

*Ohio Learning Network Governing Board Meeting
December 16, 2003*

OhioLINK
2455 North Star Rd.
Columbus, OH 43221

OLD BUSINESS

- Minutes of [September meeting](#) - approved unanimously.
- New Board member Monica Posey, Academic Vice President at Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, was welcomed to the meeting.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

- Academic Outreach
 - Smarthinking Contract – Kate Carey reported the total buy is for 1000 hours. She noted that Smarthinking is an online tutoring service in math and English and the first contract was purchased in the spring and given to campuses. The Board agreed the Executive Committee would determine the minimum dollar amount for contracts brought to the Board and bring it to the Board for approval in March.
 - HEI – OLN Preliminary Data - Academic Outreach Committee Chair Tom Sink reported that the HEI – OLN group is focusing on developing a query function within the course enrollment data and Provosts will be contacted in order to get their campuses to report data. It was suggested that institutional research directors, admissions directors, and academic officers also be contacted. It is expected that accurate enrollments will be available by December 2004.
 - E 4 ME Launch Plans - Carey noted that the plans have structure but will change as activities change. Potential partners in the project include Ohio College Access Network (OCAN), Ohio Community Computing Network (OCCN), Ohio Cooperative Extension Service (OCES) Learning Centers, public libraries, Ohio Jobs/Family sites, and college and university distance learning units. Because the bulk of the work is with the learner, partnering with communities is a primary concern. External funds will be sought. Carey reviewed phases one, two and three of the project and noted the four E 4 ME teams: project team, instructional team, marketing team, and CMS team. The Partnership Agreement was reviewed.
 - IT Clearinghouse Update - George Steele reported that the general design of the Clearinghouse and the web portal is moving forward. He said a blueprint is drafted outlining the responsibilities of the IT Manager and fifty-three applicants were received for the position. Steele said interviews should begin in mid-January, with a hiring date of mid-February. He reviewed the background paper describing the IT certificate, noting the focus of the certificate is to create a different way of offering content to those who need it and reach out to provide certificates to employees in Ohio.
- Professional Development
 - Learning Communities FY04 RFP - Professional Development Committee Chair Mary Lou Holly reported the Committee met and worked on the RFP. She said structural elements were built into the RFP, including a kick-off to bring together people who will receive grants so that a network may be built, as well as having a gathering following the Learning Institutes. Holly noted this year's RFP is more specific regarding the description of the Learning Community Readiness, project goals, and the shape of end products. The Board approved [the RFP](#) as written.
- Ohio Commons Update

- Technology Initiatives Proposal - Carey reviewed the “Supplement to OBR Technology Initiatives Grant Proposal” and said costs are still uncertain, but there should be flexibility with grant funds.
- OCDE Conference Update - Judy Leach reported plans are coming along very well for the 2004 Conference, to be held at the Hilton at Easton Town Center on March 8-9. She reviewed the [draft program](#) and listing of [pre-conference workshops](#) and said both documents, as well as [online registration](#), are on the [conference web site](#).
- Institutional Cultural Changes – Paul Gaston said the influence OLN might have as policies and practices change to reflect using technology in teaching and learning should become a more prominent part of OLN’s structure. The Board discussed how OLN can have a positive point of reference and what OLN’s role might be. Gaston noted this topic will stay on the Board’s agenda and should be given attention.

NEW BUSINESS

- Certify U! Concept Paper - Carey suggested the Board take the Concept Paper and the conversation regarding market assessment held during the work meeting and look at those in conjunction with concepts of the IT Clearinghouse. She asked if OLN has identified the right products for the right people and ideas were offered. The Board approved a resolution of support and endorsement of the Certify U! Concept Paper. The Board agreed that Carey should further explore new methods and opportunities in collaborative outcomes and report to the Board in March.
- Out-of-State Degrees – OhioLearns! - Gaston reported this issue was recently prompted by the request from Mansfield University (PA) to be publicized by OLN. The online program, a Master of Education with a specialization in School Library and Information Technologies degree, was authorized by OBR to offer in Ohio an online graduate program. He said the question for the Board is if a program accepted in this way should be listed in the [OhioLearns!](#) catalog. It was noted that currently OLN has no guidelines regarding listing out-of-state degrees. Gaston said the Board would revisit this issue in March.
- [OBR Articulation and Transfer Report](#) - Carey announced that OLN has been asked to research the possibility of brokering content across states and asked for volunteers from bordering counties of bordering states. Ray Cumiskey and Tony Atwater agreed to look at this issue and bring a recommendation to the Board in March.
- Higher Education Reauthorization Bill - Gaston reviewed the “Ten Possible Inferences for the Future That Chief Academic Officers and Others Might Draw From Present Consideration of Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act” document. He said the assignment was to draw from legislation, issues that should give pause in higher education. He said the most important point of the document is that it might not be the worst thing if next summer this vote has not taken place, given some of the alternatives that have been proposed.

The next full board meeting will be held during the OCDE 2004 Conference at Hilton Columbus at Easton Town Center on March 7-9, 2004.