



Moving Ideas Into Action
1985 - 2005

Our Report Card

20 Years of Progress: "Approaching Our Centennial"

www.okacademy.org

The Oklahoma Academy for State Goals
120 East Sheridan, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK 73104



From the President

Summer 2005

Dear Fellow Oklahomans,

The Academy was "reborn" in 1985 and has lived an interesting, exciting, and productive life since then. Now we are approaching our centennial in 2007. We do not always know what the future will bring ... but we do know that Oklahoma's future will be better and brighter because of the Academy's work.

Someone once said ... "to live is to change ... and to live well is to change often". The Academy has "lived well" for the past 20 years. We have done so because we have been willing to change and adapt to the public policy landscape changes that have occurred.

We all recognize that Oklahoma is not the same place as it was 20 short years ago. Many of us would like to say it is better. We would all say it is different; and we have to use different techniques and methods to positively impact public policy in our state. We want to make sure Oklahoma today is a better place than yesterday ... and will be a better place to live tomorrow.

This archival summary of our 1985-2004 activities shows how we have evolved our annual conference formats; how we have learned to supplement our conferences with interim meetings and forums; and how we have chosen to focus on topics depending upon the need. It also shows that we were not satisfied just to champion popular issues ... but that we have also tried to broach complex and difficult issues such as family, teen pregnancy, crime, environment, privatization, and telecommunications.

There are five purposes for this publication:

- To answer the question of "What does the Academy do?"
- To develop an information document for potential Academy investors and members.
- To enhance the collective knowledge of the Academy's membership.
- To provide an archival record of the Academy's scope of work.
- To provide a "report card" on Academy actions.

So, here's our 1985-2004 historical summary that we call "Our Public Policy Progress: Approaching Our Centennial". Please join us to influence Oklahoma public policy achievements in the new century. Remember, the first person that steps forward can be a leader; and you can leave your mark permanently on Oklahoma's public policy landscape if you so choose.

Sincerely,

Julie Knutson
President & CEO
The Oklahoma Academy



2005 Academy Leadership

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Report Card Definitions

The following facing pages depict our Academy's "report cards". They summarize each Academy conference and selected major event. They include a narrative and a summary chart. The following definitions explain the headings on the "report card" for each conference/Town Hall summary:

THINK ... the Academy has internally researched, discussed and refined specific public policy recommendations for Oklahoma.

Formal Research	Information prepared by a research institution, i.e. the Hudson Institute
Position Papers	Researched information/opinion prepared by the speakers or presenters on a given topic
Member Initiated	Conference topic idea generated by Academy membership

ACT ... the Academy has organized to promote its ideas to external organizations and policymakers; and has undertaken specific actions to promote the Academy's public policy recommendations.

Task Force	An Academy task force was put together to further develop the recommendations
Public Debate	The conference issue(s) were presented in pro and con format or point-counterpoint format within the conference, or further "debated" through the task force work or in other settings
Formed Partnership	Engaged other groups, businesses, agencies, etc., to work with us in an implementation process

DO ... the Academy's public policy recommendations have been significantly addressed by appropriate parties. This could be in forms of legislation or other specific measureable actions.

Direct Influence	The resulting recommendations and/or action was a direct result of the Academy's recommendation and effort
Indirect Influence	The resulting recommendations and/or action was picked up (or handed over to) and then carried out by another entity
Endorse Others	Our recommendations were directly supporting the recommended actions of another group or groups



1985 Oklahoma Revenue

Site / Date

Saint Gregory's College, Shawnee, OK. December 6, 1985.

Purpose

To examine Oklahoma's revenue sources and primary users.

Conference Moderators

Robert Henry, (Oklahoma City) and Alexander Holmes, (Norman).

Academy Staff

No hired staff at this time

Key Members

Gene Rainbolt (Shawnee); Doug Fox (Tulsa); Anne Schneider, PhD (Stillwater); Alexander Holmes, PhD (Norman); Kent Olson, PhD (Stillwater); Larkin Warner, PhD (Stillwater); Bill Robinson (Oklahoma City); Nancy Anthony (Oklahoma City).

Guests / Speakers

Terry Sanford, President, University of North Carolina; Oklahoma Governors Henry Bellmon, Raymond Gary and George Nigh.

Conference Narrative

This conference marked the re-birth of the Oklahoma Academy.

A faculty group from Oklahoma State University provided research reports concerning Oklahoma revenue issues. The product of the conference was a two-volume publication entitled "Oklahoma Revenues: Sources and Uses." It is believed that this report is the most substantial publication produced by the Academy to-date. Its contents remain relevant today.

The significance of the research effort was that Oklahoma leaders were just beginning to adjust to the recent energy "bust" ... and its impacts on the public revenue of Oklahoma. This conference also helped provide guidelines for the necessary tax policy changes required to maintain required public revenue.

State Policy Impact

The Academy organized itself as a non-partisan, public policy, citizen based "think tank." As such, we know of only five other states who are served by similar organizations.

1985 Oklahoma Revenue



THINK			ACT			DO		
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<i>Formal Research</i>	<i>Position Papers</i>	<i>Member Initiated</i>	<i>Task Force</i>	<i>Public Debate</i>	<i>Formed Partnership</i>	<i>Direct Influence</i>	<i>Indirect Influence</i>	<i>Endorse Others</i>
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MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Ad valorem tax reform

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OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

State road/highway financing reform

Broaden sales tax base

Expand public revenue-K-12 schools

Better define roles-higher education missions

Improve social services



1986 Economic Expansion

Site / Date

Kellog Center, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK. November 21-22, 1986.

Purpose

To examine and develop appropriate and progressive strategies for economic expansion.

Conference Chair

Frank Horton, PhD, President, University of Oklahoma.

Key Members

Doug Fox (Tulsa); Gene Rainbolt (Shawnee); Anne Schneider, PhD (Stillwater); Kent Olson, PhD (Stillwater); Larkin Warner, PhD (Stillwater); Alexander Holmes, PhD (Norman).

Guests / Speakers

Beldon Daniels (Center for Community Development); Walter Harper (Walter Harper and Associates); Jack Wimer (Midwest Research Institute); and George Keller (The Barton-Gillet Company).

Conference Narrative

Many consider this conference to be one of the Academy's most effective conferences in terms of concrete and measurable short-term results. The major achievement was the creation of an organized state Department of Commerce to coordinate economic expansion efforts. Several other recommendations set a tone of forceful future action that resulted in permanent policy change.

A tone set for the Academy was to plan in a proactive manner.

State Policy Impact

The Academy was the catalyst in the creation of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce.

Our recommendations resulted in H.B. 1444, which created:

- Oklahoma Futures - 21 person advisory board for the business plan of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce
- Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science & Technology (OCAST)
- University Endowed Chairs



1987 Oklahoma's Future

Site / Date

Kellogg Center, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK. October 12-13, 1987.

Purpose

To utilize previously developed studies concerning the expansion of Oklahoma's economy; and to incorporate them in a contemporary study that will identify where change is necessary and where the status quo is preferable.

Conference Chair

Richard Poole, PhD, Oklahoma State University

Key Members

James E. Barnes (Tulsa); Alexander Holmes, PhD (Norman); Doug Fox (Tulsa); Gene Rainbolt (Shawnee); Larkin Warner, PhD (Stillwater); Joseph H. Williams (Tulsa); and Nancy Anthony (Oklahoma City); Julie Conatser, Executive Director; Ginger Coker, Assistant to the Executive Director.

Guests / Speakers

Tom Bell (former President, Hudson Institute); Lamar Alexander (former Governor, Tennessee); U.S. Senator David Boren (Oklahoma).

Conference Narrative

This conference developed a solid set of public policy recommendations. It marked the initial Academy activity in commissioning formal public policy research. The Hudson Institute was engaged to provide a strategic vision and plan for Oklahoma. That plan was presented verbally by the Institute President as the conference's main keynote address. This conference was the forerunner of the 1988 conference that resulted in successful efforts to enact major education enhancement legislation. The direct impacts included the strengthening of the Cabinet System and major systemic improvements in the higher education process, as well as emphasizing the importance of diversification of resources.

State Policy Impact

The Academy commissioned the most comprehensive strategic plan to date, to help Oklahoma adapt to a changing economy and society.

1987 Oklahoma's Future



THINK			ACT			DO		
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<i>Formal Research</i>	<i>Position Papers</i>	<i>Member Initiated</i>	<i>Task Force</i>	<i>Public Debate</i>	<i>Formed Partnership</i>	<i>Direct Influence</i>	<i>Indirect Influence</i>	<i>Endorse Others</i>
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MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Create Constitutional Study Commission
- Strengthen Cabinet system
- Systemic restructuring of K-12 system
- Ad valorem tax reforms

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OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

- Require / raise minimum ACT scores
- Minimum standards for school boards
- Fully fund university endowed chairs
- Continue economic development actions
- Diversify agricultural / rural development
- Renew emphasis on community development



1988 K-12 Education

Site / Date

Sheraton Hotel Downtown, Oklahoma City, OK. November 11-12, 1988.

