

MINUTES OF THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

January 6, 2005

Colorado Community College System

Chairwoman Judy Weaver called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Commission members attending were Judy Weaver, Chairperson; Terry Farina, Vice-Chairperson; Ray Baker; Judy Altenberg; James Stewart; Mike Feeley; Richard Garcia; Bill Vollbracht; and Pres Montoya. Commissioner Dean Quamme attended by phone and Commissioner Stevinson was excused. Commission Staff members attending were Executive Director Rick O'Donnell, Rich Schweigert, Jenna Langer, Matt Gianneschi, Jason Hopfer, Kimberly Tulp, Joan Johnson, Gail Hoffman, and Mary Lou Lawrence.

Advisory Committee member Senator Sue Windels was present and Wayne Artis represented Chris Purkiss.

Chairperson Weaver introduced Dr. Nancy McCallin, President of the Colorado Community College System (CCCS) and host of the meeting, who made welcoming remarks.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Farina moved to approve the minutes of the November 4, 2004, meeting and Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. They were unanimously approved.

REPORTS

Chairman's Report: Chairperson Weaver announced this was Commissioner Vollbracht's last meeting and recognized him for six years of outstanding service on the Commission. She presented him with a letter from Governor Owens and a gift. Commissioner Baker commended Commissioner Vollbracht for his hard work on financing, financial accounting and the Fitzsimons campus.

Commissioners' Report: Commissioner Feeley reported on the progress of the Colorado State University (CSU) Alcohol Task force. He is delighted at the community involvement and noted that CSU is taking the national lead on this issue. A final report is due on February 1, 2005.

Advisory Committee Report: There were no reports.

Public Comment: George Walker commended the Commission for reaching out to the community, especially the Gear-Up Program and Gully Stanford. He stated fiscal issues related to TABOR and Amendment 23 and civil rights issues need to be addressed during the current legislative session.

PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSION

Update on Performance Contract Negotiations: Staff member Jenna Langer explained the elements of the contracts, including Senate Bill 04-189 statutorily mandated and

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Commission (CCHE) goals, and presented a history of the negotiations. The base contract and Addendum A, the goals of each institution and the methods to accomplish them are largely complete for all schools. Contract duration varies and all but one will be effective upon Commissioner approval. A level of funding is assumed with provisions for review if funding changes materially. Negotiations are continuing on Addendum B, the compliance section.

Addendum A clauses address retention and graduation of students appropriate to the individual school, adoption of a transferable general education core curriculum corresponding to the statewide GT Pathways guide (individual courses to be submitted to the GTE-25 council for approval) and identification of transferable courses in catalogs. All have agreed to academic rigor requirements, postgraduate assessment of student success, efficiency of operations, modifications to teacher education programs and obtaining alternative sources of funding.

Commissioner Montoya asked if contracts included recruitment of a specific number of underserved students. Ms. Langer said some contracts contain a percentage goal for the access and success of underserved students, others utilize existing programs and some provide for the use of or development of programs to achieve these goals.

Ms. Langer continued stating negotiations continue on Addendum B waivers. Some institutions do not want to be required to obtain CCHE approval for revisions to or discontinuance of academic programs but staff believes such approval is a CCHE mandate. Some institutions are seeking freedom from CCHE approval of cash-funded capital projects. As all cash-funded capital projects are ultimately state-owned projects and require some level of governmental approval and staff believes this requirement cannot be waived. Some institutions want freedom from extended study program approval. Staff feels this area requires additional study and may recommend reduced oversight.

Senator Windels asked if there was any differentiation in contracts between increasing access and success for minority students and underserved students as there is a differentiation between underserved white males and minorities. Ms. Langer said there are three contractual goals. Two of them are the retention and graduation of all students without differentiation between served and underserved. The third goal addresses underserved students and each contract is unique to that school. Director O'Donnell said SB04-189 addressed all males, not just white males and noted that currently, 60% of students in Colorado higher education institutions are female.

