

## COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

### SPECIAL TELECONFERENCE MEETING

February 27, 2003  
Colorado Commission on Higher Education Office  
Denver, Colorado

#### MINUTES

##### Commissioners

Present: Judith Altenberg; Raymond T. Baker; Peggy Lamm, Chair; Ralph J. Nagel; and Gully Stanford

##### Commissioners

On Teleconference: Terrance Farina; "Pres" Montoya; Dean Quamme; James Stewart; and William Vollbracht.

##### Advisory Committee

On Teleconference: Wayne Artis.

##### Commission Staff

Present: Timothy E. Foster, Executive Director; Brian Burnett; JoAnn Evans; and Bridget Mullen.

#### I. Call to Order

Chair Peggy Lamm called the special teleconference meeting of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education to order at 2:05 p.m. in Conference Room B at the Colorado Commission on Higher Education office in Denver, Colorado.

#### II. Discussion Item

Executive Director Tim Foster reported that the state revenue situation continues to deteriorate. On January 3, 2003, the Commission held a special meeting to adopt a tuition and General Fund plan in response to the General Fund reduction. On January 9, 2003, at a work session the Commission, in consultation with the Chief Executive Officers, discussed methodologies by which to reduce the General Fund for higher education in this very austere time. At the January 10, 2003, regular meeting, the Commission adopted Scenario #7 and granted CCHE staff the authority to work with the Governing Boards to decide where best to reduce \$200,000 to provide the relief to Fort Lewis College. Subsequent discussions with various Governing Board representatives resulted in \$100,000 being reduced from the Colorado Community College system and \$100,000 from the Metropolitan State College of Denver to balance the Commission's adjustment. At the February 7, 2003, regular meeting, Dr. Nancy McCallin, Director of the Office of State Planning and Budgeting, updated the Commission on the impact of tuition increases under TABOR requirements.

Director Foster stated that higher education may be required to reduce the budget by an additional \$100,000,000 General Fund. The Joint Budget Committee will review the higher education FY 2003-04 budget and tuition proposal the week of March 3-7, 2003, therefore the need for this special meeting for Commission input into the budget process. Mr. Foster stated that so far to date the institutions have borne all the burden of the budget rescission. Scenarios

1A and 1B share the burden with the students in that each assumes a 10 percent across the board tuition increase to offset some of the expected General Fund reductions.

Mr. Burnett outlined the scenarios presented to the Commission for consideration. The budget scenarios included no base funding in 03-04 for the State Colleges, and the Colorado School of Mines would continue to receive a block grant, pursuant to existing law.

Dr. Betsy Hoffman, President of the University of Colorado (CU), expressed her concerns with scenario #5B. She preferred scenarios 1A and 1B based on prior CCHE action and also reported that CU will not increase out-of-state tuition more than perhaps five percent. Dr. Al Yates, President of Colorado State University, recommended considering the ten percent out-of-state tuition increase as a benchmark.

The Chief Executive Officers asked the Commission to give them twenty-four hours to digest the scenarios, as there is a limited amount institutions can raise non-resident tuition based on what the market will bear.

Commissioners requested that CCHE staff work with financial staff from the governing boards to address some of the concerns of the governing boards.

**Action:** It was the consensus of the Commission to continue the discussion of the proposed budget scenarios on February 28, 2003, at 4:00 p.m.

The teleconference adjourned at 3:15 p.m.