Purpose

To provide an opportunity for open and frank discussion by educators and the private sector. Issues included those areas necessary for a better pre-school through 12th grade education system for Oklahomans.

Conference Chairs

Frank McPherson, Chairman & CEO, Kerr-McGee Corporation (Oklahoma City).

Key Members

Nancy O'Brian (Norman); Fred Wood (Norman); Doug Fox (Tulsa); Alexander Holmes, PhD (Norman); Frank Horton, PhD (Norman); Sharon Lease (Oklahoma City); Gene Rainbolt (Shawnee); Richard W. Poole, PhD (Stillwater); John Folks (Oklahoma City); Pat Henry (Lawton); Julie Conatser, Executive Director; Ginger Coker, Assistant to the Executive Director.

Guests / Speakers

Owen Bradford Butler (former Chairman & CEO, Proctor & Gamble, Cincinnati); Dr. Chester E. Finn (Washington, DC); Dr. James Popham (California); Dr. Arthur Wise (Washington, DC); Dr. J.L. Curcio (Florida); Fern O. Marx (Massachusetts); Dr. Anne Campbell (Nebraska); and Nellie Weil (Alabama).

Conference Narrative

This conference is most often referred to as a landmark Academy action in that the recommendations made were included in extraordinarily high profile legislation ... that being House Bill 1017. The bill was a landmark piece of legislation that fundamentally restructured the financing and curriculum for Oklahoma's K-12 education system.

There were many participants and advocates of educational reform. To claim the Academy was solely responsible for resultant reform may be overstating the case. However, Academy research, public debate, and committed membership through and after the conference contributed immeasurably to the statewide awareness that educational reform was vital for any hope of economic development and improvements in quality of life. These efforts significantly assisted Task Force 2000 in its efforts to craft and promote HB 1017.

State Policy Impact

The conference recommendations resulted in the formation of Task Force 2000. The Task Force studied measures to improve K-12 education. Task Force 2000 included many of the Academy recommendations in their draft of HB1017.



1989 Developing Human Potential

Site / Date

Student Union Conference Center, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK. November 3-4, 1989.

Purpose

To examine the areas of health care, crime & punishment, and family & social issues.

Conference Chairs

Robert Sandemeyer, PhD, Dean, College of Business Administration, Oklahoma State University; Joseph H. Williams, Chairman & CEO, The Williams Companies (Tulsa).

Key Members

Gene Rainbolt (Shawnee); Doug Fox (Tulsa); Roger Webb (Tahlequah); Lee Symcox (Norman); William G. Thurman, MD (Oklahoma City); Robert Fulton (Oklahoma City); and Michael Lapolla (Tulsa); Julie Conatser, Executive Director; Venita Ivy, Assistant to the Executive Director.

Guests / Speakers

Henry G. Cisneros (former Mayor, San Antonio, TX); William A. Raspberry (Washington Post); George Singer (Singer Bros., Tulsa); Robert Henry (Attorney General, State of Oklahoma).

Conference Narrative

This conference was the Academy's first effort in areas other than pure education and/or economic development actions. It was borne out of a growing sense that social issues must be addressed in addition to previous Academy agendas.

The effort was subject to criticisms of being too broad and philosophical. In truth, these comments probably reflected the frustrations of dealing with seemingly intractable social problems while expecting spectacular short term results. Subsequent Academy conferences sharpened the focus of these social issues. For example, the 1996 conference will be devoted to crime, detention, prevention, and community involvement.

State Policy Impact

This conference was the first organized effort of the Academy to deal with difficult social issues, such as teen pregnancy, crime, and health care. The Academy recommendations were a catalyst for Oklahoma's "Due by Two" childhood immunization campaign and skills development programs for inmates. The prenatal care recommendations were the subject of a national editorial published by William Raspberry of the Washington Post Group.

1989 Developing Human Potential



THINK **ACT** **DO**

Formal Research Position Papers Member Initiated Task Force Public Debate Formed Partnership Direct Influence Indirect Influence Endorse Others

MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Health Care

Increase access to prenatal / perinatal care

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Families

Promote strengthening of family / community values

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Crime Prevention

Coordination of law enforcement, social, educational agencies
Emphasize drug abuse education and prevention

	•						See 1996 Conference	
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OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Health Care

Increase water fluoridation in Oklahoma
Develop behavioral pediatrics endowed chairs
Provide increased access to childhood immunizations
Convene tort reform conference
Increase awareness of rural health Issues

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Families

Introduce flex schedule, extended hours, after school programs
Develop & initiate family planning,
 comprehensive health & decision skills
Strengthen community drug treatment programs
Promote subsidized workplace childcare
Energize child support payment collection systems
Study causes of death in youth
Establish K-12 drug prevention programs

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Crime Prevention

Emphasize crime prevention over detention
Skills development programs for inmates
Create state "Drug Czar"
Create and fund K-12 drug education task force

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1990 Oklahoma's Future

Site / Date

Sheraton Century Center Hotel, Oklahoma City, OK, November 8 and 9, 1990.

Purpose

To determine the necessary expenditures, and prioritization of needs, in the areas of health care, criminal justice, state infrastructure, and higher education in this decade.

Conference Chairs

Chair, James R. Tolbert, III (Oklahoma City); Vice-Chair, Rodney E. Evans, PhD (Norman).

Key Members

Doug Fox (Tulsa); Hershel Lamirand (Oklahoma City); Larkin Warner, PhD (Stillwater); Michael Lapolla (Tulsa); Roger Webb (Tahlequah); Craig Knutson (Oklahoma City); Hans Brisch, PhD (Oklahoma City); George Kaiser (Tulsa); Howard Barnett (Tulsa); Robert Henry (Oklahoma City); Gary Maynard (Oklahoma City); and William G. Thurman, MD (Oklahoma City); Julie Conatser, Executive Director; Venita Ivy, Assistant to the Executive Director.

Guests / Speakers

Drs. Frank and Deborah Popper (Rutgers University, New Jersey); Dr. Walter Hill (U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC); and Dr. Pat Choate (Washington, DC).

Conference Narrative

The Academy again discussed certain social issues ... revisited education ... and introduced "state infrastructure" issues to the public policy arena. As a result, the conference was again thought to be too broad and ambitious. And it probably spread Academy resources too thin.

That said, selected conference finding proved to be the forerunner for significant Academy activities in the near future. One example is the Academy's successful involvement in the promotion of telecommunications planning and applications in Oklahoma.

State Policy Impact

This conference launched telecommunications planning onto the Oklahoma public policy landscape. Other recommendations resulted in legislation authorizing regional infrastructure planning; and the Academy's endorsement of a statewide higher education bond issue.



THINK **ACT** **DO**

Formal Research Position Papers Member Initiated Task Force Public Debate Formed Partnership Direct Influence Indirect Influence Endorse Others

MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Education

- Establish goal to fund education per "peer institutions"
- Promote a major higher education Capital Bond Issue
- Clarify missions / roles of Colleges/Universities

Infrastructure

- Initiate state-wide Infrastructure For Planning/Funding
- Create State Bond Pool for community level infrastructure
- Build/support 21st Century telecommunications infrastructure

Crime Prevention

- Create separate Department of Juvenile Corrections
- Centralize all state law enforcement agencies

Health Care

- Increase access to prenatal / perinatal care
- Strive for immunization rate of 90% of two-year olds

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Education

- Raise university tuitions to national average
- Increase emphasis upon higher ed telecom networking
- Increase funding for endowed chairs & student scholarships
- Expand higher ed minority student/teacher recruitment

Infrastructure

- Induce private telecommunications investment via incentives
- Promote public awareness re: long-term infrastructure

Crime Prevention

- Introduce DARE program into all K-6 schools by 1993
- Create separate cabinet-level Department of Children
- Contract with existing private correctional facilities
- Expand funding of literacy programs in correctional facilities

Health Care

- Formal prioritization of Medicaid expenditures
- Induce formation of affordable health insurance plans
- Pursue significant federal Medicaid waivers

	<i>Formal Research</i>	<i>Position Papers</i>	<i>Member Initiated</i>	<i>Task Force</i>	<i>Public Debate</i>	<i>Formed Partnership</i>	<i>Direct Influence</i>	<i>Indirect Influence</i>	<i>Endorse Others</i>
Establish goal to fund education per "peer institutions"		•	•		•	•			•
Promote a major higher education Capital Bond Issue		•	•		•	•			•
Clarify missions / roles of Colleges/Universities		•	•		•	•			•
Initiate state-wide Infrastructure For Planning/Funding		•	•		•	•	•		
Create State Bond Pool for community level infrastructure		•	•	•	•	•			
Build/support 21st Century telecommunications infrastructure		•	•	•	•	•		•	
Create separate Department of Juvenile Corrections		•	•		•	•			See 1996 Conference
Centralize all state law enforcement agencies		•	•		•	•			See 1996 Conference
Increase access to prenatal / perinatal care		•	•	•	•	•		•	•
Strive for immunization rate of 90% of two-year olds		•	•	•	•	•		•	•
Raise university tuitions to national average		•	•	•	•	•			•
Increase emphasis upon higher ed telecom networking		•	•	•	•	•		•	•
Increase funding for endowed chairs & student scholarships		•	•	•	•	•		•	•
Expand higher ed minority student/teacher recruitment		•	•	•	•	•		•	
Induce private telecommunications investment via incentives		•	•	•	•	•	•		
Promote public awareness re: long-term infrastructure		•	•	•	•	•		•	
Introduce DARE program into all K-6 schools by 1993		•	•		•	•		•	•
Create separate cabinet-level Department of Children		•	•		•				•
Contract with existing private correctional facilities		•	•		•				•
Expand funding of literacy programs in correctional facilities		•	•		•			•	•
Formal prioritization of Medicaid expenditures		•	•	•	•	•			•
Induce formation of affordable health insurance plans		•	•	•	•	•			•
Pursue significant federal Medicaid waivers		•	•	•	•			•	



1992 Oklahoma Policies

Site / Date

Westin Hotel, Tulsa, OK. March 26-27, 1992.

