

COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

May 2, 2002
University of Colorado Health Sciences Center
Anschutz Outpatient Pavilion-Fitzsimons
Aurora, 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; and William Vollbracht.

Advisory Committee

Present: Wayne Artis; John Buechner; and Derek Johnson.

Commission Staff

Present: Timothy E. Foster, Executive Director; Brian Burnett; JoAnn Evans; Rick Hum; Joan Johnson; William Kuepper; 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 10:00 a.m. in the Anschutz Outpatient Pavilion on the Fitzsimons Campus of the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center.

Action: Commissioner Quamme moved approval of the minutes of the April 5, 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, thanked Dr. James Shore, Chancellor of the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center for hosting the May Commission meeting. She also reported that Commissioners James Stewart and Judy Weaver were excused absent.

The Chair reported that Colorado is facing a difficult year in terms of the budget process. There's been a great effort from not only the Commissioners and CCHE staff but also from governing board members across the state to speak in a uniform, united voice toward trying to keep higher education well funded for the future. The state budget outlook is grim. She asked all higher education institutions to be especially judicious and thoughtful in the allocation of resources over the next few months.

B. Commissioners' Reports

No reports.

C. Advisory Committee Reports

Dr. Wayne Artis, representative of the Colorado Advisory Council (CFAC) reported that CFAC extended thanks to executive director Foster for his efforts in the past year to expanding communications with faculty and also for attending the recent CFAC meeting.

Faculty have consistently complemented CCHE on the wealth of valuable information available on the CCHE web site. Dr. Artis also reported that he was re-elected chair of CFAC for the coming year.

D. Public Comment

George Walker addressed the Commission regarding remedial education. He supports the idea that all public higher education institutions have the opportunity to offer remedial education, rather than limit that service to community colleges. He also suggested that the underrepresented population be proportionally represented at all public higher education institutions.

III. Consent Items

A. Report on Low Enrollment Programs

Dr. Sharon Samson reported that the Low Demand Policy empowers the governing boards to act on the degree programs that do not demonstrate sufficient student demand by requiring governing board action after a program is three consecutive years on the low demand list. Depending on the size of the institution, the policy allows the governing board to exempt a limited number of undergraduate degree programs that are central to the institution's role and mission. During 2002, the governing boards took several actions pertaining to low demand degree programs, ranging from discontinuing a degree program to changing the number of exemptions.

No Commission action was needed in 2002. It is noted, however, the governing boards of large institutions will be facing significant decisions in 2003 if the non-exempt low demand degree programs fail to meet the low demand benchmark next year.

Staff Recommendation

No Commission action needed.

IV. Action Items

A. Resolution of Dispute Among the Community College of Denver, Metropolitan State College of Denver, and University of Colorado at Denver

Dr. Ray Kieft reported that during its April 5, 2002, meeting, the Commission heard testimony from representatives of the Auraria Higher Education Center (AHEC), the Community College of Denver (CCD), Metropolitan State College of Denver (MSCD), and the University of Colorado at Denver (UCD). Their testimonies focused on the dispute over which institution should retain the revenue from the tuition paid by MSCD and UCD students who enroll in basic skills courses taught by CCD. At the conclusion of the testimony, Commissioners urged the parties involved in the dispute to commit to resolving the dispute among themselves and to accomplish this resolution prior to the May 3, 2002, meeting of the Commission. If resolution was not reached, the Commission intends to impose a resolution consistent with its statutory authority to resolve disputes at Auraria (CRS 23-70-106.5).

Dr. Kieft reported that the institutions have reached a partial agreement and have firm that agreement in a Memorandum of Understanding on Basic Skills Courses. They have agreed that beginning in the summer 2002, tuition that results from resident students enrolling in the CCD basic skills courses will be split 50/50 (fifty percent retained by the host institution, fifty percent retained by CCD). One hundred percent of tuition for

nonresident students will be retained by CCD. The Metro and UCD students will continue to pay tuition at the Metro and UCD rates for CCD basic skills courses.

