

COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

October 7, 1999
University of Northern Colorado
Greeley, Colorado

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: J. Lamar Allen; Raymond T. Baker; Alexander E. Bracken, Chair; Marion Gottesfeld; David Greenberg; Robert Hessler; Peggy G. Lamm; Ralph Nagel, Vice Chair; and Dean Quamme.

Advisory Committee Present: Senator Kenneth Arnold; Penelope H. Bauer; Representative Nolbert D. Chavez; Calvin Frazier; Jane Hammond; and Sandy Hume.

Commission Staff Present: Timothy E. Foster, Executive Director; JoAnn Evans; James Jacobs; and Sharon Samson.

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education was called to order at 10:15 a.m. in the Panorama Room in the University Center at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley.

Action: Commissioner Hessler moved approval of the minutes of the September 2, 1999, regular meeting and the September 21, 1999, teleconference meeting. Commissioner Gottesfeld seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

II. Reports

A. Chair's Report

Chair Bracken recognized Hank Brown, President of the University of Northern Colorado (UNC). President Brown welcomed the Commission to the UNC campus. He reported that UNC is having a dramatic year. The freshman class is the largest it has ever been and overall enrollment at UNC is high. UNC is planning to ask the Commission to raise the institution's index score to 92. The institution conducted a year-long administrative cost study, and the implementation of the study resulted in savings of \$3 million which have been redistributed to the classroom. As a result of the study the campus has developed a climate of looking at savings. Following this meeting President Brown made a presentation about other UNC activities.

Chair Bracken thanked President Brown for hosting the meeting and excused the absence of Commissioner Terrance Farina. Commissioner Bracken reported that during the past month he met with the University of Colorado Regents and with the State Board of Agriculture. Both meetings focused on key issues of performance funding, higher education study, and Quality Indicator System. These meetings provided an opportunity for good discussion around higher

education issues. There is great value in the Commission coming together with governing boards to discuss matters of common interest and there will be more meetings in the next several months.

Shane Okamoto, Vice President of Legislative Affairs for the UNC Student Representative Council (UNC student governing body), welcomed the Commission to the campus. He outlined the structure of student government at UNC, which parallels the institution's administrative structure, with each Council vice president is paired with a UNC administrator. The Chair thanked Mr. Okamoto and emphasized the importance of student input.

B. Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Nagel reported that the Commission subcommittee on capital construction met twice during the past month. The subcommittee has reviewed all the program plans and several capital construction items discussed at the November meeting. Commissioners Baker, Nagel and Vollbracht make up the subcommittee.

C. Advisory Committee Reports

Sandy Hume reported that he has been working with two legislators to draft legislation to create a different outcome to Bird-Arveschogh, TABOR, and GAP funds on behalf of K-12. He warned that any legislation may create some anxiety in the postsecondary education arena. He will keep the Commission informed of the progress.

Jane Hammond, Colorado Student Association (CSA) representative, reported that the CSA is hosting its 1999 Fall Representative Assembly on October 9, 1999, at Colorado State University. The purpose of the assembly is to set the platforms for the 2000 legislative session.

Senator Kenneth Arnold stated support for Sandy Hume's efforts to provide funding for K-12 education. He also reported that on October 6, UNC made a presentation on teacher training to the Joint Education Committee. Upgrading K-12 education is on the forefront of issues facing Colorado and during the legislative session, the Education Committees will meet with higher education institutions to discuss teacher training.

Dr. Calvin Frazier reported that Colorado is doing things in the area of teacher training that other states are just beginning to look at. He has been working with Texas A and M system to build formal partnership with public K-12 schools focused on improving teaching. Colorado is a leader in partnerships between higher education-K12 relationship.

III. Consent Items

A. Policy Changes

Executive Director Foster explained consent items will be acted on by the Commission without discussion unless the Commission decides to remove the item from the Consent agenda to an Action item.

This agenda item informed the Commission of three policy changes:

CCHE Policy VI-H: Colorado Teacher Encouragement Program (deleted)

CCHE Policy VI-I: Paul Douglas Teacher Scholarship Program (deleted)

CCHE Policy VI-D: Reciprocal Tuition Agreements (revised)

Since the two scholarship programs are no longer funded by federal or state dollars, staff has recommended deleting the related policies. The changes in the Reciprocal Tuition Agreements Policy reflect Commission action taken on this policy and current practice.

Action: Commissioner Baker moved approval of the Consent Item. Commissioner Greenberg seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

IV. Action Items

A. Fiscal Year 2000-2001 CCHE Budget Request and Governing Board Recommendation

Jim Jacobs reported that every state agency presents a budget to the Governor through the Office of State Planning and Budgeting. After OSPB approval, it goes to the legislative Joint Budget Committee. The JBC presents the state budget, the Long Bill, to the General Assembly usually in March. After the General Assembly makes any changes, the budget goes to the Governor. The Governor has a line item veto in Colorado.

