

COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

September 21, 1999
Teleconference Meeting
1300 Broadway, Second Floor
Denver, Colorado

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Alexander E. Bracken, Chair; Terrance L. Farina; Marion S. Gottesfeld; David E. Greenberg; Robert A. Hessler; Ralph J. Nagel, Vice Chair; and William Vollbracht.

Commission Staff Present: Timothy E. Foster, Executive Director; Jeanne Adkins; JoAnn Evans; and Robert Haddock.

Governing Board Representatives: David Clark, Lee Halgren, Michel Dahlin, and Mary Ellen McEldowney.

I. Call to Order

The teleconference meeting of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education was called to order at 3:30 p.m. in the Executive Director's Office at the Colorado Commission on Higher Education, in Denver, Colorado.

II. HB 99-1289 Study

The single purpose of the teleconference meeting was to provide an opportunity for the Commission to discuss the elements of the higher education study. CCHE staff want to be sure they are following the general direction of the Commission. It was the consensus of the Commission that the direction of the update of the study is fine.

Jeanne Adkins reported that all internal teams have workplans in place and have responded to the policy team. She has had institutional meetings with the data advisory group and the HB-1289 advisory group which includes representatives of every governing board. She pointed out that there are some areas where higher education institution data might have been collected from outside resources only to find that institutions have not participated or supplied the data for a specific survey. Governing boards will monitor data requests to ensure that institutions will meet timetables to respond to CCHE requests.

Commissioner Farina want to know if there was consensus in the subcommittees and governing board representatives regarding the scope of questions. Ms. Adkins reported that all the questions in the study will be addressed in response to the legislative mandate. However, where data is not readily available, staff will provide what is available and ask the legislature to move a missing item into the second year of the study.

A subcommittee of institutional data experts will develop a proposal to address the faculty productivity aspect of the study. Instead of surveying all faculty, an option may be to do a statistically valid sample survey.

The deadline dates for actual data delivery have been moved back. The first draft deadlines will be re-evaluated at a meeting later in the week of September 20, 1999. The report is due to the legislature January 10, 2000.

Commissioner Farina asked the governing board representatives present at this meeting for their comments. Dr. David Clark, representative of the Colorado State University System, responded that Ms. Adkins' report fairly characterized the meeting and the institutions' understanding of the plan and data requests. He said that the boards don't disagree to the validity of the questions, but disagree as to certain measurement approaches. However, the governing board representatives and CCHE staff are on the way to resolving those concerns, and there may be different approaches to address some of the questions.

Dr. Lee Halgren, representative of the State Colleges of Colorado, stated that a great deal of progress has been made on the process. There is a nagging issue as to the horrendous amount of data that will be coming into CCHE staff. Dr. Michel Dahlin, representative of the University of Colorado, said a great deal of progress was made during the team meetings.

The Commission raised questions or asked for clarification about Tabor impact, vouchers, financial aid issues, facility maintenance, and the state personnel system impact. Staff clarified each question and all will be addressed in the report.

There were no decisions or formal action taken at this meeting. Staff will continue to inform and update the Commission on the progress of data collection in response to the study. The teleconference adjourned at 4:40 p.m.