

COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

February 1, 2002
Denver Public Library
Denver, Colorado

MINUTES

Commissioners

Present: Judith Altenberg, Raymond T. Baker; Terrance L. Farina; David E. Greenberg; Peggy Lamm, Chair; "Pres" Montoya; Ralph J. Nagel; Dean L. Quamme, Vice Chair; James Stewart; and Judy Weaver.

Advisory Committee

Present: Senator Ken Arnold; Wayne Artis; John Buechner; Robert A. Hessler; Kevin Kasel; Representative Nancy Spence; Larry Strutton; Senator Ron Tupa; and Senator Sue Windels.

Commission Staff

Present: Timothy E. Foster, Executive Director; Jeanne Adkins; Preston Bostrom; Andy Breckel; Dennis Berry; JoAnn Evans; Robert Haddock; Rick Hum; Jim Jacobs; Ray Kieft; Bridget Mullen; Sharon Samson; and Shirley Tipton.

I. Call to Order

Chair Peggy Lamm called the regular meeting of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education to order at 10:10 a.m. in the Conference Center of the Denver Public Library in Denver, Colorado.

Action: Commissioner Quamme moved approval of the minutes of the January 11, 2002, regular meeting. Commissioner Nagel seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

II. Reports

A. Chair's Report

Commissioner Lamm, Chair of the Commission, reported that Commission Vollbracht was excused absent.

B. Commissioners' Reports

No reports.

C. Advisory Committee Reports

No reports.

D. Public Comment

No comments.

III. Consent Items

A. Proposals for New Academic Degree Programs

(1) Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Neuroscience at the University of Colorado at Boulder

The Regents of the University of Colorado requested approval of a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Neuroscience to be offered at the University of Colorado at Boulder. The proposed degree program is intended to offer “high quality education and advanced training in neuroscience...” Through a combination of “core” and “specialty” coursework, and research experience, a student will become broadly knowledgeable in neuroscience.

The proposed degree is within the institution’s role and mission, student interest in pursuing an advanced degree in this field exists, UCB has considerable research dollars to support a doctoral degree, and the lack of a degree places UCB in a competitive disadvantage. The staff recommend that the Commission approve the request of the Regents of the University of Colorado to offer a Doctor of Philosophy in Neuroscience at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Staff Recommendation

That the Commission approve the request of the Regents of the University of Colorado to offer a Doctor of Philosophy in Neuroscience at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Action: Commissioner Nagel moved approval of the staff recommendation. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

IV. Action Items

A. 2002-2003 Student Financial Aid Budget Parameters

In compliance with regulations for states that participate in federal financial aid programs, the Commission annually recommends guidelines for student living expenses (room and board, transportation, books and supplies, personal, and childcare expenses) for use by postsecondary institutions approved to participate in Colorado student financial assistance programs. While the state budget

parameters establish a reference point, each institution may adjust the state parameters to reflect actual local costs.

Staff Recommendation

That the Commission approve the 2002-2003 Student Financial Aid Budget Parameters.

Action: Commissioner Quamme moved approval of the staff recommendation. Commissioner Nagel seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

V. Discussion and Possible Action

A. Performance Contract for Colorado School of Mines - Implementation of SB 01-229

The Colorado School of Mines is the first Colorado institution to become one of the compact schools. Senate Bill 01-229 directs that a performance contract be established between the Board of Trustees of the Colorado School of Mines (CSM) and the Commission. Dr. Ray Kieft, CCHE staff, and Robert Moore, Vice President of Finance at CSM, outlined the performance contract which specifies the performance goals that CSM must achieve during the period of the agreement as well as the authority granted to the Board of Trustees for certain decisions and recommendations which here-to-fore have resided with the Commission (e.g., block grant funding, tuition increases, new program approval). The performance contract is in lieu of CSM's annual compliance with Article 13, Section 23 of the Colorado Revised Statutes and its participation in the Quality Indicator System and the associated performance funding system.

Dr. Kieft pointed out that CSM is an internationally recognized institution of higher education with an esteemed and established level of quality and excellence. Therefore, the agreement fashioned with CSM will be different than any potential agreement might be with any other institution of higher education in Colorado. CSM also has a highly focused role and mission.

Robert Moore stated that CSM believe the agreement is a fair representation of a step forward in the process. The agreement does not include everything that CSM and CCHE staff desired due to constraints in SB 229, however, it is focused on the most important issues.

Commissioners raised questions about issues not addressed in the contract. The issues not addressed are the state purchasing procedures, fleet management and management of classified personnel system. It was the Commission's hope that the compact school contract would open the doors to resolving some of these issues that are perceived by institutions to be major barriers. Mr. Moore explained that the Department of Personnel Administration was directed to work on tow of the areas cited. He also pointed out that CSM is not currently prepared to have a different personnel system. In addition, the Commission asked Mr. Moore to elaborate on how CSM would met the goals set forth in the contract.