Dr. Georgia Lesh-Laurie, Chancellor of the University of Colorado at Denver, clarified that all parties agreed to a rate of 20 percent of the formula (50 percent) for the past year will go to CCD. Students will continue to pay the tuition at their home institution rate to protect their financial aid.

After a brief discussion it was the consensus of the Commission to accept the agreement reached by the three institutions. The agreement is available by contacting the CCHE office.

Staff Recommendation (Amended)

Staff recommends that the Commission respond to the request made to it by the Community Colleges of Colorado for a resolution of the dispute among CCD, MSCD, and UCD by taking the following action:

1. Beginning summer 2002, and in subsequent semesters, MSCD and UCD will transfer to CCD an amount equal to one-half of the tuition CCD charges per credit hour, times the total number of credit hours of basic skills courses that MSCD and UCD resident students take at CCD.
2. Beginning summer 2002, and in subsequent semesters, MSCD and UCD will transfer to CCD an amount equal to the non-resident tuition CCD charges per credit hour, times the total number of credit hours of basic skills courses that MSCD and UCD non-resident students take at CCD.
3. Beginning summer 2002, and in subsequent semesters, MSCD and UCD students taking basic skills courses at CCD will be charged the tuition CCD charges per credit hour for those basic skills courses.
4. Prior to June 15, 2002, the Trustees of The State Colleges in Colorado will provide a payment of \$122,535 to SBCCOE.
5. Prior to June 15, 2002, the Board of Regents of the University of Colorado will provide a payment of \$18,647 to SBCCOE.

Action: Since the three Auraria institutions reached agreement prior to the meeting, there was no need for action on the amended staff recommendation.

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

Dr. Sharon Samson reported that as mandated by statute (CRS 23-1-125) CCHE convened the GE-25 Council in July 2001 to define guidelines for the state guaranteed general education course framework, to guarantee transfer of credit among all public higher education institutions for students. The GE-25 Committee represents a broad cross-section of higher education, including the governing boards and individual institutions, college presidents, and academic vice-presidents, faculty, and student representatives. CCHE also notified all college presidents of Students' Bill of Rights. The Academic Council is consulting on a revised Transfer Policy that will reflect the bill of rights.

CCHE, in collaboration with the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education (WICHE), received a small grant from the Ford Foundation to advance the general

education initiative. In September, the GE-25 Council met to clarify the purpose of legislation and develop charges for the faculty working committees – i.e., develop the criteria for qualifying general education courses as state guaranteed transfer courses. Faculty working committees recommended the criteria to the GE-25 Council who reviewed and edited the suggested criteria.

Dr. Samson reported that in the past often courses transferred but did not apply to graduation credits and become general electives. The legislation included a student bill of rights stating that graduation requirements are capped at 120 credits. Consequently, if a student ends up with 40 credits of electives it is really an additional 40 credits above and beyond the 120 hours. Therefore it is very critical to take a different approach toward general education.

The GE-25 Council delegated responsibility to faculty working committees to develop the initial criteria definitions for the areas specified in legislation: written communication, critical thinking, technology, mathematics, and reading. CCHE staff conducted open feedback sessions with a number of institutions and faculty groups to discuss the criteria and course qualification process for the courses to receive the state guarantee general education course designation.

The Commission provided an opportunity for public testimony regarding general education course designation:

Dr. Keith P. J. Moore, Chair of the Communication Studies Department at Arapahoe Community College, expressed his concern with the absence of an oral communication competency in the proposed general education core. He stated that the GE-25 Council recommendation is biased and does not reflect the majority opinion of oral communication faculty.

Dr. Steve Collins, Chair of the Speech Department at Pikes Peak Community College, also spoke in support of including oral communication as a content criteria for general education because being articulate is a critical issue for students.

