

Draft – Awaiting Formal Approval
**MINUTES OF THE
HIGHER EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**
Room 210 East Senate Building, State Capitol Complex
February 10, 2016

Members Present: Sen. Stephen H. Urquhart, Co-Chair
Rep. Keith Grover, Co-Chair
Rep. Jon E. Stanard, House Vice Chair
Sen. Jim Dabakis
Sen. Ann Millner
Sen. Howard A. Stephenson
Sen. Jerry W. Stevenson
Sen. Evan J. Vickers
Rep. Kim Coleman
Rep. Fred C. Cox
Rep. Jack R. Draxler
Rep. Kay L. McIff
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss
Rep. Derrin Owens
Rep. Mark A. Wheatley

Members Absent: Rep. Daniel McCay

Staff Present: Mr. Spencer Pratt, Fiscal Manager
Ms. Jill Curry, Fiscal Analyst
Ms. Lorna Wells, Secretary

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.leg.utah.gov.

1. Call to Order

Co-Chair Urquhart called the meeting to order at 8:18 a.m.

2. Requests for Appropriation [Requests for Appropriation](#)

a. Utah Campus Compact–Sen. Millner. Sen. Millner and Alexis Buckman, Executive Director, Utah Campus Compact explained the unique partnership with 12 institutions. Ms. Buckman said that Utah Campus Compact is in its 20th year. She discussed the strengths and benefits of this program. Sen. Millner stated that they are requesting \$30,000 ongoing.

b. Strategic Workforce Investments (SB 103)–Sen. Millner. Sen. Millner explained the need to forecast future workplace needs. She discussed some shifts in aerospace and defense as well as silicon slopes. She explained the \$5 million on-going request and the \$50,000 GOED request. She stated that this bill partners with stackable credentials. Rep. Cox asked if students are allowed to get school credit for working in the field. Sen. Millner answered that nothing in the bill would prevent that from happening. She stated that this could definitely be embedded in a stackable credential pathway.

c. DSU and UU Health Care Partnership–Sen. Urquhart. Frank Lojko, DSU Vice President of Student Services, Dr. Vivian Lee, Senior VP, U of U Medical School explained the proposal regarding the \$1.5 million ongoing funding request. Mr. Lojko gave an overview explaining the tremendous need for medical professionals in Southern Utah and the state-of-the-art health care facility next to Dixie Medical Center.

Dr. Lee explained the U of U's commitment to this program. They have specifically looked at the physician's assistants program. They hope this which will be the launching pad for other programs such as occupational therapy and physical therapy. Co-Chair Urquhart appreciated the collaboration between the two schools.

d. Law for U – Sen. Urquhart Robert Adler, Dean, U of U Law School thanked Sen. Urquhart for his support. They are requesting \$1 million in seed funding for a two-part program. This will improve access to affordable legal services for average Utahans and provide on-the-job training for law students. There would be a supervising experienced attorney, two recent graduates, and two interns. He discussed three major goals. He explained that Phase 2 of the program would be for a rural placement program. He said that many attorneys in these rural areas are looking to retire. They would work to match recent graduates who are looking to work with smaller law firms. The seed grant funding would help this transition take place, the new attorney could learn the business, earn respect of the client base, and then over time be in a position to take over the practice.

e. Huntsman Cancer Institute – Sen. Urquhart. Susan Sheehan, President, Huntsman Foundation and Dr. Mary Beckerle, CEO, Huntsman Cancer Institute reviewed the four phases of the Huntsman Cancer Institute Campus. She thanked the Legislature for its support. Ms. Sheehan explained that phase four is now under way. She recognized the key partners for this project and stated that the building is owned by state of Utah. They are requesting \$2.24 million one-time and \$1.76 ongoing. They are trying to restore the funding to levels from 2006. She discussed the economic impact of the Huntsman Cancer Institute and stated that they have risen to the top of cancer research in the nation. They have received the highest designation possible as a comprehensive cancer facility. She stated that state funding is very important because federal funding is limited and diminishing. She reviewed the past 20 years at the Huntsman Cancer Institute in a video presentation.

Rep. McIff thanked them for their presentation stating that it was a wonderful facility. He asked about the building that is to be completed in March of 2017. Dr. Beckerle answered that building is the new Primary Children's Cancer Center. It is a \$125 million project, of which the state has appropriated \$20 million. The balance is being funded by private philanthropy. Rep. McIff asked how the Huntsman Cancer Institute is perceived by other Cancer Centers. Ms. Sheehan indicated that they are nationally recognized in certain areas.