Mr. Moore responded that CSM will admit any Colorado resident student with an index score of 110 or above. CSM has several ways to assess student success, including an industry representative review team. In addition, the institution is in a capital fundraising campaign of \$50 million of which will be set aside for financial aid.

Staff Recommendation

That the Commission approve the performance agreement between the Colorado School of Mines and the Commission for the period FY 2002-2007 and forward the agreement to the appropriate committees of the General Assembly in accordance with the provisions of SB 01-229.

Action: Commissioner Farina moved approval of the staff recommendation. Commissioner Quamme seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

VI. Written Reports for Possible Discussion

A. ColoradoMentor Program Presentation

Jeanne Adkins presented the role out of the ColoradoMentor.org project. A number of high school students were present to work with the Commissioners to help the Commissioners navigate the web site. ColoradoMentor.org is a student-centered internet-based public online resource to help students and their families select a college, apply for admission, and plan to finance higher education. ColoradoMentor offers total access to information and admission applications for degree-granting colleges and universities within Colorado.

As part of the presentation, the Commissioners had a hands-on opportunity to experience the web site.

B. Review of Financial Audit Findings Directed Toward Colorado's Higher Education Institutions in FY 2000-2001

The Commission accepted the report on the review of financial audit findings directed toward Colorado's higher education institutions in FY 2000-2001. The State requires annual audits of all publicly-supported institutions and their governing boards. In FY 2001, the institutions and their governing boards received unqualified opinions (no significant issues were identified in the audit). Each institution works with the Office of the State Auditor to select a firm for its annual audit. Upon completion, the State Auditor reviews the audits for any substantive or material issues of concern. This summary review of the annual audits is part of the general fiscal oversight by the Commission of governing board and institution financial practices.

C. Report on Distance Education Coordinating Council

The Commission accepted the report of the Distance Education Coordinating Council.

D. Legislative Report: Remedial Education

The Commission accepted the Remedial Education Report.

E. Concept Papers

1. Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice at the University of Northern Colorado

The Trustees of the University of Northern Colorado submitted a concept paper for a Bachelor of Arts (B. A.) in Criminal Justice to be offered by the University of Northern Colorado. The Commission accepted the concept paper as submitted.

2. Bachelor of Arts in Special Education at the University of Northern Colorado

The Trustees of the University of Northern Colorado submitted a concept paper for a Bachelor of Arts (B. A.) in Special Education to be offered by the University of Northern Colorado. The Commission accepted the concept paper as submitted.

F. Degree Program Name Changes and Endorsement Titles

The Commission accepted the report on Program Name Changes and Endorsement Titles under Delegated Authority approved by the Executive Director:

A. Institution: University of Southern Colorado
Current Endorsement Title: Automotive Parts and Service Management
Revised Endorsement Title: Automotive Industry Management
Approved by: State Board of Agriculture
(October 8, 2001)

Rationale:

The revised program name more accurately describes the content of the program. Automotive Parts and Service Management was too restrictive to represent the curriculum.

Scope of Proposed Change:

Curriculum and degree requirements remain the same.

Proposed Action by the Executive Director:

Approve the endorsement title change as requested, effective immediately.

Institutional Role and Mission Recommendations
(Commission and Blue Ribbon Panel)

The morning portion of the meeting concluded at 11:56 a.m. at which time the Blue Ribbon joined the Commission to continue discussions of the recommendations regarding the institutional role and mission statements.

Executive Director Foster outlined the proposed Role and Mission Recommendations. He reported that there will be proposed legislation in the 2002 session regarding the governance of Metropolitan State College of Denver and the name change for University of Southern Colorado. The USC legislation will include guidelines for the regional education providers. Since it is too late to submit new legislation, a clean-up bill for the role and mission statements for the remaining institutions will be taken care of in 2003 legislation. The Executive Order regarding the Blue Ribbon Panel states that the Commission presents a recommendation to the Blue Ribbon Panel then the Blue Ribbon Panel has the option to act on that recommendation. A quorum of the Commission and a quorum of the Blue Ribbon Panel were present at this meeting.

Dr. Sharon Samson outlined the proposed role and mission recommendations. The testimony at the joint Commission/Blue Ribbon Panel hearings and information provided by the institutions on their individual strengths, indicated that the Commission could facilitate increased access and help grow Colorado's public higher education system by implementing three policies that enhance the system's ability to provide access. Dr. Samson noted that the three recommendations are conceptual. The details will be developed in the traditional consultation mode with the governing boards.

1. Access - Regional Education Provider

Implementation of a Regional Education Provider Policy to establish which institution is the primary agent accountable for access within a specific area of the state.

Regional Education Providers - are made of the moderately selective admission institutions that are located in rural Colorado. The regional education provider brokers the course or program from the offering institution and may provide classes for cash or FTE funding. Ms. Samson clarified that the state off-campus funded program authority that currently resides at CCHE would be delegated to the regional education providers. A formal policy on the regional education provider process will be developed in consultation with governing boards.

2. Access - Admission Standards Policy Changes

Revision of CCHE's Admission Standards Policy to reflect more clearly focus on student success with respect to retention, persistence and graduation.