Dr. Jean Share, a humanities faculty member at Front Range Community College, and Dr. Kerry Edwards, a philosophy instructor at Red Rocks Community College, were present as representatives of the Community College Faculty Transfer Curriculum Council. They also spoke in support of including speech/oral communication in the criteria as well as support for maintaining the current community college core curriculum with the inclusion of cultural diversity curriculum.

Dr. Wayne Artis, CFAC representative, suggested that the CCHE web page on general education be updated to reflect the GE-25 Council's action to date.

Dr. Elizabeth Hoffman, President of the University of Colorado and member of the GE-25 Council, reported that she is a proponent of the importance of oral communication. She stated that the University of Colorado incorporates oral communication into the junior and senior level courses in most majors and all of the professional schools. In testifying to the legislation, the presidents attempted to try to come up with a set of competencies that they could all agree were part of the general education that would be consistent across all the institutions. It was not about dictating what the general education should be at any one institution.

Dr. Luis Torres, Chair of the Department of Chicano Studies at Metropolitan State College of Denver, requested consideration of introduction to African-American studies and Chicano studies be considered as part of general education.

Dr. David Clark, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at the Colorado State University System and a member of the GE-25 council, reported that the GE-25 Council has been responsive to the legislation. It's fair to say there are some disagreements remaining, but the majority of the work has been completed. There are two big chores remaining, (1) to identify the courses nominated for statewide transfer, and (2) once the general education courses are in place for the institutions to learn how to place the courses that come into their own general education requirements.

Derek Johnson, Colorado Student Representative to the Advisory Council, supports moving forward with the process. A big part of the process involves student advising and doing what's best for students.

Upon hearing the testimony from the various constituents and with the caveat to continue to address the concerns about humanities and oral communication, it was the consensus of the Commission that it was in the students' best interest to move forward with the proposed staff recommendation.

Staff Recommendation

That the Commission approve the competency criteria recommended by the GE-25 Council in:

Critical Thinking,
Mathematics,
Reading,
Technology, and
Written Communication.

That the Commission approve the state goal, definition, and criteria recommended by the GE-25 Council for each of the following:

Arts and Humanities,
Communication,
Mathematics,
Natural and Physical Sciences, and
Social Sciences.

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

C. Colorado/New Mexico Reciprocity Agreement

Dr. Bill Kuepper reported that Colorado and New Mexico have had a reciprocity program since 1981-82 to increase educational opportunities for students of both states. A specific number of full-time equivalent students from New Mexico may attend participating institutions in Colorado at the institutions' in-state tuition rates. Likewise, the same number of FTE Colorado students may attend specified New Mexico institutions at the in-state rate of those institutions. Participating students are treated as in-state students both for tuition and FTE funding purposes. Since the program is a reciprocal one, no state funds are exchanged between the two states. Dr. Kuepper outlined the history of the program and the number of students who have participated in the program.

The current agreement expires June 30, 2002, and the proposed new agreement basically is an extension of the existing agreement with three changes. He stated that the agreement works well and staff recommend continuation.

Staff Recommendation

That the Commission approve the proposed Reciprocity Agreement between Colorado and New Mexico.

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

V. Discussion and Possible Action

A. Remedial Plan Amendments and Revisions

Dr. Sharon Samson reported that the Commission accepted the remedial plans submitted by the institutions last fall with the following two caveats:

- 1) From a student perspective, it appears that a single set of placement exams on the Auraria campus would best serve the student population. Since only CCD can deliver remedial courses, the Commission asked CCD to negotiate a common placement exam after UCD's Accuplacer pilot concludes in March 2002.
- 2) CCHE will monitor the implementation of UCB and UCCS's approach to see if it meets the statutory intent. UCB and UCCS are analyzing high school transcripts of students who score below the statewide remedial cut scores on the ACT exam (i.e., number of English classes).