Purpose

Debate where privatization, and other alternatives to government involvement, may play a more significant policy role in Oklahoma.

Conference Chairs

Chair, George Singer (Tulsa); Vice-Chair, V. Burns Hargis (Oklahoma City).

Key Members

Howard Barnett (Tulsa); Bob Dauffenbach, PhD (Stillwater); Nancy O'Brian (Norman); Ron Howell (Tulsa); Robert McCormick (Stillwater); Vince Orza (Oklahoma City); James R. Tolbert, III (Oklahoma City); Scott Holden (Ardmore); and Michael Lapolla (Tulsa); Julie Conatser, Executive Director; Venita Ivy, Assistant to the Executive Director.

Guests / Speakers

George F. Will (Washington Post); Robert W. Poole (The Reason Foundation, California); Robert L. Cuttner (The New Republic, Massachusetts); E. S. Savas, (Baruch College, New York City); Lewis Finch (Colorado); and John Chubb (Washington, DC).

Conference Narrative

The 1992 conference introduced policy issues that were truly too far ahead of their time. In 1992, the prevailing public policy debates centered upon more effective and efficient government ... while in 1994, the national debate was precisely about this conference topic. That is ... what is the proper role of government?

The topic of this conference precluded measurable results such as specific legislation. However, for those that participated and learned, it was an excellent primer for the national and state debates to come several years later.

It also demonstrated the predictable difficulty of exploring this public/private issue within an Academy membership that includes equally effective leaders from both the public and private sectors. It was noted that it was difficult to keep partisanship permanently submerged.

State Policy Impact

The Academy posed the important questions of government's role in our lives, an issue discovered nationally two years later. The Academy Tourism Task Force fostered significant public-private cooperation and coordination. These efforts resulted in a focused and contemporary effort to utilize tourism as a valid and powerful economic development strategy.



1992 Telecommunications

Site / Date

Center for International Trade & Development, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK. December 6, 1992. The Academy co-sponsored this event with Oklahoma Futures, and did likewise with the subsequent Governor's Telecommunications Policy Retreat in February, 1993 at Shangri-La, Oklahoma.

Purpose

To encourage leaders in business, education, health care, and government to explore the competitive advantages of advanced telecommunications.

Conference Chairs

G. Douglas Fox (Tulsa); and Greg Main (State Secretary of Commerce, Oklahoma City)

Steering Committee

Co-Chairs: G. Douglas Fox (Tulsa) and Greg Main (Oklahoma City)

Co-Directors: Kathleen Miller (Oklahoma State Department of Commerce, Oklahoma City); Julie Conatser (Norman).

Members: Marshall Allen (Stillwater); Travis Bosley (Duncan); Charles Cole (Tulsa); Bill Crawford (Frederick); Don Geis (Norman); Craig Knutson (Oklahoma City); Michael Lapolla (Tulsa); James Logan, MD (Tulsa); Barry Moore (Oklahoma City); Jim Phillion (Tulsa); Jack White (Oklahoma City); Danny Williams (State Legislature). Resource People: Cecil Carter (Oklahoma City); Brian Gauler (Stillwater); Bill Shafer (Oklahoma City); Julie Conatser, Executive Director; Claudia San Pedro, Assistant to the Executive Director; and Venita Ivy, Assistant to the Executive Director.

Guests / Speakers

George Gilder (Discovery Institute, Seattle); Jay Sanders, MD (Medical College of Georgia); Art Schiller (Value Creation Strategies, Cambridge, Massachusetts); Bill Miller (State of Nebraska); George Connick (University of Maine at Augusta).

Conference Narrative

This conference was held in addition to the Academy's traditional annual effort. It represents the quintessential model of the Academy's role in Oklahoma public policy development. The convergence of several forces allowed the Academy to serve as an important catalyst to promote telecommunications policy. These forces included: (1) a strong interest by Governor Walters (2) an involvement by Oklahoma Futures and the Secretary of Commerce and (3) a desire to promote telecommunications by selected legislators.

The Academy introduced the idea of this conference; convened the steering committee; and provided conference organization and support. The result was a mid-year conference attended by over 400 Oklahomans, most of whom were in leadership positions in business, education and health care. This Conference helped further the advancement of both wireless- and wired-distance learning applications across the state. It provided the awareness, knowledge, and national contacts to successfully germinate and develop multiple telemedicine projects/networks statewide. The subsequent Policy Retreat resulted in several pieces of legislation being advanced and a compromise on tariffs (rates) for dedicated lines.

State Policy Impact

The conference convened a diverse and competitive group of telecommunications providers, regulators, and users. This was the first time in the history of our state that such a group was formed to collaboratively recommend responsible telecommunications policy. Recommendations provided a strong impetus to the development of the Oklahoma Telemedicine Network; and provided the key components to the update to the State's five-year strategic economic plan. Of the 19 action steps in the plan, six relate to telecommunications.

1992 Telecommunications



THINK			ACT			DO		
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<i>Formal Research</i>	<i>Position Papers</i>	<i>Member Initiated</i>	<i>Task Force</i>	<i>Public Debate</i>	<i>Formed Partnership</i>	<i>Direct Influence</i>	<i>Indirect Influence</i>	<i>Endorse Others</i>
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MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

The Oklahoma 2007 Vision should be pursued
 Governor should host a formal telecom policy retreat

N/A	N/A	•	•	•	•	•		
N/A	N/A	•	•	•	•	•	•	•



1993 State Budget Needs

Site / Date

Lincoln Plaza Hotel, Oklahoma City, OK. April 1-2, 1993.

Purpose

To provide an arena for educating the general public on the public policy debate and decisions required to assemble a responsible budget for state government.

Conference Chair

Robert Henry, Dean, Oklahoma City University Law School.

Key Members

Doug Fox (Tulsa); Larkin Warner, PhD (Stillwater); Alexander Holmes, PhD (Norman); V. Burns Hargis (Oklahoma City); Julie Conatser, Executive Director; Venita Ivy, Assistant to the Executive Director; and Donya Rankin, Assistant to the Executive Director.

Guests / Speakers

Hans Brisch, PhD (Chancellor, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education); Sandy Garrett (State Superintendent for Education); Larry Fields (Director, Oklahoma Department of Corrections); Phil Watson (Director, Oklahoma Department of Human Services); and Garth Splinter (Health Policy Advisor to Governor Walters).

Conference Narrative

This was the first conference to meet, discuss, and make very specific recommendations concerning public expenditures in a specific fiscal year. It was modeled after the process featured by "60 Minutes," where citizens make the public financing tradeoffs to result in a balanced federal budget. The Academy model sought to understand ... then balance the proposed state budget.

Such an exercise was intended to be instructive to state officials ... but in retrospect, it was extraordinarily difficult to educate, sensitize, and poll such a large group in such a short time.

In the end, the process was instructive and enlightening for the active participants. The value was educational rather than developmental of specific input or policy.

State Policy Impact

This conference was intended for internal education, rather than a specific public policy impact.

1993 State Budget Needs



THINK			ACT			DO		
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<i>Formal Research</i>	<i>Position Papers</i>	<i>Member Initiated</i>	<i>Task Force</i>	<i>Public Debate</i>	<i>Formed Partnership</i>	<i>Direct Influence</i>	<i>Indirect Influence</i>	<i>Endorse Others</i>
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MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Forward conference-developed budget balancing recommendations to the Governor, state legislative appropriations leadership and the Office of State Finance.

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1993 The Oklahoma Summit

Site / Date

Chapman Center, University of Tulsa. October 7, 1993.

Purpose

To convene a forum for elected officials, and representatives of community and state leadership, in order to identify and discuss key issues and areas related to the upcoming legislative session.

Conference Chairs

G. Douglas Fox (Tulsa) and V. Burns Hargis (Oklahoma City)

Key Members

The Academy leadership invited the participation of 125 Oklahomans who represented the broadest cross-section of Oklahoma perspectives. Julie Conatser, Executive Director; Venita Ivy, Assistant to the Executive Director; and Donya Rankin, Assistant to the Executive Director.

