



OCAPIA Minutes
Wednesday, September 16, 2015, 9:30 AM - 12 PM
Oregon State Bar, Sandy Room
16037 SW Upper Boone's Ferry Road, Tigard, OR 97224

Chair: Absent
Vice Chair: Mari Watanabe
Commissioners: Kathleen Jonathan (phone), Joseph Santos-Lyons (phone), Chanpone Sinlapasai-Okamura, David Yuen Tam (phone)
Absent: Stephen Ying, Ping Khaw, Senator Dembrow, Representative Whisnant
Guests: Bennie Moses-Mesubed, Eastern Oregon University (phone); Nafisa Fai, Upstream Health; Gary Simms, Department of Corrections
Staff: Lucy Baker, Nancy Kramer

I. **Call to Order** – Vice Chair Watanabe called the meeting to order at 9:33am. A quorum was established. The Commissioners welcomed their guest Bennie Moses-Mesubed from Eastern Oregon University. Commissioner Jonathan introduced her and her pursuit of AANAPISI (Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions) funding for EOU.

II. **Roll Call**

III. A. **Approval of July 2015 OCAPIA Minutes**

MOTION (Sinlapasai/Tam): To accept the minutes as corrected. CARRIED.
Correction: the spelling of Kathleen Jonathan's surname.

B. **Approval of the Agenda**

The Commission reviewed and approved the agenda by consensus

IV. **Old Business**

A. **Review and update committee work**

1. **Civic Engagement Committee** – Commissioner Sinlapasai-Okamura reported with Commissioner Santos-Lyons that the Immigration Service has hired a new Community Outreach staff person. The Committee members would like to invite this individual to meet with them at IRCO. It would be a good opportunity to get acquainted around the work of the OCAPIA, IRCO and the new staff's duties at the Immigration Service.

Commissioners Tam and Watanabe briefly discussed the upcoming WHIAAPI (White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders) Round Table with OCAPIA in

Eugene. They are part of the planning committee for the Round Table with WHIAAPI staff and will have more to report at the next OCAPIA meeting.

2. Education Committee – Commissioner Jonathan reported on the Committee’s meeting with May Lukens, the State of Washington AANAPISI Project Director, to discuss how they began a community of practice around AANAPISI federal designation among community colleges in Washington State. After discussion, Commissioner Jonathan recommends that OCAPIA connect with the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to discuss partnering on developing such a group of interested schools in Oregon. The Commission agreed and will invite HECC to their next regular meeting if the Education Committee cannot meet with them before that time.

Mary Moller, Executive Appointments Director for the Governor, was a visitor to the Commission today and suggested that PSU’s diversity director and also the staff of Congresswoman Bonamici would be interested in forwarding the work of AANAPISI designation as well. The Commission agreed and Lucy will coordinate those meetings.

- B. OCAPIA Fundraising Committee – Vice Chair Watanabe reported that the fundraising committee has met twice, including Liani Reeves and Carol Suzuki as ad hoc members of the committee. The fundraiser will be in Portland at the Moda Center in the spring. There are a number of keynote or panel speakers under consideration for the event. More to come.
- C. Recruitment of OCAPIA members – The Commissioners considered candidates to pursue for application to the OCAPIA. There are 2 open seats currently and Commissioner Santos-Lyons has announced that he will not seek reappointment when his 3 year term ends in the end of September, 2015.
 - **Bennie Moses-Mesubed** is interested. She is the Director for Multicultural Student Services at EOU where she has experience with AANAPISI designation. Bennie lives in La Grande. She is involved in CANN and APANO where she graduated as a Leadership program attendee. She is very interested in joining the OCAPIA and plans to submit her application.
 - **Kathy Wai** is interested in applying. She is Burmese and is connected with APANO’s legislative and community work.
 - **Reka Koirala** may be interested. She is Bhutanese and works at IRCO.
 - **Hussein Al-Baitay** is interested. He is an Iraqi business owner and strongly connected with the community. Joseph has spoken to him.
 - **Jenny Kim and Jenny Tang** are possibilities.
 - **Sophorn Cheang** may be interested.

Nancy Kramer will send information on Commissioner vacancies and terms to Chanpone and Mari.

- D. WHIAAPI Roundtable debrief & planning for Eugene – Discussed under committee reports.

V. New Business

- A. Nominations for OCAPIA Chair and Vice Chair – Vice Chair Watanabe conducted the nominations process.

- The nominations for Chair were opened 2 weeks prior to the OCAPIA meeting by e-mail. Mari Watanabe was nominated for OCAPIA Chair. She called for any other nominations from the floor three times. There being no further nominations for Chair, nominations were closed.
- The nominations for Vice Chair were opened 2 weeks prior to the OCAPIA meeting by e-mail. David Tam was nominated for OCAPIA Vice Chair. Vice Chair Watanabe called for any other nominations from the floor three times. There being no further nominations for Vice Chair, nominations were closed.

Both nominees have accepted their nominations.

Elections for Chair and Vice Chair will be held at the November meeting of the OCAPIA

- B. Governor's Office – update from Mary Moller, Director of Exec. Appointments. The Commissioners welcomed Ms. Moller. She introduced herself as an Oregonian who attended PSU, worked for Congressman David Wu in DC for 5 years and then worked at PSU. Her focus for the Governor will continue the work Kendall Clawson began in diversifying boards and commissions. She would like to enlist OCAPIA in referring candidates to fill particular positions and will connect with the OAC's for help with recruitment through the OACO office.

