Miscellaneous communications projects are underway, including "Reflections," which will be distributed to RUSO Regents and the broader community; "Imprints," the alumni magazine; and direct mail fundraising solicitations to support scholarships both to COE alumni and key alumni identified through the database review.
- An MOU is nearing completion on Foundation support to a Cherokee Nation scholarship program directed toward developing Cherokee students as future leaders through an on-campus Living/Learning community.
- Working with the Regional Plan, UR through its leadership on the Common Vision, Common Voice committee, advocated successfully for adoption in the 14-county's regional 2012 Legislative agenda its support for \$1.5 million in state funding to launch academic majors associated with the American Indian School of Health Professions program at NSU-Muskogee. Next week Dr. Dilene Crockett will facilitate the regional discussion on the constitution and bylaws of a proposed 501(c)(3) to serve as the coordinating organization for the regional plan.

Posted by Martin Tadlock at 3:02 AM 0 comments



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2011

Future funding models, etc.

At the OSRHE president's retreat yesterday, were told that the current legislative climate in OK indicates that higher education will be fortunate to receive a 'status quo' budget allocation next year. This means that despite the state having a budget that allows some catch up in allocation, we should not plan on an increase.

There is a lot of speculation and opinions as to why that is the case, and much of it comes down to statements that many legislators do not believe that higher education is efficient or accountable...that we don't produce enough quality graduates for the funds we receive, etc. Also, there are published reports showing that universities and colleges in OK are SPENDING more each year, not reducing their spending, and many are buying those reports on face value rather than giving them full consideration.

For example, I will go back to what I said in a previous post: NSU spends 18% less per student now than 5 years ago. We have absorbed state reductions and tried to limit tuition and fee increases as much as possible to protect students. Its pretty simple mathematics that will show anyone that data.

So why and how have we increased spending?

Our student enrollment has increased and our fixed costs have increased at a faster rate than has our 'income.' We have done a good job generating external funds through grants, contracts and giving to help offset those costs, but the simple explanation is that with more students and increased fixed costs, you spend more to cover those regardless of where the funds come from. With state allocation decreases, we must scramble to find other ways to cover the costs incurred with additional students and rising fixed costs. So yes, we are spending more, but not due to an increase in state allocation.

To go back to my summers working at Dairy Queen...we added staff in the summer to cover the costs of the rise in customer numbers as the road to the North Carolina beaches filled up. We bought more product in order to meet demand as well. I'm sure the utility bills went up during the summer as well.

Bottom line...we spent more in order to cover our costs which rose during the summer.

However, if we spend more as a university in order to accommodate more students and meet increasing fixed costs, we are criticized for being inefficient.

Fascinating.

Posted by Martin Tadlock at [5:41 AM](#) [0 comments](#)   

Reception in D.C.

The trip to D.C. this week resulted in meetings with Sen. Inhofe, Rep. Sullivan, and Rep. Boren. The conversations were centered around CNG busses that would run between our TQ and BA campuses. We are asking for matching dollars to support the purchase of 4 busses. Doing so would allow us to offer the shuttle services every hour of the day for students, faculty, and staff and greatly reduce travel costs since we would be fueling with CNG.

We also are seeking funds to build out STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) courses and programming at the BA and Muskogee campuses. STEM courses are the base for several new degree programs needed to support the workforce in Oklahoma and prepare students for careers in professional fields where we are experiencing severe shortages.

Both are supported by our congressional delegation and look promising.

We also hosted an alumni reception and several D.C. area alums attended, some who had not heard from NSU in over 30 years. They are a great group of people, dedicated to NSU, and interested in working with us for the benefit of students. We plan to continue hosting a D.C. event, and extend the radius out a bit in terms of future invites. We will be seeing some of those who attended the gathering on campus soon.

Posted by Martin Tadlock at [5:14 AM](#) [0 comments](#)   

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Posted by Martin Tadlock at [5:14 AM](#) [0 comments](#)



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Dear campus community, This is an exciting time for Northeastern State University! While we are busily engaged in Banner implementation, pr...

[President's position at NSU](#)

As interim president, you may know more about the search for a permanent president than I do, but here is what I know: 1. The closing date...

Assessment...prove me wrong

I am reading more on the limitations of our current fascination with standardized testing and end of course multiple choice tests. We have ...

Transparency

In 2011, what does transparency actually mean? In the past, it typically meant disclosing information rather than covering it up. I rememb...

Skype Drop In Hours

We have tried to maintain a drop-in hour from 4-5 p.m. each day. Unless I am out of town for meetings, we have been able to keep that open....

Unlearning...education as training or education as something else?

You may want to read through these: <http://www.truth-out.org/henry-giroux-democracy-unsettled-critical-pedagogy-war-youth/1313679897> htt...

More on standardization with some tossed in additions

I have written about what I believe is the destructive nature of standardization while at the same time stating that we must raise expectatio...

cabinet notes 9.13.11

CABINET MEETING NOTES Tuesday, September 13, 2011
Capital Projects Update: Current projects are progressing as planned (see attached). ...

Service Day

Today, NSU's Student Government Association and Division of Student Affairs sponsored a Day of Service. I believe they had around 100 pre-r...

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