Guests / Speakers

Paul Tsongas (former U.S. Senator and the Concord Coalition)

Conference Narrative

This was the second "supplemental" conference undertaken by the Academy as it continued to explore new formats and processes. One experienced Academy leader called this effort the "zenith" of the Academy's efforts. The Summit format included:

(1) The attendance and participation of the Governor, Cabinet officers and legislative leadership.

(2) Each participant was allowed 90 uninterrupted seconds to state their most important public policy concern. This process resulted in all attendees being active participants ... and active listeners. It also afforded an excellent way to poll the group and crystallize priorities.

The final product was a non-partisan ... but relevant ... conversation directly with state leaders in an effort to directly influence the state's public policy agenda. And it proved to be the first steps in overdue tort reform and Worker's Compensation program reform.

State Policy Impact

This was the first effort to organize a direct dialog between Academy members and key Oklahomans, Governor Walters, and elected state officials. The Summit provided direct input to the Governor's State of the State Address.

1993 The Oklahoma Summit



THINK

ACT

DO

*Formal
Research*

*Position
Papers*

*Member
Initiated*

*Task
Force*

*Public
Debate*

*Formed
Partnership*

*Direct
Influence*

*Indirect
Influence*

*Endorse
Others*

MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Direct input to Governor's upcoming State of the State Address

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1994 Entrepreneurs & Small Business

Site / Date

Adams-Mark Hotel, Tulsa, OK. April 11-12, 1994.

Purpose

To examine and highlight what Oklahoma is doing ... and needs to be doing ... to support and nurture the growth of entrepreneurial and small business development.

Conference Chairs

Joe D. Tippens (President, Chisholm Private Capital, Tulsa).

Key Members

Gene Rainbolt (Shawnee); Doug Fox (Tulsa); Steve Kreidler (Edmond); Craig Knutson (Oklahoma City); Frank X. Marshall (Norman); Jayne Jayroe (Oklahoma City); Ken Ferguson (Altus); and Jean Gumerson (Oklahoma City); Julie Conatser, Executive Director; Venita Ivy and Donya Rankin, Assistants to the Executive Director.

Guests / Speakers

Fran Tarkenton (Atlanta); Bob Hisrich, MIXON Chair of Entrepreneurship, Weatherhead School of Management, Case Western Reserve University (Cleveland, OH); Rebecca Livengood, Knowledge Systems & Research (New York); Blaine Wesner, Austin Ventures (Austin, TX); Bruce Shewmaker, New Century Management (New York).

Conference Narrative

This was the first-ever statewide conference highlighting the role that small business and entrepreneurial elements do and can play in impacting the growth of the state's per capita personal income relative to the nation's. The conference focused on capital and managerial programs, many currently in place, that could, with modification, more efficiently and effectively assist the primary sector of this state's economic base. With over 96% of all establishments in the state employing 50 or fewer employees, modifying existing and developing new tax, investment, and regulatory incentives and assistance programs, targeted toward the entrepreneurial and small business sector, were deemed essential if this state was to break from its historical trend of incremental slow growth.

State Policy Impact

This conference focused upon how the small business and entrepreneurial sector could become the primary source of wealth and job creation in Oklahoma. The recommended creation of an Entrepreneurial Institute was a further refinement of Action 10 from Oklahoma Futures' Strategic Economic Development Plan, 1993-1998. The conference also resulted in the development, and subsequent publication of, "A Compendium of State and National Entrepreneurial & Small Business Programs", operating within the private and public sectors, and in academic institutions.

1994 Entrepreneurs & Small Business



THINK ACT DO

Formal Research Position Papers Member Initiated Task Force Public Debate Formed Partnership Direct Influence Indirect Influence Endorse Others

MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Oklahoma should establish an "Entrepreneurial Institute"
- Promote in-state investor tax incentives to generate risk capital

- Establish organization to formalize a network of risk capital
- Tort reform should become a major focus of the Academy

- State Worker's Comp Fraud Unit should be fully funded
- Remove all barriers to University-based technology transfer

	Formal Research	Position Papers	Member Initiated	Task Force	Public Debate	Formed Partnership	Direct Influence	Indirect Influence	Endorse Others
Oklahoma should establish an "Entrepreneurial Institute"		•	•	•	•	•			
Promote in-state investor tax incentives to generate risk capital		•	•	•	•	•			
Establish organization to formalize a network of risk capital		•	•	•	•	•			•
Tort reform should become a major focus of the Academy		•	•	•	•	•			
State Worker's Comp Fraud Unit should be fully funded		•	•	•	•	•		•	•
Remove all barriers to University-based technology transfer		•	•	•	•	•		•	•
Establish "clearing house" for entrepreneurial assistance		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Provide a forum for public regulators/small business		•	•	•	•	•		•	•
Expand annual funding of OCAST by \$3.5 million		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

- Establish "clearing house" for entrepreneurial assistance
- Provide a forum for public regulators/small business
- Expand annual funding of OCAST by \$3.5 million



1995 Ideas for Better Government

Site / Date

Clarion Hotel, Oklahoma City, OK. November 2-3, 1995.

Purpose

To highlight the four winning ideas from the Academy's Better Government Competition through a "point-counterpoint" discussion.

Conference Chairs

V. Burns Hargis (Oklahoma City) and Rodger Randle (Tulsa).

Key Members

Jane Jayroe (Oklahoma City); Claudean Harrison (Lindsay); John Kennedy (Oklahoma City); Lee Paden (Tulsa); Nancy Newton (Oklahoma City); and Sandra Gragg (Oklahoma City); and Gary Martin (Enid); Julie Conatser, Executive Director; Venita Ivy, Assistant to the Executive Director; and Beverly Herring, Executive Assistant.

Guests / Speakers

Brian Urich (Tulsa); Shane Woolridge (Oklahoma City); Dean Van Trease (Tulsa); Martin Garber (Bartlesville); Joe Hagy (Oklahoma City); Frederick Drummond (Pawhuska); Alexander Holmes, PhD (Norman); Wes Stucky (Ardmore); and Jim Moore (Oklahoma City).

Conference Narrative

This conference represented an experimental "third model" of Academy conference organization. Rather than develop policy recommendations from directed research and moderated discussion ... the Academy reached out to its membership (and to all Oklahomans) for their individual ideas on the development of "better government" — at the local, county and state levels.

Those with the ideas judged to be the best were provided with cash rewards.

The process was modeled after a similar effort in Massachusetts promoted by the Pioneer Institute. Our Oklahoma process proved to be more popular, and resulted in more participation (157 proposals submitted) than was experienced in Massachusetts' first year.

State Policy Impact

This was the first effort of its kind in Oklahoma. The competition allowed all Oklahomans to specifically and directly impact public policy.

1995 Ideas for Better Government



THINK			ACT			DO		
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<i>Formal Research</i>	<i>Position Papers</i>	<i>Member Initiated</i>	<i>Task Force</i>	<i>Public Debate</i>	<i>Formed Partnership</i>	<i>Direct Influence</i>	<i>Indirect Influence</i>	<i>Endorse Others</i>
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MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Winning Idea

Restructuring County Government

First Runnerup

Transformation of the Grand River Dam Authority

Second Runnerup

Privatization of some duties of fire departments

Third Runnerup

Modify assessment testing of adult learners

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•	•	•						
•	•	•						



1996 Building Safer Communities

Site / Date

Downtown Doubletree Hotel, Tulsa, OK. May 7-8, 1996.

Purpose

Study the relationships of prevention, detention, and community action in making Oklahoma communities safer places to live.

Conference Chairs

Co-Chair, Larry Fields (Oklahoma City); Co-Chair, Kay Goebel, PhD (Oklahoma City).

Key Members

Lloyd Alexander (Bartlesville), Ray Bitsche (Oklahoma City), Angela Box, Sue Buck, Dawn Byram (Oklahoma City), Jan Creveling (Tulsa), Jack Cowley, Julian Fite, Larry Fields (Oklahoma City), Sandy Garrett (Oklahoma City), Kay Goebel (Oklahoma City), Claudean Harrison (Lindsay), Mike Henrichs (Helena), Jayne Jayroe, Patricia Knaub, Craig Knutson (Oklahoma City), Karen Langdon (Tulsa), Mike Lapolla (Tulsa), Ed Long (Garber), Melissa McLawhorn, (Oklahoma City) Roger Mitchell, Paul O'Connell (Oklahoma City), Judy Rothbaum (Oklahoma City), Arthur Sargent (Oklahoma City), Virginia Sasser, Nevaleen Selmat, Kathy Sheegog, Stephen Smith (Oklahoma City), Warren Thomas (Midwest City), Ann Thompson (Tulsa), Holley Urbanski (Altus), Richard Wintory (Oklahoma City); Julie Conatser, Executive Director; and Beverly Herring, Executive Assistant.