Mr. Jacobs outlined the 2000-2001 budget request by CCHE to OSPB. CCHE request totals \$742.9 million in general fund support and \$706.4 million in cash funds (tuition and instructional fees). Of the total general fund support, nearly \$80 million is requested for financial aid. CCHE has not received OSPB's figure contained in a "mark letter". The Mark Letter will show OSPB's request to the legislature for funding.

For many years higher education funding increases were based upon enrollment and inflation changes. In its request to OSPB, CCHE is seeking a \$42 million increase in total general fund support. Of that total, \$32 million would go to the governing boards for the performance funding system. For the first year, up to 25 percent of new funding would be allocated for enrollment changes, and 75 percent using performance indicators. The CCHE request also includes \$1 million for rural access, a new initiative, and \$6.6 million in additional support for financial aid.

Mr. Jacobs showed the Commission two tables that look at increases and total funding for higher education. He noted that a footnote in last year's long bill limited CCHE's request this year to a 6 percent increase in total funding. The CCHE 2000-2001 request includes a 9 percent increase for financial aid, with the largest component being need-based aid. Jacobs noted that approximately 11 percent of financial aid in 1999 went to students attending private or proprietary schools. He briefly discussed the new scholarship program, the Governor's Opportunity Scholarship (GOS). The GOS program began in June 1999 and has been successful in providing scholarships for students who would not otherwise attend college.

Tim Foster said the original funding for GOS was \$1.5 million. An additional \$400,000 was found for a total of \$1.9 million. In the need-based line of this request, CCHE will seek \$2 million to be added to the continuing GOS program. Of the \$37 million in this year's need-based portion of financial aid is \$1.9 for GOS. This program will be funded cumulatively so that students will be funded for their four years in the program. This year there are 400 students receiving GOS. We would anticipate continuing to add to about 400 students in each of the next three years and increase funding by \$2 million in each of the next three years.

Senator Arnold had a question about the \$238,800 deleted for nursing. Tim Foster pointed out that there was a nursing crisis a few years ago and this program will be phased out as there is no longer a crisis in that area. Jim Jacobs also reported that the nursing program will be repealed as of July 1, 2001.

Advisory Committee member Sandy Hume asked if CCHE wanted to bring focus to graduate scholarship. Mr. Jacobs responded to a question concerning the total allocation to graduate students. On the basis of FY 1999 data, about \$2.1 million was allocated to graduate-defined programs out of \$63.6 million.

Robert Moore, Vice President for Budget and Finance at the Colorado School of Mines, reported that the CFOs anticipate in-state enrollment to grow by two percent this year. This would generate over \$8.5 million in enrollment funding under the new system. He pointed out that Mr. Jacobs was correct in stating that not all of the \$42 million increase is controlled by the governing boards, as a portion of the funding is given to students attending proprietary and private schools. There were no other institutional comments.

Jane Hammond, CSA representative, asked where the funding was for diversity. Tim Foster stated that the Commission does not line item to the governing boards for pre-collegiate/recruitment programs.

Staff Recommendation:

That the Commission adopt the budget recommendation for the governing boards and the request for the CCHE budget.

Action: Commissioner Hessler moved to approve the staff recommendation. Commissioner Greenberg seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

V. Items for Discussion and Possible Action

A. Master Plan

Executive Director Foster outlined the first draft of the master plan for the Colorado Commission on Higher Education. The purpose of the master plan is to provide a framework and an outline of the goals and objectives of the Commission. The governing boards and institutions will have an opportunity to discuss and provide input into the master plan. The plan is based on the results of the goals and objectives arrived at the Commission's Advance held July 1 and 2, 1999.

Higher education enrollment growth has not kept pace with the state's population growth, and raises the concern of is Colorado's graduating seniors not attending college? And, how does the state do a better job of attracting students to attend college in general and Colorado public higher education institutions in particular?

The goals of the Commission are:

1. Improved Access to Higher Education

The Commission's goal is to ensure that income levels and geographic location do not exclude Colorado residents who want an education beyond high school. To that end it is the commission's goal that Colorado will have the nation's highest rate of high school graduates enrolled in a public higher education institution.

2. Performance-Based Budgeting

The Commission's goal is to implement a performance-based budgeting system that rewards performance in funding allocation decisions.

3. Quality Indicator System

The Commission will develop a comprehensive Quality Indicator System to address the issues identified in the 1996 legislative session and amended by SB 99-229.

4. Improved Asset Management

The Commission's goal is to ensure that the state's capital assets are maintained and that the state makes good capital investments.

5. Technology Focus

The Commission will improve the use of technology in delivering instruction and ensure that students are trained to use current and future technology.

Executive Director Foster highlighted each of the above goals and reported that the Commission will center on goal #1 by continuing to focus on the Governor's Opportunity Scholarship (GOS) and revise the financial aid policy for need-based and merit-based awards. Findings indicate a significant number of merit-based aid is going to students with lower than 3.0 grade point average (gpa). In addition the Commission will be utilizing the 1289 study to start addressing strategies to increase enrollment at Colorado's public institutions of higher education.