Co-Chair Urquhart asked about the relationship between the Huntsman Cancer Institute and the U of U. Dr. Beckerle indicated that Huntsman Cancer Institute is part of the U of U and is owned by the State of Utah. Ms. Sheehan indicated that the foundation has contributed \$1.5 billion dollars to the Huntsman Cancer Institute since 1995. She stated that \$20 million of the

\$405 million total price for buildings was appropriated with state funds. Annually, they do receive some appropriation from specific taxes (cigarette, tobacco settlement) and the \$1.76 million. On an annual basis, they receive about \$9 million in state funds. Co-Chair Urquhart reminded committee members that this is a phenomenal asset to the state. Vice Chair Stanard mentioned how much more real this becomes when family members are involved.

f. Utah Academic Library Consortium (UALC) – Rep. Grover. Ms. Jennifer Pastenbaugh, Chair, UALC, Mr. Jon Ostler, Snow College Director of Libraries, Ms. Alberta Comer, Dean, Marriott Library at U of U made this presentation. Ms. Pastenbaugh thanked the committee for its support and explained that funding is absolutely essential. She stated this consortium involves all of the university libraries in the state. They are requesting \$750,000 ongoing to purchase STEM related journals and databases. Mr. Ostler said UALC supports the State of Utah’s STEM initiatives and having access to these databases allows Utah’s programs to be the best. He reported that the cooperative purchasing in the consortium is a tremendous savings for Utah taxpayers. He stated that the last fiscal increase was in 2008; and they suffered cuts in FY 2010, 2011, and 2012. Ms. Comer gave more detail about what would be purchased. Rep. Owens praised the consortium for their good work.

g. Utah Poison Control Center (UPCC)– Rep. Eliason. Rep. Eliason explained some of the [Poison Control Center Talking Points](#). He stated prior to two years ago, seven cents per month per telephone was assigned to the poison control center. Two years ago, this was changed to a General Fund appropriation. The funds in the UPCC were insufficient to maintain the current level of services.

Ms. Barbara Insley Crouch, Executive Director, UPCC, thanked the committee for its support. She gave a brief background and history of the UPCC [Poison Control Center Presentation](#). She stated that outreach is critical to make sure public is aware of the service. The request is for approximately \$626,000 ongoing. She mentioned the statewide benefits and the value to the state. She discussed the critical funding gap.

Sen. Dabakis mentioned that when the Legislature made the switch of the seven-cent fund, they were told this would not impact the poison control center. He asked if that was incorrect. Ms. Crouch indicated that there has been a 20 percent cut in funding. They are barely able to make their budget. She stated that the audit mentioned the significant turnover in staff. They need the funding in order to maintain the current level of service.

h. Opioid Risk Assessment Study – Rep. Daw. Dr. Trish Henrie-Barrus and Dr. Chris Stock gave a description of the importance of this study. Dr. Barrus mentioned that 46 people in the nation and one person in Utah die each day from opioid poisoning. They need to know more about the psychological model and to identify who is at risk. She reported that depressed patients are 33 percent more likely to be non-compliant. This money would fund a study to compare risk assessment, urine testing, and a controlled substance database. Dr. Stock explained that the proposal is in two parts; the first request is for \$40,000 and second part is for \$35,000. This part is to target prescribers and primary care providers to provide more tools for them.

Rep Moss thanked the presenters for addressing this serious problem. Rep. Draxler asked who will direct the study. They answered that Dr. Barrus will direct the first part and Dr. Stock will direct the second part through the U of U.

i. American Legion Boys' State and Girls' State–Rep. Oda. Rep. Oda explained this request. Mr. Terry Schow, American Legion, explained the week long program where students earn political science credits. He stated that Weber State has been a great partner of this program. He introduced Bob Jones, Director, American Legion Boys' State who reported that the request is for \$50,000 ongoing to be provided to WSU for administrative costs. Ms. Cary Fisher, Director, American Legion Girls' State, explained the program is hosted by an all-volunteer staff. Mr. Jack Fernald, 2016 Lieutenant Governor, 2016 Boys' State, described his experience and the benefits he received from participation.

Co-Chair Urquhart mentioned the great experience his wife had at Girls' State. Rep. Draxler said that he was a Boys' State graduate where he had his first seed of public service, and what a great program it was for him. Sen. Dabakis mentioned the opportunity he had to speak at Boys State. Mr. Jones invited committee members to join them at WSU any time between June 13 and June 17, 2016. Sen. Millner stated that WSU has been honored to host these programs

j. Higher Education Scholarships for Students with Intellectual Disabilities–Rep. Edwards. Rep. Edwards explained the partnership with SWATC for this program. Mr. Brennan Wood, SWATC Campus President, discussed the success of the program roll out. He listed the courses that are available for these individuals. Rep. Edwards stated that they are requesting \$200,000 one-time funding to allow this program to continue. She mentioned that they have support from the Utah Disability Council. She stated that they have 50 students currently enrolled and 95 on a waiting list. She discussed the success in having the various partners of this program. Sen. Vickers mentioned that he is aware of the very positive effect on those 50 individuals and their families.

k. Medical Expansion for SB 39 – Reinstatement of Dental Benefits Dr. Glen Hanson, Dean of the University of Utah Dental School explained that this is a reinstatement of dental benefits to individuals who are disabled and blind. He discussed the partnership between the U of U School of Dentistry and the Legislature passing a resolution for this great need. He stated that these individuals have been going without dental care for 10 years. He mentioned the great importance of dental care for an individual's overall health. The School of Dentistry provides these services at no additional cost to the state. They are asking for the opportunity to use their money to restore these dental benefits in the Medicaid population. He mentioned that the School of Dentistry was built with gifted money and without state funding.