OCAPIA looks forward to working with Mary on fulfilling the Governor's charge. They thanked Mary for her presentation.

- C. Task Force on Immigration Consultant Fraud update (HB 3525) – Commissioner Sinlapasai-Okamura reported on her work on the legislative taskforce on Immigration Fraud. It includes a representative from the OAC's, OCHA Commissioner Judy Parker, and is co-chaired by Rep. Vega Pederson and Sen. Gelser along with other members from the AG's office, SOS, immigrant and victims' rights, and others. The Taskforce will create a report for the Senate Judiciary Committee at the end of September that will be the basis of legislation for the 2016 session. Governor Brown is a strong supporter of this bill and OCHA championed it. It is focused on protecting vulnerable populations in Oregon from a fraudulent type of crime. Mary Moller asked if she might also see the report when it is completed by the taskforce.
- D. OCAPIA representation on new Education and Poverty Legislative Task Force - Chair Ying received an invitation to join the legislative Task Force to represent the OACs. He will be unavailable for that and asks if other OCAPIA Commissioners might be interested. Commissioner Jonathan requested more information on scheduling and time commitments.
- E. Nafisa Fai, Upstream Public Health: Executive Summary on youth and tobacco use – The Commission welcomed Ms. Fai who reported on youth tobacco smoking and Upstream Health's study of youth cigarette smoking. The tobacco industry targets specific products to youth of color that look like candies or other colorful products and unlike cigarettes that must be sold in packs, sells these colorful products individually. In Oregon, there are a number of small shops and vendors that are part of communities of color that sell these products to their local youth as an important way to bring customers into their stores. The vendors themselves may not know the laws associated with selling tobacco to minors.

The health issues associated with these products and lack of regulation are a serious issue for children of color. This is especially true with vapor cigarettes that have no restrictions for sale to children. It is hard to know how much nicotine and formaldehyde the various vapor cigarettes have. The candy flavored liquids that go into vapor cigarettes are available to children as young as 4 years old. Nafisa provided examples of these products for the Commissioners to see and examine.

To help address these issues in culturally specific ways, Upstream Health has developed several policy recommendations for the Board of Multnomah County Commissioners. In November, the OHEA group will ask for retailer training and strong enforcement. They are also asking that owners of stores be held accountable, not the clerks who are currently the target of jailing and penalty for selling these products and which is complicated by profiling overtones. There is also a recommendation on pricing of cigarettes of small shops and requiring selling colorful tobacco products in packs, not individually. Along with potentially recommending banning vendors within a 1000 feet of schools, they may request banning sales to age 21 and older.

They will recommend these policies to Board of Multnomah County Commissioners in October or November and at that time will ask the OAC's to provide a letter of support.

OHEA is also considering an e-cigarette bill to require licensing to sell such products. Discussion followed.

The Commission thanked Nafisa for her excellent presentation.

- F. 2016 Legislative session - Commissioners were asked to share items of interest for the 2016 session. APANO's main issue for 2016 is following up on health funding for COFA.

VI. Report of the Administrator – Lucy Baker

- A. New hire for OACO - .5 Policy Analyst – The application period opened late last week and is open through Monday, 9/21. Commissioners were asked to circulate the announcement widely. A hiring panel of a commissioner from each OAC, DAS HR and Lucy will screen the applicants for interviewing, finalize the interview questions, conduct the first interviews, and recommend those who will be granted second interviews by Lucy who is the OACO's hiring manager. The invitation to the Chair and Vice Chair to participate on the panel will go out next week.
- B. Working with OAC leaders on challenges for OACO 2015-17 budget – Lucy has identified several areas of projected shortfall in the new biennium OACO budget in both staffing and services/supplies. She is working with the OAC leadership and the CFO's Office to find solutions prior to hiring the .5 FTE position. She feels confident a solution will be found and will keep the OAC's briefed.
- C. Joint OAC meeting and Commissioner training will be held in the end of October. Lucy is polling the members of the OAC's for best dates.
- D. Recent appointments by the Governor: Robin Johnson is now Inclusion Policy Advisor and Janet Soto is now Economic and Business Equity Policy Advisor. Mary Moller was appointed Director of Executive Appointments. Still to appoint: the Governor's Director of Diversity and Inclusion.

- E. Special merit award for Nancy Kramer: Lucy is working with the Chairs/Vice Chairs for a special merit award from the state for Nancy Kramer for her leadership and excellent work this summer staffing the Legislative Task Force on Immigration Fraud. More to come.

VII. Items from Commission Members

Commissioner Sinlapasai-Okamura: The 5th National Asian American Theater Conference & Festival will be in Ashland for 10 days in the fall of 2016, partnering with Oregon Shakespeare Festival. They will partner with local artists and create theater pieces about issues facing API Americans. On Oct 2-4, 2015, there is a VIP meeting in Ashland for planning (Refugee Nations show) which Chanpone will attend.

Commissioner Santos-Lyons reminded OCAPIA members to take APANO's survey. APANO is releasing Oregon's changing demographics study, on Wednesday, 10/14 in Portland. By invitation only. 5:30 - 8:00pm. Invitations sent in July. All of OCAPIA is invited.

VIII. Public Comment - Gary Sims of the Department of Corrections introduced himself.

IX. Adjourn - the meeting was adjourned at 12:05.

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 18th, 2015, 9:30am – 12pm
OS Bar, Sandy Mtg Room, 16037 SW Upper Boones Ferry Rd., Tigard 97224

Note: Executive Appointments will accept Interest Forms at any time to fill an empty seat.