Dr. Samson reported that in essence, the plans of these five institutions had one-year approval and we are now coming to the close of the academic year. CCHE does not have the course registration data available to make the determination the number of students actually enrolled in remedial courses. That information comes from the institution. She stated that ACT has volunteered to do a validity study on the cut score. Dr. Shelia Kaplan, President of Metropolitan State College of Denver, and Dr. Cheryl Norton, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost at Metro, responded to Auraria issues. Dr. Kaplan testified that the math ACT cut score was set lower than Metro thinks is appropriate. Dr. Norton clarified that Metro is not out compliance by administering an optional assessment in math for students coming to Metropolitan State College of Denver from the community college system for placement purposes. In response to the Commission's concern regarding the decrease in the number of Metro students needing remediation, Dr. Norton indicated that student may be enrolled at other community college..

The Commission will consider a staff recommendation on the remedial plan at the June 2002 meeting.

B. Overview of FY 2002-2003 JBC Budget Recommendation for Higher Education

Brian Burnett outlined the FY 2002-2003 Joint Budget Committee budget recommendation for higher education. There is a \$53 million increase in general fund, which essentially restores the base cuts from the current year and adds about 4.8 percent general fund to the governing boards. Higher education received a \$2 million increase in the GOS scholarship program for the cohort for a total of \$8 million in GOS. On the downside, technology advancement grants were cut 80 percent to \$545,000. Capital construction has taken a cut from \$274 million to \$18 million, of which higher education has about \$10 million of that \$18 million.

Overall, there is a 6.8 percent increase for higher education at this time. These figures are subject to change.

C. CCHE-Technology Advancement Group Program Funding for Fiscal Year 2002-2003

Rick Hum reported that the CCHE-Technology Advancement Program was transferred to CCHE from the Colorado Advanced Technology Institute (CATI) on July 1, 1999. Over the three years of funding through CCHE over half of the original CATI programs have been discontinued and a number of new programs were funded.

This fiscal year a reduction of \$300,000 in program funding was made during the state budget rescission process. The JBC has recommended a budget reduction of 75 percent in the General Fund support for the Technology Advancement Program. With this significant reduction, it is recommended that the seed grant programs be eliminated and funding concentrated on research centers with commitments to match large federal grants with the State's Technology Advancement Program funds and to continue funding the Colorado Advanced Photonics Technology (CAPT) Center which is still completing its capital fund investment of \$4 million in equipment and center improvements. Commissioners Dean Quamme and James Stewart serve on the Technology Advisory Group. The committee and the staff recommend that the Commission approve the funding as presented by the committee.

Committee/Staff Recommendation

The Science and Technology Committee recommends approval of the funding totaling \$545,000 for four programs as specified in the Recommended Program Funding table. The funding for each individual program is conditional pending successful completion of the FY 2001/2002 programs. The Committee also recommended that the Commission delegate the authority to adjust any individual program amount within the total approved amount to the Executive Director if any funds are unused. Further, it is recommended that the Commission delegate to the Science and Technology Committee and the Executive Director the authority to approve any additional funding with the uncommitted funds available and to approve funding of the Waste Diversion and Recycling project grants from the Advanced Technology Fund. The staff will provide a written report of the remaining awards and fund balances to the Commission.

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

D. Colorado State University Student Housing Project

Joan Johnson reported that Colorado State University is seeking to build a 102,600-

gross-square-foot undergraduate student-housing complex of four stories on Pitkin Street in the southwest corner of the Main Campus. The request was originally submitted to CCHE for evaluation and approval in October 2001. At the November 2001 meeting, the Commission asked the University to solicit an RFP to determine if there was any interest in the private sector for building and operating such a facility.

CSU concluded that it would be a better integration of student life and academic programs if the university owns and operates the facility. They also believe their maintenance of the facility would be more efficient and cost effective than that of a private developer. Cash Funds Exempt from a bond issue would be used for the project with revenue generated from rents and food service charges used to pay off the bond debt.

