

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Sloan at 3:30 P.M. on March 16, 2005 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Deb Hollon, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Art Griggs, Office of the Revisor
Linda Reed, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dennis Kuhlman, Dean of the College of Technology and Aviation at Kansas State University in Salina.
Patrick Rinearson, Kansas State University in Salina
Monica Chester, Kansas State University in Salina
Seth Short, Kansas State University in Salina
Nancy Milleret, Kansas State University in Salina
James B. Reed, Kansas State University in Salina
Mike Paul, Kansas State University in Salina
William Klein, Kansas State University in Salina
Aaron Grunden, Kansas State University in Salina

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Sloan opened the meeting with the introduction of Dennis Kuhlman, Dean of the College of Technology and Aviation at Kansas State University in Salina, and students who worked directly with Mission Control and Ground Crew on the Virgin Atlantic GlobalFlyer. Dean Kuhlman and the students presented a brief presentation sharing their experiences and excitement with the GlobalFlyer project.

Dean Kuhlman stated how extremely proud he is of his students and the job that they did in the project. Dean Kuhlman stated that if you look at aviation and where we are right now, Orville and Wilbur Wright started with KittyHawk, and this GlobalFlyer record event may very well be the last major milestone that will be achieved in general aviation. In the future most of the records are going to be associated with space, and exploration of a new frontier.

Dean Kuhlman had students introduce themselves, state their home town and major course of study. Students who worked directly with Mission Control and Ground Crew: Patrick Rinearson, Monica Chester, Seth Short, Nancy Milleret, James B. Reed, Mike Paul, Aaron Gruden and William Klein. Dean Kuhlman also acknowledged students who worked with the project but were unable to attend: Andy Andoga, Joshua J. Hill, and Landon Truetken.

Questions were asked of the Dean and students by committee members.

Representative Horst presented certificates for each student on behalf of the committee for their contribution during the historic flight piloted by Steve Fossett.

Representative Horst also presented a copy of an article from the Congressional Record of March 10, 2005, congratulating pilot Steve Fossett and the Community of Salina, Kansas to the Committee. ([Attachment 1](#))

Chairman Sloan stated that he appreciated Representative Horst bringing the Dean and students to our committee. Chairman Sloan thanked them for joining us and wished them well in their careers.

The Chairman asked the committee to turn their attention to **SB 74; State educational institutions; conversion of positions to classified service.**, regarding proposed amendments.

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Minutes of the House Higher Education Committee at 3:30 P.M. on March 16, 2005 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

Representative Carlin presented to the Committee additional language, page 1 - line 39 regarding the vote by the employees. Such an election shall be precipitated by an official announcement 90 days prior to when an election is to take place. (Attachment 2)

Representative Carlin moved that we amend the bill adding language to give 90 days notice prior to an election taking place.

Representative Horst seconded the motion.

Representative Sharp questioned whether it might be better served by reducing the days from 90 to 45.

Representative Carlin responded to Representative Sharp's statement, indicating she would like to find a time frame that would work with university officials and employees to put it on their agenda for discussions to educate members.

The motion carried.

Representative Horst moved to introduce language stating that after a vote of approval, the state educational institution shall provide all affected employees with opportunities for input into the development of the system of administration and the personnel policies and procedures relating to their employment. (Attachment 3)

Representative Storm seconded the motion.

Representative Storm stated to Representative Horst that the development of the plan that will be presented to Board of Regents already spells it out in the bill.

Representative Horst asked the committee for permission to withdraw her motion.

Representative Storm seconded the motion.

Without objection, Representative Horst moved that it be reintroduced to read "after a vote of approval the State Educational Institutions shall provide affected employees with opportunities for input into the development of the plan that would be presented to the Board of Regents".

Representative Storm seconded the motion.

Discussion was held by the committee regarding the procedure that will be followed when bringing the idea and plan to classified employees at universities.

The motion passed with a No vote noted by Representative Sharp.

Mr. Griggs suggested a bill drafter comment in line 26 after the word develop, by inserting "plan for". Without objection by committee members, this change was accepted as a technical amendment.

Representative Sharp moved that language state in line 31, impletation and development of such plans must involve members of the classified employees.

Representative Horst seconded the motion.

Motion was opened for discussion.

Chairman Sloan asked staff to read back the motion. Mr. Griggs stated in line 31 following the procedures period by inserting development of such plans shall be subject to input of the affected classified employees.

Representative Sharp moved the motion.

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The motion passed.

Chairman Sloan asked the committee to address the bill.

Representative Huff moved that we move **SB 74** as amended in favor for passage.

Representative Horst seconded the motion.

The motion carried.

The Chairman asked Representative Phelps to carry the bill.

The Chairman opened the hearing on **HB 2489**, Tax levy authority for governing bodies of technical colleges and school districts.

Chairman Sloan presented a proposed substitute bill for **HB 2489** to the committee.

Chairman Sloan indicated that it is not the intention of the Chairman to have **HB 2489** worked this session.

The Chairman stated that representative's of technical colleges and schools including Wichita, Manhattan, Liberal, Beloit, Johnson County, Topeka, and representatives for the association are wanting something tangible that they and their individual boards can review until January to establish what will work for them and the Board of Regents. (Attachment 4)

Representative Sharp moved that the committee adopt the balloon so that it can now be studied, whether it be in the interim committee or whether by the affected parties.

Representative Huff seconded the motion.

The motion passed.

Chairman Sloan adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.