Co-Chair Urquhart asked about the cost of the building. Dean Hanson answered that it was \$35 million and has been in operation for three years. They have a residency program and faculty practice who would be part of this program. He stated that it uses state funds to get a federal match. Co-Chair Urquhart how much state money is used to see patients. Dean Hanson answered that \$1.5 million of state funds is used to take care of about 35,000 patients who are outside of the area that the School of Dentistry can serve.

3. UCAT FY 2017 Budget Requests

a. UCAT Overview. Pres. Brems explained the UCAT FY 2017 Budget Request. He expressed appreciation for last year's funding and highlighted the students of the year from each of the eight campuses.

b. Administration. Pres. Brems listed these budget priorities: 1) compensation, which would include a three percent merit-based salary increase, and 7.6 percent health insurance premium increase; 2) \$9 million for campus program expansion; 3) \$1 million for performance-based funding (completion, placements and membership hours); 4) \$1.2 million ongoing funding for equipment upgrade and replacement; and 5) \$3.9 million system request specifically for Custom Fit; for focus on IT and Manufacturing

Mr. Todd Bingham, President, Utah Manufacturer's Association, explained the importance of the Custom Fit program and the direct economic growth for the state. He asked for funding to allow this program to grow

Pres. Brems listed three other funding requests: 1) \$250,000 for SIS maintenance and expansion of the Northstar software program; 2) \$400,000 for marketing and messaging; and 3) \$120,000 in-house legal counsel. He discussed one-time requests for \$3 million for equipment needs and \$400,000 for an update financial aid software for about \$400,000

Co-chair Grover said that the chairs will present the committee's recommendations to EAC. He expressed concern about the \$1 million for performance-based funding because the recent audit showed that the UCAT reporting mechanism isn't where it should be.

c. Uintah Basin ATC. President Aaron Weight introduced Vice President of Student Services, Bob Peterson and Mike Angus, Superintendent for Interwest Energy. Pres. Weight indicated that the recent decline in demand for crude oil has led to a sharp economic downturn. He stated that the local unemployment rate has skyrocketed. They have discussed the importance of UBATC to the community and the educational value. He mentioned several programs that have been improved and expanded. He explained the process of stackable credentials that can transfer to USU. He introduced Chandler Vincent who was the UBATC student of the year. Their appropriation request of \$950,000 is for five specific programs. Mr. Angus discussed the value of automation and IT to the workforce. He asked the committee to give strong consideration to this request for needed upgrades.

d. Tooele ATC. President Scott Snelson introduced Paul Ogilvie, Executive Director, Rocky Mountain Care. Pres. Snelson said the budget request was for \$800,000 ongoing and \$375,000 one-time for programs in the construction trades area, the motor sports academy and the nursing pathway. Mr. Ogilvie described their new state-of-the-art facility which will open in 2017. He explained the need for quality nurses will double as well as the CNA's and LPN's. He discussed the nursing pathway.

e. Southwest ATC. President Brennan Wood discussed the new health professions programs and technology building. Last year, they requested \$750,000 equity funding to

support expansion of programs in their new building. They received \$191,500. They have expanded their culinary arts program. He discussed discontinued programs, major changes to programs, and new programs. He discussed pathways with school districts and USHE partners.

Sen. Stevenson asked for clarification about last year's equity funding. Pres. Wood mentioned the great partnership with USHE and specifically with Dixie State University. Pres. Wood reported that their budget request is for \$865,000.

Mr. Dennis Moser, Executive Director, Utah Central for Rural Health discussed the resurgence of the nursing shortage and the increase in needed LPN's and RN's.

Vice Chair Standard said that the new SWATC building is a great facility. They need funding to expand the programs to be housed in the new facility.

f. Ogden/Weber ATC Pres. Collette Mercier introduced Shawn Owens, Ogden/Weber student of the year. He discussed his path to OWATC. Pres. Mercier indicated that their highest priority was the composites technician expansion. The next priorities would include pharmacy technician, industrial automation/robotics, software coding camps, emergency medical service, institutional requests and outcome reporting.

g. Mountainland ATC Mr. Kirt Michaelis, VP of Finance discussed the tremendous enrollment increases and thanked the committee for equity funding. He reported on the FY 2017 budget request emphasizing information technology and advanced manufacturing programs. Mr. Jason Love, Assistant Vice President for Training and Development at XactWare, a 30-year Utah based software company in building construction and property insurance industry software. He mentioned the aggressive competition for the talent pool in software development. He said the collaboration between education at MATC and industry was a great partnership.

h. Dixie ATC Pres. Kelle Stephens said that they have broken ground on the Dixie ATC. She discussed the tremendous population growth. She mentioned increases in specific industries, headcount membership hours, certificates. She stated that the funding curve has also been upward. They have received over \$1 million and added several programs. She discussed the fast track programs. They are asking for campus support of \$750,000 and programmatic support of \$935,000.

MOTION: Sen. Dabakis moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Co-Chair Urquhart adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.