Dr. Gerald Bomotti, Vice President for Administrative Services and Dr. Linda Cook, Vice President for Student Affairs at Colorado State University, outlined CSU's written responses to the issues raised by Commission staff. The institution proposes to design/build with a private firm, and finance through the university. The projected schedule calls for the project to be completed by the Fall 2004 semester.

Staff Recommendation

That the Commission ask CSU to provide written responses to the questions given to them by staff and discuss the answers and the project with CSU officials at the May 2, 2002, Commission meeting before making a final decision on this project.

Action: Commissioner Baker recommended that the Commission not approve anything at this point and asked CSU to proceed with an RFP for a design/build project. There was consensus from the Commission that they needed time to review CSU's written responses to staff questions.

VI. Written Reports for Possible Discussion

A. Report on Reciprocity Agreements

The Commission accepted the Report on Reciprocity Agreements.

B. 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: Positive Discipline: A System for Classroom Management to be offered in Malaysia from May 3-11, 2002.

The Board of Regents of the University of Colorado has submitted a request for an out-of-state instructional program to be delivered by the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center.

"Series of Clinical Medical Instructional Programs During 2002 in Wyoming, Nebraska, and Kansas," described herein as a series of 33 out-of-state instructional programs presented beginning April 24, 2002, in 8 different cities in Wyoming, Nebraska, and Kansas.

The Board of Regents of the University of Colorado has submitted a request for an out-

of-state instructional program to be delivered by the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.

“Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) Certification Courses T ED300/500-3 Contemporary American Education, T ED452/552-2 Educational Psychology, and T ED301/501-1-3 Early School Experience Practicum,” described herein as a one-year out-of-state instructional program to be offered in Virginia and other possible out-of-state locations from April 22, 2002, to April 21, 2003.

“LEAD151-2 Character Education and Community Service and LEAD 150-2 Personal Management and Community Service,” described herein as a one-year out-of-state instructional program to be offered throughout the United States, and possibly the American Territories, and at Department of Defense schools worldwide and will run from April 2002 – April 2003.

“SPED 594-3 Language! Professional Development Course for Reading Educators and SPED 593-2 Step Up to Writing Basic, Practical and Helpful Writing Instruction with Sopris West Educational Services,” described herein as a one-year out-of-state instructional program to be offered in Alabama, Arkansas, California, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and other possible locations from April 2002 – April 2003.

“SPED591-1 Reading Well in the Primary Grades,” described herein as a one-year out-of-state instructional program to be offered in Oregon, Washington, and other possible locations from May 3, 2002, to May 3, 2003.

“SPED495/595-2 Summer Institutes 2002,” described herein as a one-year out-of-state instructional program to be offered in Florida, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Wyoming. This program will run from June 9, 2002 – August 8, 2002 (these dates may be extended or modified, not to exceed one year).

C. Concept Papers:

1. Master of Computer Science at Colorado State University

Colorado State University submitted a concept paper for a Master of Computer Science (M.C.S.) degree as differentiated from CSU's current Master of Science in Computer Science degree program. The proposed degree is a coursework-only program that is intended to address the demand for “professional post-graduate credentialing of computer scientist.” The proposed degree program would provide an alternative to the M.S. degree that requires either a research paper or a computer science project.

After reviewing this concept paper, CCHE staff believes that the concept paper presents a request to add the Master of Computer Science (MCS) degree title to its existing master's entitlement in Computer Science. This type of request does not necessitate the full CCHE program approval process. To gain approval, the governing board would submit a request to add the degree title accompanied by the program curriculum, a description of the distinction between the new degree and the existing options in the program, and a plan for the assessment of student learning outcomes and evaluation of program quality. Following its policy, CCHE staff would determine if this is a distinction without a difference in

academic rigor and outcome. The request would be presented to the Commission as an information item.

Action: Commissioner Greenberg moved to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 1:41 p.m.