Guests / Speakers

Gary Becker, PhD (Chicago, IL); Mary Ann Greene (Dallas, TX); Tandra Riggs (Dallas, TX); Richard Wintory (Oklahoma City); Judge Gary Lumpkin (Oklahoma City); Richard Mulcrone (Minneapolis, MN); Chief Rueben Greenberg (Charleston, SC); John Donohue (Palo Alto, CA); Judge Tom Crewson (Tulsa); Drew Edmondson, (Oklahoma City); Chief Ron Palmer (Tulsa); Larry Schweinhart (Ypsilanti, MI); Elaine Johnson (Washington, DC); Daniel Benjamin (Clemson, SC); and Pastor Wayne Gordon (Chicago, IL).

Conference Narrative

The 1996 conference studied the criminal justice system, and public safety issues, for the first time in the Academy's history. The program emphasized the interrelated dynamics of prevention, detention and community action. Additional emphasis was placed upon human behavior and development, and how they relate to criminal activity. A special section of the program detailed the physiology of early childhood development and how to maximize intellectual and behavioral development.

State Policy Impact

Oklahoma is dealing with prison overcrowding; additional funding of the prison system, and very high incarceration rates. Clearly there must be a broader emphasis than simply arrest, conviction and incarceration. Therefore, the Academy Task Force is emphasizing prevention and community action. It was noted at the conference that "communities receive exactly the amount that they tolerate. Therefore emphasis is being given to celebrate communities [police, courts, schools and citizens] who are successful in long term reductions of their crime indices.

Communities Successfully Fighting Crime

The Academy selected, and honored, 35 Oklahoma communities who have demonstrably reduced crime over the three preceding years. This analysis was made using 1992-95 Index Crime Data from the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation. The "Academy Award Communities" were: Alva, Atoka, Barnsdall, Bixby, Broken Arrow, Cordell, Edmond, Fairfax, Forest Park, Glenpool, Haskell, Hulbert, Inola, Jenks, Kingston, Laverne, Lexington, Luther, Marietta, Maysville, McLoud, Minco, Moore, Mooreland, Noble, Norman, Okeene, Oologah, Piedmont, Ringling, Tulsa, Walters, Waukomis, Westville, and Yale.



1997 Education

Site / Date

The Kirkpatrick Center, Oklahoma City, OK. April 3-4, 1997.

Purpose

To help Oklahoma's educational system of K-12, vo-tech and higher education meet the needs of students today and tomorrow.

Conference Chairs

Dr. Nancy O'Brian (Norman) and Mr. Cliff Hudson (Oklahoma City)

Key Members

Dr. Marshall Allen (Stillwater); Mr. Ron Bogle (Oklahoma City); Dr. Gene Callahan (Tulsa); Mr. Gary Clark (Oklahoma City); Ms. Kay Floyd (Oklahoma City); Ms. Claudean Harrison (Lindsay); Dr. Jerry Hill (Broken Arrow); Ms. Kim Holland (Tulsa); Dr. Joe Kinzer (Tonkawa); Mr. Craig Knutson (Oklahoma City); Dr. Sharon Lease (Oklahoma City); Mr. Jim Ratchford (Oklahoma City); Mr. Wayne Rowley; Mr. Stephen Smith (Oklahoma City); Dr. Don Sullivan (Lawton); Mr. James R. Tolbert III; Mr. Mickey Thompson (Tulsa); Ms. Holley Urbanski; Dr. Dean Van Trease (Tulsa); Dr. Larry Williams (Tahlequah); and The Honorable Penny Williams (Tulsa); Julie Knutson, Executive Director and Beverly Herring, Executive Assistant.

Guests / Keynote Speakers

Mr. Rob Gilmore, Colorado Business Commission (Denver, Colorado); Mr. Jamie Vollmer, Vollmer & Associates (Fairfield, Iowa); Mr. Sanford McDonnell, past-chairman and CEO of McDonnell Douglas Corporation (St. Louis, Missouri); The Honorable Peggy Kerns, Colorado House of Representatives (Aurora, Colorado); Dr. Courtney Price, Entrepreneurial Education Foundation (Denver, Colorado); and Dr. Kent Lashley, Northeastern State University (Tahlequah, Oklahoma).

Panelists & Session Speakers

Mr. Rudy Alvarado, LB&M Associates (Lawton), Dr. Ann Benson, Dept. of Vocational & Technical Education (Stillwater); Dr. Hans Brisch, Chancellor, OK State Regents for Higher Ed. (Oklahoma City); Dr. Floyd Coppedge, Secretary of Education (Oklahoma City); Ms. Linda Davidson, Phillips Petroleum Co. (Bartlesville); Mr. Stephen Duer, Oklahoma State University (Stillwater); The Honorable Sandy Garrett, State Superintendent of Public Instruction (Oklahoma City); The Honorable Peggy Kerns, Colorado House of Representatives (Aurora, Colorado); Dr. Joe Kitchens, Western Heights Public Schools (Oklahoma City); Dr. Anne Hodges Morgan, OK State Regents for Higher Education (Norman); Ms. Faye Ann Presnal, Oklahoma State University (Stillwater); Dr. Courtney Price, Entrepreneurial Education Foundation (Denver, Colorado); and Ms. Marion Tucker, Northern Oklahoma College (Tonkawa).

Conference Narrative

What role can education play in enhancing the quality of current and future jobs in Oklahoma? Recognizing the extreme importance of education, from early childhood through life, this conference focused upon the key role education plays at all levels in creating productive, skilled people who, in turn, enhance and create a richer Oklahoma.

State Policy Impact

The Academy has a strong past regarding educational issues. The 1997 Education conference focused upon the important link between education and economic development. Many recommendations made have been brought forth by the legislature, governor and other elected officials many times. Both the Governor and the State Superintendent have plans for increasing student achievement, the "Star System" of rating child care centers has been established, early childhood brain research is being incorporated into legislation, legislation considering charter schools is being considered, and insurance for needy children has been expanded.



1998 Technology and Prosperity

Site / Date

Downtown Doubletree Hotel, Tulsa, OK. April 2-3, 1998.

Purpose

Develop a public policy strategy for leveraging emerging technology applications to accelerate prosperity in Oklahoma.

Conference Chairs

Chair, Michael Lapolla (Tulsa); Co-Chair, Craig Knutson (Oklahoma City); Steve Kreidler (Edmond).

Key Members

Advisory Committee: Robert Allen (Tulsa); Marshall Allen (Stillwater); Rudy Alvarado (Oklahoma City); Marty Belsky (Tulsa); Doug Branch (Oklahoma City); Socrates Choumbakos (Oklahoma City); Bill Coberly (Tulsa); Don Geis (Norman); Randy Goldsmith (Tulsa); MG Al Goodbary (Stillwater); Jim Howard (Tahlequah); Kathleen Miller (Oklahoma City); Pat Milton (Tulsa); Cindy Rolfe (Edmond); Gordon Rudd (Tulsa); Carolyn Sales (Oklahoma City); Bill Towle (Oklahoma City); Russ Tubener (Stillwater); Julie C. Knutson, Executive Director; Beverly Herring, Executive Assistant; and Eren Hays, Administrative Assistant.

Stage 2 Committee: Travis Bosley (Duncan); Bill Clifford (Stroud); Clinton Dutcher (Tulsa); John Feaver (Chickasha); Kristin Ferrier (Norman); Randy Goldsmith (Tulsa); James Howard (Tahlequah); Craig Knutson (Oklahoma City); Mike Lapolla (Tulsa); Kathleen Miller (Edmond); Cindy Mitas (Stillwater); David Moates (Edmond); Lee Paden (Tulsa); Karen Raper (Cleveland); Gordon Rudd (Tulsa); Steve Smith (Midwest City); Matthew Weaver (Oklahoma City); Karen Wicker (Tulsa). Resource Members: Yash Fozdar (Oklahoma City); David Jahn (Norman); Bryan Stolte (Oklahoma City); Carolyn Sales (Oklahoma City).

Guests / Speakers

Jay Ogilvy, Global Business Network (Emeryville, CA), Conference Facilitator

Conference "Spotlights"

The conference steering committee selected Oklahoma businesses, organizations and people who have distinguished themselves by "using technology to help create prosperity" in our state. The recipients were: University of Tulsa (Hybrid Hurricane Vehicle); (Oklahoma State University Business Extension); University of Oklahoma Center for the Analysis and Prediction of Storms; Cameron University; Ann Vernon, University of Tulsa; Western Heights Public Schools; H.A. Chapman Genetics Institute; Computational Geosciences, Inc.; Oklahoma EPSCoR; Oklahoma Legislature (Representatives Fred Perry and Abe Deutchendorf, State Senator Cal Hobson and State Senator Ben Robinson); Selected Oklahoma K-12 Websites.

Conference Narrative

The 1998 conference organizers were tasked to create a new conference format experience that would "stretch and challenge" the Academy membership and conference attendees. The conference leadership decided to replicate the state strategic planning emphasis of 100 years ago, but to use the tools of "scenario planning" focused upon technology. The overall emphasis was to make geometric progress in the Oklahoma prosperity rather than arithmetic and incremental improvements.

