

COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

March 1, 2002
University of Colorado at Denver
Auraria Higher Education Center
Denver, Colorado

MINUTES

Commissioners

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

Advisory Committee

Present: Wayne Artis (via telephone); Representative Kelley Daniel; Kevin Kasel; and Senator Sue Windels.

Commission Staff

Present: Timothy E. Foster, Executive Director; Jeanne Adkins; Brian Burnett; JoAnn Evans; Jim Jacobs; Joan Johnson; Ray Kieft; and Sharon Samson.

I. Call to Order

Chair Peggy Lamm called the regular meeting of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education to order at 1:10 p.m. in the Tivoli Student Union on the Auraria Campus hosted by the University of Colorado at Denver.

Action: Commissioner Montoya moved approval of the minutes of the February 1, 2002, regular meeting. Commissioner Altenberg seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

II. Reports

A. Chair's Report

Commissioner Lamm, Chair of the Commission, reported that Commissioners Ralph Nagel and Judy Weaver would participate in the meeting via teleconference. Advisory Committee member Wayne Artis also participated by telephone.

The Chair welcomed Representative Kelley Daniel as a new Advisory Committee member to the Commission, replacing Representative Nolbert Chavez, and reported that Robert Hessler resigned from the Advisory Committee.

The Chair also thanked the University of Colorado at Denver for hosting the meeting.

The Chair reported that she and Executive Director Foster met with high school counselors and others in Durango about the ColoradoMentor program. They also met with the Durango editorial board about the mentor program and other higher education interests.

She, Tim Foster, Bruce Benson, co-chair of the Blue Ribbon Panel on Higher Education, and Representative Kelley Daniel attended two public focus group meetings in Durango regarding the Fort Lewis College and its future governance structure. The meetings were very well attended and provided an opportunity for good discussion with the community.

B. Commissioners' Reports

No reports.

C. Advisory Committee Reports

No reports.

D. Public Comment

George Walker addressed the Commission regarding higher education funding.

III. Consent Items

A. Proposals for New Academic Degree Programs

(1) Ph.D. in Computer Science and Information Systems at the University of Colorado at Denver

The Regents of the University of Colorado, in conjunction with the Colorado Institute of Technology, submitted a proposal for a Ph.D. in Computer Science and Information Systems to be offered by the University of Colorado at Denver. The program is intended to (1) provide a doctoral degree that meets the needs of current professionals in the computing field, and (2) enhance technology transfer between CSIS academic units and Front Range technology businesses through joint research, student internships, faculty externships, and industry participation.

Dr. Samson reported that this degree proposal is very innovative and has received strong support from people in the industry and in the academic world. She stated that essential elements in the degree proposal review process include evidence that the institution has demonstrated performance as a strong doctoral-granting institution and that the proposed program is or will be a potential leader in the field. Atypical to consent items, Dr. Jack Burns and Dr. Midge Cousins were invited to briefly outline the proposal.

Dr. Jack Burns, Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Colorado, reported that the Regents and University of Colorado administration are enthusiastic about this innovative program.

Dr. Midge Cousins, Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Colorado at Denver and a member of the Colorado Institute of Technology, reported that the proposal represents a collaboration between business and industry, and the University of Colorado at Denver to provide Ph.D.s who are cross-trained in engineering and in business. The program builds on a base of master's degree students with degrees in computer science or information systems. The program provides the integration of research and education with performance-based funding structure.

Staff Recommendation

That the Commission approve the request of the University of Colorado Regents to offer a Ph.D. degree in Computer Science and Information Systems at the University of Colorado at Denver.

(2) **Proposal to Offer a Bachelor of Arts in Special Education at Metropolitan State College of Denver**

The Trustees of The State Colleges in Colorado requested approval to offer a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree in Special Education at Metropolitan State College of Denver (MSCD). The degree program will meet the new teacher education performance model, including focusing the content of the education courses on the new standards for special education developed by the professional society in this field. The proposed Special Education degree will be the only undergraduate degree offered at Metropolitan State College of Denver that leads to Special Education licensure.