Performance-based funding (goal #2) is moving forward and Quality Indicator System (goal #3) is being reviewed based on SB 229.

On goal #4, State Architect, Larry Friedberg will provide a report on deferred maintenance. The maintenance of Colorado's buildings is a high priority. Currently two facility requests for new capital construction are really deferred maintenance.

Goal #5 is technology focused. The community college system has moved forward a capital construction request for technology to deliver rural access efficiently. Next year with the Governor's Office of Innovation and Technology will come back with additional technology requests. Since the Joint Budget Committee denied a one-time request for technology, higher education did not come back this year with another one-time request.

The volume of the information requested is enormous and CCHE will request a February deadline date. After the data is collected from the institutions and analyzed, then staff will consult with governing boards.

The Commission will discuss the duplication of teacher education programs at 13 institutions. In addition, the Commission, staff, and representatives of the Colorado Department of Education will conduct public interest group meetings around the state with teachers and superintendents on teacher education to find out how higher education can provide the quality needed in the classroom.

The intent is to adopt the draft master plan in sixty days and formalize the plan within the next couple of months. The master plan will be discussed at the November and December meetings.

VI. Written Reports for Possible Discussion

A. Concept Papers

Before an institution develops a full proposal, the governing board or its staff shall submit a short concept paper to CCHE that outlines the proposed program goals, the basic design of the program, the market it plans to serve, and the reasons why the program is appropriate for the institution and its role and mission. CCHE policy does not require the governing board to approve the concept paper.

After the Commission staff reviews the concept paper, a staff member meets with representatives of the governing board to discuss issues and concerns related to the proposed degree. The staff presents the issues that need to be addressed in the full degree program proposal. A concept paper may be submitted by the governing board at any time and may be included on any Commission agenda.

The full proposal for a new degree program reaches the Commission only after undergoing review by, and receiving approval from, the governing board.

(1) B.S. in Computer Information Systems at Mesa State College

The Commission accepted the concept paper for the B.S. in Computer Information Systems at Mesa State College.

(2) B.F.A./B.A. in Theatre at Metropolitan State College of Denver

The Commission accepted the concept paper for the B.F.A./B.A. in Theatre at Metropolitan State College of Denver.

(3) B.A. in Women's Studies at Metropolitan State College of Denver

The Commission accepted the concept paper for the B.A. in Women's Studies at Metropolitan State College of Denver.

B. Teacher Education Work Plan

Dr. Sharon Samson summarized SB 99-154 implementation activities currently in progress. She noted that CCHE staff has consulted with the Colorado Department of Education on the procedures for approving licensure programs. She noted that the CDE will review each proposal for the relevancy of the content to the K-12 content standards while the Commission will examine the other performance-based measures outlined in the statute, including student's advising, ability to use technology in the curriculum, and ability to complete a degree in four years, i.e., 120 credit hours. She notified the Commission that the Commission is tentatively scheduled to discuss the Teacher Education Policy in February and adopt the policy in March. This timing will allow the Commission to consider proposals for new licensure programs in June 2000.

Recognizing that CCHE's major challenge in the next few months is identifying performance measures, CCHE will be hosting regional round tables with school superintendents and master teachers, conducting a statewide teacher quality and shortage survey, forming an assessment working group with five evaluation experts on loan from Colorado institutions, and will be coding all approved teacher education programs. She stated that these activities are the foundation for building a strong accountability system. Beginning July 2000, CCHE staff in conjunction with CDE staff will review each licensed program. The Commission will reauthorize those programs that meet the statutory performance standards.

Executive Director Foster explained that the statute requires CCHE to review and authorize programs. The licensure programs will automatically expire in June 30, 2001, if not approved by CCHE. When the program is discontinued, the students in the pipeline continue their program, but no additional students may be admitted.

Advisory member Cal Frazier commended the Commission for its continuing dialogue with the State Board of Education to coordinate the implementation of SB 99-154. He mentioned that the State Board of Education would like to participate in the regional meetings with school superintendents. He added three issues to Commission consideration that are not specifically addressed in the work plan -- the approval of licensure programs offered by private schools, the 800 hour field experience requirement, noting that he has heard many excuses for not providing the 800 hours, and the future of the PLACE examination. He acknowledged that the Commission with its mandate to develop a reward system to recognize faculty contributions to field-based programs holds great promise for achieving strong teacher education programs.

Commissioner Bracken responded that the Commission is concerned not only about the number of hours of field experience but the quality, that is that students are assigned to master teachers.

Mr. Foster stated that Commissioner Moloney will attend the November Commission meeting to continue the discussion of the PLACE examinations and possible alternative tests.

Action: Commissioner Lamm moved adjournment of the meeting. Commissioner Hessler seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.