State Policy Impact

Oklahoma is not blessed with unlimited resources ... either physical or human. Oklahoma has had only brief moments of prosperity that yielded parity with national averages. Oklahoma has put in place many obstacles for collective and radical changes in the way things are done. Some include the Constitution, tax limitations, property tax caps and the lack of a critical mass of people or services. With the advances in technology that help obliterate barriers of time, distance and income, we must explore how technology may be best applied in order to improve our quality of life from border to border.

1998 Technology and Prosperity



THINK ACT DO

Formal Research Position Papers Member Initiated Task Force Public Debate Formed Partnership Direct Influence Indirect Influence Endorse Others

MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Connecting Oklahoma

- Maximize statewide physical connectivity.
- Maximize statewide digital connectivity.
- Consider supplementing ONENET with wireless functions.
- Develop a plan for prototypical "Smart Parks".
- Monitor and report on NAFTA Corridor development.

Oklahoma Education Bill of Rights

- Provide the model for a redefined 21st century public education.
- Reexamine the teacher preparation process.
- Reemphasize teacher and student skills competency.
- Allow a state tax credit for family computer purchases.
- "Virtually" expand the Oklahoma School for Science & Math.

A Natural Resource Enhancement Act

- Aggressively conserve natural resource assets of the state.
- Develop an air quality R&D and monitoring capability.

Constitutional Changes

- Allow Constitutional amendments with a single vote.
- Earmark the state sales tax to public (K-14) education and minimize reliance upon property tax.
- Vigorously support State Questions 680 and 681.

Partnerships

- Create a Technology Entrepreneurial Institute.
- Invest a portion of state public pension funds in an Oklahoma Technology Venture Capital Fund.
- Oklahoma should establish a Commission to promote and finance math & science education.

N/A	N/A	•	•	•	•			•
N/A	N/A	•	•	•			•	•
N/A	N/A	•	•	•			•	•
N/A	N/A	•	•	•			•	
N/A	N/A	•	•	•			•	•
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N/A	N/A	•	•	•			see 2000 Conference	
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N/A	N/A	•	•	•	•		•	•
N/A	N/A	•	•	•	•			
N/A	N/A	•	•	•				•

Conference Produced "Scenarios"

A product of the conference were scenarios that we call "The Four Futures of Oklahoma". It is from these scenarios that our recommendations were formed. **Global Wannabes:** In this scenario, we see an Oklahoma where leaders thought "global" ... but the lack of competitiveness of the state's institutions and people precluded success. **Oklahoma is OK:** This is the story of an Oklahoma that has become non-competitive in a technologically savvy world; and an Oklahoma that has withdrawn into a local and parochial investment perspective. **Turkey Tales:** We describe an Oklahoma where the investment perspective is more local than global, but where Oklahomans are demonstrating competitiveness in using advanced technology. **Prosperity Unleashed:** What if Oklahoma "bet the farm" and aggressively pursued a vision of being a globally-oriented and highly competitive state in the national and international economy?



1999 Technology and Prosperity II

Site / Date

Marriott Hotel, Oklahoma City, OK. April 8-9, 1999.

Purpose

Develop an implementation strategy for public policy recommendations from the 1998 Technology Conference.

Conference Chairs

Co-Chair, Doug Branch (Oklahoma City); Co-Chair, Paula Marshall-Chapman (Tulsa)

Key Members/Guests

Connectivity Facilitation: Craig Knutson, Director of Economic Development & Education, Southwestern Bell Telephone, Oklahoma Division; Travis Bosley, Consultant, Red River Leadership, Duncan. Connectivity Panelists: Julie Bender, Managing Director, Denver International Airport Business Partnership; Don Capra, MD, President, Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation; Neal McCaleb, Secretary of Transportation, State of Oklahoma; Jason Martin, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Investments & Telecommunications, State Regents for Higher Education

Partnerships Facilitation: Bruce Day, President, Day, Edwards, Federman, et al; Marsha Cole, The Oklahoma Alliance. Partnerships Panelists: Jean Gumerson, President, Presbyterian Health Foundation; Greg Main, General Partner, Chisholm Private Capital Partners; Joe Tippens, President and COO, StadiaNet Sports, Inc.

Education Facilitation: V. Burns Hargis, Vice Chairman, Bank of Oklahoma, N.A.; Eren Hays, Research and Programs, Oklahoma Academy. Education Panelists: Ken Lackey, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor, State of Oklahoma, George Singer, Manager and Principal, Singer Bros., LLC; Edna Manning, President, Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics

Guests / Speakers

Roger Herman, The Herman Group, Greensboro, North Carolina

Conference "Academy Awards"

Oklahoma Organizations Based Elsewhere: Seagate Technologies, Oklahoma City (California); Lucent Technologies, Oklahoma City (New Jersey); Southwestern Bell Telephone, Oklahoma City (San Antonio); TDK Ferrites, Shawnee (Japan); Hitachi Computer Products, Norman (Japan); Applied Automation Inc, Bartlesville (Germany)

Oklahoma-based Organizations: Dr. Sujeet Shenoj (University of Tulsa); Advancia (Lawton); Frontier Engineering (Stillwater); ViaGrafix (Pryor); TV Guide Entertainment Group Inc. (Tulsa); WorldConnect (Tulsa); Williams Vyvx Services, Williams Communications, (Tulsa); UroCor, Inc. (Oklahoma City); Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (Oklahoma City); Avant Digital Marketing, (Edmond); DCA, Inc. (Cushing).

State Policy Impact

This is the first time the Academy hosted a conference focused solely upon the implementation of standing recommendations. The recommendations from the 1998 conference were packaged in logical groupings. By involving affected parties, the realities of practical implementation were forthrightly discussed. This discussion provided a significant boost to the implementation process.

1999 Technology and Prosperity II



ACT DO

Task Force Public Debate Formed Partnership Direct Influence Indirect Influence Endorse Others

MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Connectivity

The Academy will convene a Fall 2000 forum to discuss physical connectivity in Oklahoma. Initial emphasis will be upon faster and more convenient air travel between the coasts.

The Academy will prepare support letters for use by the State Regents re: the expansion and enrichment of Oklahoma's OneNet.

The Academy will organize a forum to develop strategies for doubling the number of biotechnology research scientists in Oklahoma.

Partnerships

The Academy will draft a letter of support, and relevant research information, to use of a portion of Oklahoma's \$12 billion public pension funds in an effort to promote technology related investment in Oklahoma.

The Academy will convene a forum in the Fall 1999 to discuss the development of a Technology Entrepreneurial Institute for Oklahoma students.

The Academy will explore the establishment of a "science and math commission" (or like function) to promote the training, education, placement and retention of properly credentialled teachers.

Education

The Academy's Education Task Force will examine the Academy's recommendations concerning an overhaul of the state's public education system ... compare it to what is in the legislative process, and make recommendations to the next logical actions.

Per HB 1510, The Academy will assist the Oklahoma School for Science and Mathematics to develop a master plan to "virtually expand" the schools offerings.

Other

Two recommendations require constitutional action. They concern amending the Constitution, and altering public education funding mechanisms. They have been deferred upon to next year's conference "The Oklahoma Constitution."

Three recommendations concerned the environment and energy extraction R&D. We have been in contact with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality and OU's Sarkey Center.

Request that the Oklahoma Technology Commercialization Center create and maintain a compendium database of Smart Park activity.

Monitor the impacts re: the NAFTA Corridor via Senator Leftwich and www.nasco-itc.com.

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2000 Oklahoma Constitution

Site / Date

DoubleTree, Downtown Tulsa; April 6-7, 2000

Purpose

To provide factual background information about the history of our constitution and the political environment in which it was framed, and to discuss openly and frankly suggested changes to the Constitution.

Conference Chair

Robert A. Butkin, Oklahoma City

Key Members/Guests/Steering Committees

Neal Leader (Executive and Legislative Power); Don Murry and Kent Olson (Business and Regulated Industries); Alexander Holmes and Larkin Warner (Revenue and Taxation); and Art LeFrancois (the Amendments Process).

Constitutional Amendments: Mr. Fredrick Drummond, Rancher; Professor Art LeFrancois OK City University; Mr. Steve Turnbo, President & CEO, Schnake, Turnbo, Brookey & Assoc., Inc.; Mr. Neal Leader, Esquire, Attorney General's Office; Ms. Duchess Bartmess, Legal Counsel, Governor's Office; Mr. Burns Hargis, BOK

Business/Regulated Industries: The Honorable Howard Barnett, Secretary, Department of Commerce; The Honorable Denise Bode, Corporation Commissioner; Ms. Cheryl Choubakos, Director, Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce; Ms. CeCe Coleman, Esquire, Attorney General's Office; Mr. Jay Galt, Attorney, Ms. Judy Hamilton – Morse, Attorney, Crowe, Dunlevy, Mr. Craig Knutson, Director, Education & Economic Development, Southwestern Bell; Ms. Lou Kohlman, Judicial Assistant Court of Criminal Appeals; Dr. Donald Murry, Professor Emeritus University of Oklahoma; Dr. Arthur Porter, Dean, OU College of Engineering; Dr. Kent Olson, Professor, Oklahoma State University, College of Business Admin.; Mr. Neal Leader, Esquire, Attorney General's Office

Executive Power: Ms. Duchess Bartmess, Legal Counsel, Governor's Office; Dr. Martin Belsky, Dean, TU College of Law; Mr. Burns Hargis, BOK; Mr. Neal Leader, Esquire, Attorney General's Office; Professor Dave Morgan; The Honorable Jerry Smith, Oklahoma State Senate, State Capitol Bldg.; Mr. Andrew Spiropoulos, Professor, Oklahoma City University; Mr. Andrew Tevington, Esquire, Attorney General's Office; Ms. Jean Warner; Mr. Allen Wright, Director, KOCH Industries, Inc.