Staff Recommendation

That the Commission approve the request of the Trustees of The State Colleges of Colorado to offer a Bachelor of Arts in Special Education at Metropolitan State College of Denver and grant the degree program Special Education teacher authorization with the understanding that applies to all teacher education proposals -- the institution will provide an assessment plan for general education by May 30, 2002.

B. Front Range Community College Proposal to Relocate Colorado Advanced Photonics Technology Center from Former HEAT Center

The State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education requested approval of the Front Range Community College (FRCC) amended program plan for the Colorado Advanced Photonics Technology Center (CAPT) to relocate from its present location at the former Higher Education Advanced Technology (HEAT) Center to leased facilities in Longmont. Tenant improvements at the new facility will be financed using existing CCFE appropriated to the project in Fiscal Year 1999. Moving expenses and lease payments will be paid out of existing CAPT Center operating funds.

Staff Recommendation

That the Commission approve the Amended Facilities Program Plan submitted by FRCC and approved by SBCCOE for the relocation of the CAPT Center with the understanding that all costs associated with the move will be covered within the existing CAPT Center CCFE appropriation and the operating CAPT Center budget, and with the further understanding that approval by the plan must also be obtained from the Capital Development Committee of the General Assembly before the move can be initiated.

Action: Commissioner Lamm asked for consent to move agenda items IV A and IV D to consent items. Unanimous consent was given.

Action: Commissioner Farina moved approval of the consent items (III A1, III A2, III B, IV A, and IV D). Commissioner Montoya seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

IV. Action Items

A. Western State College Request to Increase Non-Resident Tuition by an Additional \$200 - FY 2003 CCHE Budget Request

The Trustees of The State Colleges submitted a request to increase non-resident tuition at Western State College by an additional \$200 or about 2.5 percent. This increase would be above any inflationary increase approved by the General Assembly. Western State College has projected a FY2002-03 budgetary shortfall of \$1,712,147. The institution proposes to address this problem on the revenue side through additional monies generated from a "special" non-resident tuition increase. On the expenditures side, they have undertaken various budgetary cuts. Staff supports the request.

Staff Recommendation

That the Commission approve the \$200 increase in non-resident tuition for FY 2003. Such an increase would be above any inflationary increase adopted by the general assembly. Staff would also recommend that approval of future non-resident tuition increases be examined after assessing changes in enrollment and retention rates for non-resident students.

Action: This item was moved to a consent item and approved by the consent motion (see III above).

B. Discussion and Approval of Management Structure at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center (UCHSC) and Fitzsimons Research Complex, Education Space

The Regents of the University of Colorado submitted a request to the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) for approval of an appropriation of \$6.85 million from the Trust Fund for the Fitzsimons Research Complex, Education Space for the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center (UCHSC). This request is pending in a not-yet-introduced supplemental bill on capital construction.

Ms. Joan Johnson outlined the project's five-year history. She reported that in the past month the Joint Budget Committee voted to include a \$6.85 million appropriation in the yet-to-be introduced capital construction supplemental bill for 2001-02. This money would come from the Fitzsimons trust fund and would be used to finish off the education space in Education I. Originally \$3 million was earmarked for the design phase of both Education I and Education II, now designated as Ed IA and Ed I B. Only \$464,000 of the \$3 million was used to design the education space in Research I, leaving a balance of \$2.5 million to be used for the design of Education II.

Dr. James Shore, Chancellor of the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, and John Bliss, Vice President for Budget and Finance, were present to represent the UCHSC and Dr. Betsy Hoffman, President of the University of Colorado, participated via telephone. Mr. Tim Romani, newly appointed UCHSC Vice Chancellor for Planning and Development, also participated via teleconference.

Chancellor Shore outlined the collaborative process between UCHSC and Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) to redefine the management oversight structure for the master plan of Fitzsimons with the advice of an advisory group made up of senior, prominent developers in the state of Colorado. A national search was conducted and Mr. Tim Romani has accepted the position of Vice Chancellor for Planning and Development. Dr. Shore spoke in support of the staff recommendation that will allow the UCHSC to proceed with the first component of the education building.