Following the Blue Ribbon Panel's direction at the November 15 hearing, CCHE has been consulting with the Admission Standards Working Committee to analyze changes to the admission standards. Reducing the "window" and the other recommendations will be discussed by the Commission at its April 2002 meeting.

Action: Commissioner Greenberg made a motion to remove the specific numerical references to recommendation #2, regarding the issues on admission standards and proceed with the philosophy of the recommendation. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried by vote of nine in favor and one opposed (Lamm).

Action: David Greenberg, as a member of the Blue Ribbon Panel, made the same motion (as above) to the Blue Ribbon Panel. Representative Kelley Daniel seconded the motion and the motion carried by a consensus vote.

Differentiation - Name Change to University of Southern Colorado

Differentiation of institutional mission statements in policy to articulate the core values and market niche that distinguish one institution from another, and consequently their unique contribution to access.

3. Differentiation addressed three factors:
 - access to the undergraduate programs/admissions standards
 - unique focus of the institutional
 - exclusive authority of the institution

There was discussion about the admission index for Colorado State University. Dr. Yates recommended that it be a highly selective institution. Upon further discussion it was the consensus that CSU remain a "selective" admission institution.

Action: It was the consensus of the committee that Adams State College should play a "significant role" in serving education personnel in rural Colorado.

Action: Commissioner Lamm made a motion that the Commission/Blue Ribbon Panel approve (as a group) the [admission standards] role and mission policy differentiation statements as presented with edits as suggested for the following institutions: UCB, UCD, UCCS, UCHSC, UNC, Community College System, CSU, and CSM. Commissioner Greenberg seconded the motion and the motion carried by consensus vote.

Action: Commissioner Lamm moved that the Commission accept the regional educator providers as following: Adams State College, Mesa State College, Western State College, and Fort Lewis College. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion and the motion carried by consensus vote.

Action: Commissioner Lamm moved approval of the recommended role and mission policy differentiation for Metropolitan State College of Denver. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion and the motion carried by consensus vote.

Action: Commissioner Lamm moved to approve the recommended role and mission policy differentiation for Adams State College, Mesa State College, and Western State College. Bruce Benson seconded the motion and the motion carried by consensus vote.

President Hoffman asked for a clarification of the motions to assure that the motion affected the "role and mission policy differentiation" statements in policy. Commissioner Lamm and Bruce Benson confirmed that was the intent of the motions.

Dr. Samson outlined the premises for name change for the University of Southern Colorado to Colorado State University at Pueblo:

- Narrowness of polytechnic institution may disenfranchise potential students
- Experienced enrollment declines partially due to retention
- Increase in academic quality may increase student demand
- Closer affiliation with CSU will provide resources that will complement and supplement USC's and allow it to achieve its quality goals.

CCHE supported modifying the existing statute to rename USC which implies a closer affiliation with CSU, programmatically and financially. Chancellor Yates reported that the State Board of Agriculture (SBA) has revised the reporting authority of the president of the University of Southern Colorado to report directly to the Chancellor of the SBA to assure the success of all SBA institutions. The Chancellor is responsible for assuring that the goals and objective of the SBA are realized and to enhance the accountability of USC to SBA. The Chancellor will use the resources of the system to ensure the success of the intent of HB 1406 to enhance USC. CSU as a land grant institution, has a statewide mission and will work to further the success of USC and southern Colorado. Representative Joyce Lawrence supports the State Board of Agriculture's action.

Action: Ray Baker, a member of the Blue Ribbon Panel, made a motion to accept President Yates's recommendation to support the name change for the University of Southern Colorado, conditional on governing board resources, including financial support. Representative Nancy Spence seconded the motion and the motion carried by consensus.

Ron Pettigrew stated that with the proposed name change for USC to CSU-Pueblo, there may be similar changes to the governance structure of Fort Lewis College. He invited members of the Blue Ribbon Panel to Durango for a public forum on the governance of Fort Lewis College. Representative Mark Larson seconded Mr. Pettigrew's invitation to Durango to discuss the future governance of Fort Lewis College.

Action: Commissioner Judy Weaver moved that the Commission accept USC's Role and Mission Recommendations as amended. Commissioner Nagel seconded the motion and the motion carried by consensus.

Presidents Yates and Hoffman both asked that the recommendation regarding exempting institutions that accept all qualified Colorado residents from the non-resident limitation be tabled to allow further discussion in greater detail with the Commission at a later time.

Action: Commissioner Greenberg moved that the Commission provide an opportunity for further discussion regarding the recommendation that an institution that accepts all Colorado residents that meet its index score defined by the Commission are exempt from limitations on nonresident enrollment. Commissioner Altenberg seconded the motion. Representative Berry recommended a substitute motion that the Commission will continue to look at the admission index scores and the nonresident and resident tuition. The motion carried by majority. The vote on the motion to accept the Role and Mission Recommendations as amended passed unanimously.

Action: Commissioner Greenberg moved to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.