Legislative Power: Dr. Bob England, Department of Political Science, Oklahoma State University, The Honorable Cal Hobson, Oklahoma State Senate, State Capitol Building; Mr. Rodger Randle, International Program Center, University of Oklahoma; Mr. Lee Slater; The Honorable Opio Toure, Representative, Oklahoma House of Representatives

Revenue & Taxation Subcommittee: The Honorable Bill Anoatubby, Governor, Chickasaw Nation; Mr. Tom Daxon, Director of State Finance; Mr. Glenn Deck, City Manager, Oklahoma City; Ms. Cheryl Dorrance, Director of Research, Oklahoma Municipal League; Ms. Kay Floyd, Director of Board Development & Legislation, Oklahoma State School Boards Association; The Honorable Sandy Garrett, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Oklahoma Dpt. of Education; The Honorable Jim Hamilton, Representative, Oklahoma House of Representatives; The Honorable Cal Hobson, Oklahoma State Senate State Capitol Building; Dr. Lex Holmes, Regents Professor, University of Oklahoma; Ms. Loretta Jackson, Broker/Owner; Jackson Real Estate; Mr. Tim Larason, Attorney, Andrews, Davis, Legg, Bixler, Milsten, and Price; Ms. Karen Leveridge, Vice Pres. Education and Workforce Development, Oklahoma State Chamber; Mr. Jim McGoodwin, Director of Special Audits & Investigations State Auditor's Office; Ms. Melissa McLawhorn, Deputy Director, Oklahoma Sheriffs' Association; Mr. Sheppard F. Miers, Jr., Attorney, Gable and Gotwals; Mr. James Milner, Vice President – Public Affairs, State Source; Dr. Dave Morgan, Professor, University of Oklahoma; Mr. Bill Moyer, Executive Director, Oklahoma Municipal League; Ms. Susan Nicewander, Internal Auditor, State Treasurer's Office; Dr. Kent Olson, Professor, Oklahoma State University Ms. Susan Savage, Mayor, City of Tulsa; Mr. Michael Scaperlanda, Professor, OU College of Law; Mr. George Singer, General Partner, Singer Brothers; Mr. Tom Spencer, Deputy Treasurer, State Treasurers Office; Mr. John Ward, Executive Director, Association of County Commissioners of OK; Dr. Jean Warner, President, League of Women Voters, Oklahoma County; Dr. Larkin Warner, Regents Professor Emeritus, Oklahoma State University

Guests / Speakers

Chautauqua dramatic presentation, "Alfalfa Bill and The Real Estate Mogul," written and directed by Hal Kohlman. Glen Johnson, President of Southeastern Oklahoma State University; Danney Goble, PhD, University of Oklahoma; Judge Robert Henry moderated an "Honorable Executive and Legislative Discussion on the Oklahoma Constitution" at which Governor Frank Keating, former Governor George Nigh, Speaker Glen Johnson, and Republican House Leader Fred Morgan were featured speakers.

State Policy Impact

The Constitution was drafted during the heyday of the Populist period, a time of intense distrust of concentrations of power of any form-be it political or economic. The result was a document which extensively regulated business activities, which contained one of the longest ballots in the country, and which denied the Governor the opportunity to appoint majority members of important agencies and commissions. Few would argue that our constitution-the second longest in the world- provides an ideal governing framework for the twenty-first century and beyond.



2001 Town Hall Competing in an Innovative World

Site / Date

Shangri-La Resort, Afton, OK; October 14-17, 2001

Purpose

Identify the key factors that will allow Oklahomans to become more competitive in an innovative world; then specify key actions necessary to develop that competitiveness.

Theme

"...In the economy of the future, those with third world skills will earn third world wages even if they live in the first world."
~ Lester Thurow

Town Hall Chair

Cliff Hudson Oklahoma City

Town Hall Team

Panel Chairs:

Doug Branch, Oklahoma City; John Feaver, Chickasha; Kim Holland, Tulsa; Steve Kreidler, Edmond; Bill McKamey, Tulsa

Panel Recorders:

Mike Blake, Oklahoma City; Kay Carel, Oklahoma City; David Ketelsleger, Oklahoma City; Terry Kordeliski, Oklahoma City; Carrie Leonard, Oklahoma City

Panel Resources:

Tony Hutchinson, Oklahoma City; Craig Knutson, Oklahoma City; Mike Lapolla, Tulsa; Mike Metzger, Edmond; Kent Olson, Stillwater; Steve Smith, Midwest City; Larkin Warner, Oklahoma City

Report Chair:

Marc Edwards, Oklahoma City; Claudean Harrison, Lindsay

Media Coordinators:

Andy Paden, Norman; Greg Seal, Oklahoma City

Guests / Speakers

Jim Clinton, Executive Director, Southern Growth Policies Board; Hannah Goble, U.S. Department of Education; Danney Goble, University of Oklahoma; and Frank Keating, Governor of Oklahoma.

State Policy Impact

This meeting was the first ever Town Hall format for the Oklahoma Academy. In contrast to previous conference efforts, this Town Hall produced an "instant Task Force" (comprised of Town Hall members), and an "instant Recommendation Report" (the summary consensus findings of the Town Hall process). The recommendations were clarified and forwarded to the Academy's Network and Implementation Committee one month after the Town Hall. That committee met with state Executive and Legislative leadership prior to the convening of the 2002 Legislative session. Public presentations and forums were sponsored during 2002 on a statewide basis. Continued action was taken throughout 2003 and 2004.



2002 Town Hall Oklahoma: State of Health?

Site / Date

Quartz Mountain Lodge, Lone Wolf, OK: October 27 – 30, 2002

Purpose

Identify the key elements that will allow Oklahomans to live healthier lives; then specify key actions necessary to change the overall attitude of Oklahomans to improve their health.

Theme

Education level, earnings potential and health are interrelated and interdependent. We are aware of the education levels, earnings ratios and health status of Oklahomans, and we note that all three are below the national average. With this in mind, the Academy pressed forward to discuss and recommend how the health of Oklahomans can be improved within these realities.

Town Hall Chair

Cliff Hudson, Oklahoma City

Town Hall Team

Panel Chairs: John Feaver, Chickasha; Craig Knutson, Norman; Doug Branch, Oklahoma City; Jim Norton, Tulsa; Alba Weaver, Oklahoma City. Panel Recorders: Terry Kordeliski, Riggs Abney Neal & Turpen, Oklahoma City; David Ketelsleger, McAfee Taft, Oklahoma City; Tina Izadi, Riggs Abney Neal * Turpen, Oklahoma City; Kay Carel Smith, Phillips McFall et al, Oklahoma City. Panel Resources: Kim Holland, Executive Vice President, The Quarles Group, Tulsa; Mike Metzger, Ph.D., Director, Oklahoma Center for Policy Research, UCO, Edmond.

Report Chair

Marc Edwards, Phillips McFall McVay McCaffrey & Murrah, Oklahoma City

Media Coordinator

Greg Seal, Oklahoma City

Speakers

Les Beitsch, MD, Commissioner, OK Department of Health; Terry Cline, MD, Commissioner, OK Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse; Tony Hutchison, Director of Economic Research and Policy Analysis, OK Senate; Claudia San Pedro, Assistant Fiscal Staff Director, OK Senate

Networking & Implementation

Greg Main, Chisholm Private Capital, Oklahoma City

State Policy Impact

The Academy's second Town Hall focused the final report and recommendations on Oklahoma's Health into three areas: Children, communities and Oklahomans. Town Hall participants prioritized the recommendations and the top seven were clarified and forwarded one month after the Town Hall to the Network * Implementation committee for major focus in 2003 and 2004. Four of the seven have been incorporated into law or are being actively implemented through community action.

2002 Town Hall Oklahoma: State of Health?



THINK ACT DO

Formal Research Position Papers Member Initiated Task Force Public Debate Formed Partnership Direct Influence Indirect Influence Endorse Others

MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Expand the Clean Air Act to include all workplaces and indoor public places

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Increase the penalties for sales of tobacco and alcohol to minors

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Permit the possibility of local regulation of tobacco use by repealing the pre-emption laws

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Enact a state tobacco tax

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Negotiations and agreements with Native American tribal governments

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Fully endorse and actively support the Oklahoma Health Care Authority reform proposal to convert the Oklahoma Medicaid program from a "welfare" model for selected recipients to one resembling an "insurance" model serving more low-income Oklahomans

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Elevate statewide school meal nutritional standards and physical activity standards.