Chancellor Shore reported that the cost for the research building did increase from the \$4.5 million to \$6.85 million, but there was a corresponding decrease by that amount of what was going to be in the stand-alone education building. The UCHSC views it as one complex, but there are trade-offs between the pieces and the bottom line did not change. In the near future, perhaps in April, they will need to request design funds. Tim Romani, John Bliss, and Jim Shore will represent the UCHSC with the Commission on the Fitzsimons project.

Ms. Johnson reported that the \$6.8 million that the Joint Budget Committee approved a month ago will go into the supplemental capital construction bill. That bill hasn't been introduced at this time, allowing time to amend the number if necessary.

Ms. Jeanne Adkins, in response to a question raised by the Commission, clarified that regarding the trust fund, the \$7.8 million annually, there were actually three full payments made into the trust fund by the legislature prior to the decreasing budget revenues for capital construction. The \$3 million and the \$4.1 million were also put in there. The Joint Budget Committee, by way of the supplemental, removed all three \$7.8 million annual allocations and took them back, promising to replay the trust fund at a later date. At the time the Fitzsimons transition plan requires the need for the move of the majority of education space, the general assembly will either have to make the decision to repay those trust fund payments with interest to accommodate that transition cost, or they will have to, in that single year, appropriate the costs of the move that would be necessary at that time. There is a transition period in approximately 2006 to 2008 where if they repay the trust fund and add the interest that would have accrued in that time frame, the trust fund would not fall behind. If it goes beyond that, then they would end up having to make direct payments for the move to Fitzsimons.

Senator Sue Windels, Advisory Committee member and member of the Capital Development Committee, reported that the Capital Development Committee proposed a recommendation to prop up the six percent spending. However, the Governor did not approve the recommendation, so the trust fund money is back in the trust fund. She stated that the current budget looks grim for higher education.

After further discussion, Mr. Bliss summarized that the UCHSC can work with the staff recommendation and at the next meeting or later, the Commission will allow UCHSC to use the remainder of the money to completing the A & E on the Ed IB out of the trust fund. That will use the trust funds. The institution will use cash funds for the A&E to finish off the education space Ed IA.

Staff Recommendation

That the Commission recommend to both the Capital Development Committee (CDC) and the JBC that \$4.5 million be appropriated for this project, Ed IA. Of the \$3 million designated for design of both buildings, only \$464,000 was used for Ed IA. That leaves \$2,536,000 in the Trust Fund for the design of Ed II (now Ed IB). We understand that the UCHSC has a request for \$2.4 million in cash funds for design of the Ed IB building in front of the CDC. Consistent with our previous recommendation on the use of funds for design of these buildings, we believe there is enough money from the original \$3 million appropriation for design to take care of this request. We look forward to reviewing this request in the near future.

Inflation should not be an issue on this project since the research building itself is well under construction and the state funds from the Trust Fund are to finish off space within that facility. Inflation is generally not applied in these circumstances under the Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) and CCHE budget guidelines. Should the Commission wish to apply the inflation factor, it should be applied according to the OSPB figure only and applied only to construction as fiscal rules dictate and not to the professional services, which have already been paid for by the institution, the equipment line nor the miscellaneous line.

State funds cannot be used for research space. The institution's financial plan recognizes that the state funds are not appropriated for research space and anticipates costs to the state only for educational space needs at Fitzsimons. The increase requested in equipment is not justified in the documents submitted. No additional equipment list is provided and no additional labs are included from staff review of the four different project plans.

Lacking documentation on the increased costs submitted by UCHSC, staff recommends the Commission approve the cost allocation for the project in the initial budget submission, all of which were verified in a third-party review, and subsequent submissions for this space and incorporate the design costs for this portion of the total building's design. If the Commission chooses to apply an inflation factor, the inflation should be applied as per OSPB/JBC budget instructions to the construction line only and recalculated at the authorized inflation amount.

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

Commissioner Baker clarified that upon approval of the staff recommendation, the institution could request the additional \$2.3 million funding in the very near future.

