Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 12:35 pm.

Welcome
The chair welcomed the members and noted that the last time the committee met was 02/18/14. The committee did not meet in March due to the spring break schedule. Many members were unable to attend this meeting due to a scheduling conflict with the curriculum meeting. Future meetings will be held via conference call due to sound quality and ease of use of equipment.

Minutes
Scott Haywood made a motion to approve the 02/18/14 minutes. Tracy Emmons seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous consent.

Reports
There are currently several grants submitted for over $579,000 in funding waiting for award notice. This week the NSF-Discovery Learning grant went to the review panel.

Grant updates:
  o Title III application
    The annual application was submitted on 03/07/14. This application allows NOC to apply for a new grant under any Title III Strengthening Institutions and Title V Promoting Informed Parental Choice and Innovative Programs. NOC received confirmation that it is designated as an eligible institution for another year.
o Dr. Scholl Foundation-

During the February meeting the committee voted to write the Dr. Scholl Foundation grant for the use of the Developmental Education conference. After receiving the application, it was discovered that the foundation required a listing of the NOC Foundation’s top five donors and amounts donated. After consulting with the VP for Development and Community Relations, it was decided that this information would not be released for confidentiality reasons, therefore the funding was not attempted. Further discussion with colleagues at other community colleges revealed that it is common practice for funding foundations to request this information. Gene Young and Scott Haywood also indicated that this is common practice when seeking funds from private foundations, and in fact is often used for purposes to determine what has been successful with other “high-powered” foundations, or with completion of projects. More information on foundation funding practices will be gathered at the Committee for the Advancement of Grants that will meet Thursday 04/17/14.

o TAACCCT Oklahoma Works! Round 1

The Department of Labor (DOL) requested additional reporting information to determine the status of the no-cost extension. Data from the first quarter of year three of the grant (October 1 – December 31, 2013) was submitted. It included the number of participants enrolled in each of the OKW programs and the number of students who received degrees. Additionally, a product inventory report was requested from DOL and submitted. The inventory includes the programs and courses that are being developed, modified, or enhanced with grant funds. Shelly Schulz invoiced and received $29,719.29 in funds. There is still no word to report about the no cost extension.

o Plus 50 –
April Heitfeld hosted a Plus 50 Expo on the Enid campus on March 9 and March 11. The event invited persons over the age of 50 years to explore the NOC nursing facilities and give them a chance to ask questions about returning to college and discuss the barriers they face in doing so. Surveys were given to attendees and prizes awarded for participation. Advisory board members volunteered time to gather additional surveys at Jumbo Foods and The Oakwood Mall where seniors were expected to gather. April is pleased with the initial number of surveys submitted.

NOC was featured in the March Plus 50 Initiative Newsletter. The article reported the progress of the grant and the needs assessment being conducted. The focus of the article was on a survey comprised by the advisory committee and published on the NOC website by Kathleen Otto. April stated in the article that the goal of the survey is “to identify the barriers that prevent plus 50 adults from coming to college and being successful, see what their needs are when returning to college and re-training for a new career, and what the college can do to build its program to help them succeed.”

o United Way Enid
Several staff in Enid were contacted to discuss ideas and projects in which the United Way Enid venture grant could be used. Kenny Bollwerk, Coordinator of Residence Life & Student Activities, suggested the grant be used to seek funds to help host a guest speaker and other team building activities for Enid resident students during the dorm move-in weekend in August 2014. A series of activities are scheduled to engage the student. The activities are designed to promote continued education, team building, diversity awareness, and encourage a sense of community, civic engagement and personal responsibility. The move-in weekend theme for 2014 is appropriately entitled “NOC and Beyond”. The $4,500 grant was submitted on 03/31/14. The funding decision is expected to be announced by 07/01/14.

This grant was in jeopardy of being disqualified because the monies received from United Way last year had not been spent. NOC was awarded $3,000 to host a QPR Suicide Awareness workshop. Assurances were given to the United Way director that the workshop will be held on 05/22/14.

- W. K. Kellogg Foundation – Native American Youth Leadership Day

Gina Conneywerdy and Cheryl Chanslor visited the Osage County Interlocal Cooperative in Hominy to discuss ideas for grants and the possibility of future partnership. The discussion led to an introduction to Xan Black, Coordinator, Tulsa Alliance for Engineering with the Tulsa Regional STEM Alliance. Negotiations were made with Ms. Black to conduct a three hour session of STEM related activities at the Native American Youth Leadership Day hosted by NOC on the Tonkawa campus in July.

Gina and Cheryl discussed possible funding for the Native American Youth Leadership Day. Preliminary work went in to finding a compatible funding source. The Kellogg Foundation appears to be a good match. The application is being processed and is expected to be submitted by 04/18/14. If approved, the Kellogg Foundation will request a full proposal.

- Roundtable Discussion

- Eugene Young reported that he received a $1,000 grant from Prairie Biotic Research, Inc. (PBR, Inc.) for “Algae of Slate Creek Wetlands.” PBR, Inc., is a non-profit organization that funds individual research projects used to provide research funding on projects restricted to the study of prairie organisms. Young’s proposal was one of 111 submitted for the 2014 Small Grants Program. Nine scientific advisors reviewed the proposals, and 31 were funded totaling $29,495, with $1,000 being the maximum awarded for any given project. The money will provide funding for 4x4 vehicle travel within a salt marsh in Sumner County, KS. Several students will work on collecting monthly samples through 2014, identify algae, and produce the final report. Current NOC student, Brandon Silcox, and Gene Young procured samples from 13 sites on April 5, 2014. A former NOC graduate, now attending OSU, will hopefully collaborate on the project for 2-hrs of
microbiology credit this summer as part of an accelerated MS program in microbiology at OSU. If this part of the project occurs, it will allow species level identification and give NOC students the opportunity to see how advanced labs work, both for developing cultures and genetic testing.

- Scott Haywood led a discussion on how to generate more faculty interest to increase the number of grants submitted. It was stated that times have changed as far as where funding comes from to implement special projects and programs, yet many faculty do not consider grant funds to bring about progression in their classrooms. Scott suggested the grants committee put together a professional development seminar to help market the grants development office and to generate awareness. The Aspen Institute was used as an example of how important grant writing is to the institution. There were a number of barriers discussed as well. Previous grants may have gained a negative reputation as being difficult and time consuming. Administrational support needs to be given to faculty who pursue grants by allowing release time to write, implement, and process reports to comply with the grant stipulations. Conducting a faculty caucus was considered.

Dates for the grants committee to meet during the summer were discussed. Several on the committee will not be on campuses, however, a few members will be teaching summer classes. It was decided that the committee would not meet in May.

- **Schedule next meeting**
The next meeting will be held in June with additional details to follow after summer sessions begin.