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Limit personal liability of health care professionals who volunteer their professional time in health-based charitable activities.immunity.

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Lay the groundwork in creating state-specific Healthy People 2010 indicators

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Expand the drug court system

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Expand the mental health court system

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Modify existing mental health parity laws

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Increase palliative care training

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Simplify advance directives and' "Do Not Resuscitate" statutes and forms.

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Create a central registry for advance directives

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2003 Town Hall Energy and Water

Site / Date

Quartz Mountain Lodge, Lone Wolf, OK; November; November 12 – 15, 2003

Purpose

To determine how best to preserve, develop and use the critical resources of water and energy to the state's greatest advantage; and to determine how to best collaborate with Native American governments concerning these resources..

Theme

Energy – The focus was maximizing production of our existing resources and marginal reserves, marketing our energy knowledge, and alternative sources of energy. Water – The discussion was limited to quantity, quality and ownership. Sovereignty— No restrictions were placed on the focus.

Town Hall Chair

John Feaver, Ph.D., Chickasha

Town Hall Subject Matter Co-Chairs

Howard G. Barnett, Jr., TSF Capital, LLC, Tulsa – Co-Chair Water

Larry A. Nichols, Devon Energy Corporation, Oklahoma City – Co-Chair Energy

Town Hall Team

Panel Chairs: Kim Holland, Tulsa; Craig Knutson, Norman; Tom McKeon, Tulsa; Jim Norton, Tulsa. Panel Recorders: Mike Blake, McAfee Taft, Oklahoma City; Corey Hyde Blake, BancFirst Corp., Oklahoma City; Terry Kordeliski, Riggs Abney Neal & Turpen, Oklahoma City; Mark Malone, McAfee Taft, Oklahoma City. Panel Resources: Denise Bode, OK Corporation Commission; Duane Smith, Director, Oklahoma Water Resources Board; Dean Couch, OWRB; Derrick Smithee, OWRB; Jon Craig, DEQ; Bob Sullivan, Sullivan & Co.; Charles Mankin, Ph.D., Sarkeys Energy Center;

Report Co-Chairs: Marc Edwards, Phillips McFall McVay McCaffrey & Murrah, Oklahoma City; Douglas Branch, Biotech Law Associates, Oklahoma City. Media Coordinator: Claudean Harrison, Harrison Investments, Lindsay

Speakers

The Honorable Brad Henry, Governor, State of Oklahoma

Howard G. Barnett, Jr., Managing Director, TSF Capital, LLC, Tulsa

Larry A. Nichols, Chairman, President & CEO, Devon Energy Corporation, Oklahoma City

Networking & Implementation

Douglas Branch, Biotech Law Associates, Oklahoma City

Tom McKeon, Tulsa Community College, Tulsa

State Policy Impact

The Town Hall identified 15 specific energy recommendations, 14 specific water recommendations and 7 recommendations addressing sovereignty. The final plenary session asked the participants to prioritize the recommendations as to those most critical to move toward implementation in the 2004 legislative session. The major recommendations were packaged in the areas of Energy, Water, Financing and Sovereignty.

The Executive Summary and full report may be obtained from the Academy office or from the website at www.okacademy.org.



2004 Town Hall Oklahoma's Environment

Site/Date

National Employee Development Center, Norman, Oklahoma; October 10 – 13, 2004

Purpose

This topic was a natural follow-up to the 2003 Town Hall which dealt with the supply and use of water and energy, but deferred the environmental quality implications. An honest treatment of these environmental issues was impossible without active representation from Oklahoma's Native American Tribes. No credible assessment of Oklahoma's environmental issues can be conducted without acknowledging the implications of tribal sovereignty.

Theme

The exposition of environmental issues was framed through the themes of sustainability and balance. The Town Hall operated from the premise that Oklahoma's prosperity is and will be the result of economic development that balances the competing needs of society and represents sustainable gain. These two themes were not merely academic constructs; they formed the basis for addressing such concrete and real life issues as urban sprawl, pork and poultry production and rights of property owners.

Town Hall Chair

W. R. "Bill" McKamey, Executive Vice President Community Affairs, Public Service Co. of Oklahoma, Tulsa

Town Hall Team

Panel Chairs: Howard G. Barnett, Jr., Tulsa / Craig Knutson, Norman; Lou Kohlman, Oklahoma City; Karen "Sunny" Langdon, Tulsa; Roy Peters, Jr., Ph.D., Tulsa; Greg Main, Oklahoma City. Panel Recorders: Terry Kordeliski, Riggs Abney Neal & Turpen, Oklahoma City; Jennifer Miller, Phillips McFall McVay McCaffrey & Murrah, Oklahoma City; Stephanie Chapman, McAfee Taft, Oklahoma City; Chad McLawhorn, McAfee Taft, Oklahoma City; Mark Malone, McAfee Taft, Oklahoma City / Bonner Gonzales, McAfee Taft, Oklahoma City;. Panel Resources: Duane Smith, Director, Oklahoma Water Resources Board; Dean Couch, Oklahoma Water Resources Board; Charles Mankin, Ph.D., Sarkeys Energy Center; Neal McCaleb, Chickasaw Nation; Miles Tolbert, Secretary of the Environment. Report Co-Chairs: Marc Edwards, Phillips McFall McVay McCaffrey & Murrah, Oklahoma City; Douglas Branch, Biotech Law Associates, Oklahoma City

Speakers

The Honorable Susan Savage, Secretary of State, State of Oklahoma
Chad Smith, Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, Tahlequah
The Honorable Miles Tolbert, Secretary of the Environment, State of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City

Networking & Implementation

Douglas Branch, Biotech Law Associates, Oklahoma City
Tom McKeon, Tulsa Community College, Tulsa

State Policy Impact

Recommendations were developed focusing on the pursuit of responsible balance with regard to Oklahoma's social, commercial, governmental and environmental concerns. Twenty-two specific recommendations were developed. The final plenary session asked the participants to prioritize the recommendation to identify those most critical to pursue in the 2005 Legislative session. The major recommendations were categorized into four areas: Sustainability, Water & Land, Tribal and State Relations and Universities. Several recommendations under Smart Growth were incorporated within pieces of legislation and will be monitored during 2005 also.



2005 Town Hall Drugs: Legal, Illegal - Otherwise

Site/Date

National Employee Development Center, Norman, Oklahoma; October 23– 26, 2005

Purpose

The Town Hall recognizes that "drugs" is both a positive and negative term. And that governments and businessesees are increasingly dealing with issues related to both. It is also recognized that these "drugs" are causing a myriad of debates concerning their use, abuse and social costs. Miracle drugs cure - at a price. Illegal drugs destroy - at a price. Government, business and our commonwealth must sort out the good, the bad and th e in-between.

Theme

The 2005 Town Hall recognizes that the term "drugs" has both a positive and negative tone. And that governments and businessesees are increasingly dealing with issues related to both. It is also recognized that these "drugs" are causing a myriad of debates concerning their use, abuse and social costs. Miracle drugs cure - at a price. Illegal drugs destroy - at a price. Government, business and our commonwealth must sort out the good, the bad and the in-between.

The topic originally considered was "substance abuse". Executive Committee discussions revealed that there is more to "drugs" than just the illegal abuse. It was realized that legal drugs - pharmaceuticals - are an emerging force in the health care arsenal of therapies; that businesses cope with the costs of health care and prescription drug benefits as much as they do with absenteeism caused by the use of illegal drugs. It is time to take a good look at both and determine the public policies that advance the positive outcomes of legal drugs and minimize the negative consequences of the abuse of illegal (and legal) drugs ... and alcohol. Oklahoma is THE national leader in three important public policies – one concerning prescription medicine – one concerning illegal drugs - and one providing drug court alternatives alternatives to incarceration. It is likely that Oklahoma is emerging as an important state for the development of effective policy. We need to continue.

- Oklahoma is the FIRST state in the nation to allow the responsible and transparent transfers of unused prescription medicine from nursing homes to charity clinics.
- Oklahoma is the FIRST state in the nation to restrict the access to Sudafed (pseudoephedrine), the key ingredient for making "meth".
- Oklahoma provides the MOST "drug court" funding per capita of any state.

Each public policy has been effective, but none is perfect and each require adjustments. States from all over the country are contacting Oklahomans in order to replicate these policies where they live. Each public policy is elegant in its simplicity. The first two require no public funds, and drug courts save money; none of the policies are intrusive or onerous; none requires new employees or new agencies.

Town Hall Chair

Howard Barnett, Jr., TSF Capital

2005 Town Hall Drugs: Legal, Illegal - Otherwise



THINK

ACT

DO

*Formal
Research*

*Position
Papers*

*Member
Initiated*

*Task
Force*

*Public
Debate*

*Formed
Partnership*

*Direct
Influence*

*Indirect
Influence*

*Endorse
Others*

MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

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