Action: Commissioner Baker moved to permit the Capital Assets Subcommittee to make the decision regarding the \$2.3 million for the Fitzsimons project. Commissioner Greenberg seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

C. Colorado State University (CSU) Center for the Arts Capital Construction Project and Decision on Further Phasing of the Project

This item was removed from the agenda.

D. Discussion and Decision on a New Colorado School of Mines Capital Construction Project

Joan Johnson reported that the Board of Trustees of the Colorado School of Mines requested approval of a new capital construction project for Colorado School of Mines (CSM). The construction project is for a 19,758-gross-square-foot, \$6,677,443 computer center addition to east side of the Center for Technology and Learning Media (CTLM). Construction of the addition would enable CSM to move the Computing and Networking Center from the second, or top, floor of the Green Center. That relocation will enable CSM to begin to address the serious roof and asbestos abatement problems at the 30-year-old Green Center. If the computer center proposal were funded, CSM would withdraw its previously approved amended program plan for the \$6,398,740 Green Center Basement Renovation and submit a comprehensive plan for renovation of Green Center in 2003.

Staff Recommendation

That the Commission approve the program plan for the Colorado School of Mines Green Center – Decontamination and Repair Project – Phase One Computer Center Addition to Center for Technology and Learning Media with these two conditions:

1. That if this project is funded, the Colorado School of Mines will withdraw its amended program plan for the Green Center Basement Renovation; and
2. That CCHE will not approve any future Colorado School of Mines new construction projects requiring capital construction dollars until an updated facility master plan is submitted to CCHE.

Action: This item was moved to a consent item and approved by the consent motion (see III above).

E. Fort Lewis Hesperus Account

James Jacobs, Director of Finance, introduced this item as a late item to the agenda.

Fort Lewis College requested spending authorization of \$27,000 per year to increase academic counseling to Native American students. The funds will come out of the Hesperus Account, an account statutorily established to receive funds from leases on the Hesperus property. According to the statute, the proceeds of this fund are to be used first for tuition waivers for Native American students, and

subsequently for other uses as determined by the Trustees of State Board of Agriculture.

Mr. Jacobs reported that Fort Lewis College would like to use a portion of the money from this account to increase student counseling for Native American students. The request from Fort Lewis also included a request of \$64,000 for minor repairs and renovations to the Native American Student Center.

Staff recommendation supports authorization of the \$27,000 annually to support academic programs for Native American students and does not recommend inclusion of the renovation portion of the request.

Staff Recommendation

That the Commission forward the Fort Lewis College request to the Joint Budget Committee to authorize the expenditure of \$27,000 annually from the Hesperus Account for academic support programs for Native American students. However, staff does not recommend inclusion of the renovation portion because staff believes that it is an inappropriate use of the fund.

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

V. Discussion and Possible Action

A. Adoption of Criteria for "State Guaranteed" General Education Courses

Due to inclement weather, this item was postponed for discussion until the April 2002 meeting.

VI. Written Reports for Possible Discussion

A. Report on Out-of-State Instruction

The Commission accepted the report on out-of-state instruction as follows:

The Trustees of The State Colleges of Colorado has submitted a request for out-of-state instructional programs, delivered by Adams State College.

ED 589: Modern Concepts in Coaching Football to be offered in Las Vegas, Nevada, from February 8-10, 2002.

Ed 589: Personality Profiles, Impact on Learning to be offered in Wailuka, Hawaii, from June 17-21, 2002.

Ed 589: Highly Effective Kids to be offered in Wailuku, Hawaii, from June 24-28, 2002.

Ed 589: Creating Classroom Climates for the Whole Child to be offered in Wailuku, Hawaii, from July 8-12, 2002.

Ed 589: Teaching the Reluctant Learner to Succeed in School to be offered in Wailuku, Hawaii, from July 15-19, 2002

Ed 589: Working Successfully with Parents to be offered in Wailuku, Hawaii, from July 22-26, 2002.

Action: Commissioner Greenberg moved to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 3 p.m. due to inclement weather conditions.