Commissioner Farina commended the collaboration of staff and institutions to negotiate the contracts and fill in the statutory gaps. He thought the original timetable for contract completion optimistic, but it has been reached and all need to be commended. The real test will be achieving the goals because the outcome is what counts.

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Commissioner Stewart asked how will we know if outcomes are reached and stated there needs to be measurable outcomes stated in the contracts.

Commissioner Feeley clarified that all base contracts and Addendum As are close to final for all schools while Addendum Bs are still in negotiation. Ms. Langer stated Addendum Bs should be uniform for all schools. Some elements of Addendum A may affect Addendum B and the three regulatory issues previously identified need resolution but should be uniform relative to their impact on Addendum A.

Commissioner Altenberg requested a chart comparing contracts to facilitate review of them. Ms. Langer said one was being prepared.

Commissioner Montoya thanked all for their hard work and asked the Commissioners to carefully review contract clauses addressing underserved students.

A request was made to have finalized performance contracts and related annual reports posted on the CCHE website.

Commissioner Weaver thanked Director O'Donnell, Ms. Langer and the staff for their hard work on the contracts and stated they have done a commendable job. She asked Commissioners to direct questions on contracts to Director O'Donnell in preparation for the February meeting.

University of Colorado (CU) President Hoffman complemented the individuals on the CU negotiation team for the opportunity to structure CU's contract to reflect CU's and CCHE's goals. She stated that Addendum B does not afford all the flexibility she prefers. The current process of multiple approvals of cash-funded projects causes delays and, with inflation, increases costs. It took four years for approval of the Fitzsimons project. CU recognizes facilities become part of the state inventory and the need for the Capital Development Committee oversight. She asked the Commission to reconsider its position on cash-funded projects. She was pleased to learn there may be a reduction in the review of off-campus programs and stated that SB04-189 envisioned competition and the reduction of regulation will enhance competition. President Hoffman noted that efficiency goals in the contracts will result in less reporting and stated elements of Senate Bills 23 and 13 should be waived since they are superceded by performance contract reporting elements.

Commissioner Farina asked if there was any way to streamline the capital construction review process without going to the extremes. CU Budget Director, Rob Kohrman, stated he had conferred with staff member Joan Johnson and suggested placing time limits on each review process.

Commissioner Baker noted that, with regard to President Hoffman's comments, stating a four-year review process was on the far side of extreme. Other projects on the

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Fitzsimons site were accelerated, demonstrating CCHE's cooperation. He agrees with Commissioner Farina that the review process could be streamlined.

Director O'Donnell stated CCHE has agreed to waive 43% of the current capital development process and is cognizant of the need to streamline policy within Capital Development Committee constraints.

Update on COF Stipend Applications Process: Staff member Rich Schweigert reported on the process of the COF application computer system and its testing. Computer systems on four campuses are interfacing with the main system. Schools have instituted campaigns to make students aware of the necessity to apply. Implementation is ahead of schedule and all schools should be tested and ready by April. Disaster recovery systems are being migrated into College Access Network (CAN) and a 1-800 number is alive for questions. In February, electronic applications will be translated into Spanish. The budget is consistent with fiscal note of \$800,000; \$235,000 has been spent, which is below budget estimations.

Commissioner Weaver requested the monthly progress report continue. Commissioner Baker commended all for a good job. Commissioner Montoya asked if CCCS Certificate Program students had sufficient awareness and computer access to know the need and how to register. Three CCCS campuses have pilot projects to make students aware of the need to apply. CCCS President McCallin stated they will rely on CCHE to market the need to apply. Commissioner Montoya expressed concern that minority students may not be aware of the need to apply.

ACTION ITEMS

Credit Hours Available Under the College Opportunity Fund for Continuing Students: Staff member Langer recommended that in consideration of the transition to the stipend system, course hours available under the stipend system to continuing students be assigned according to the current class level of students to ensure funding to graduation. Should a student need additional hours under the stipend system to complete their degree, that student may apply for a waiver.

Commissioner Garcia inquired if the stipend payments used on hours to obtain a certificate would be applied to obtaining a bachelor's degree. Ms. Langer said if courses taken to obtain a certificate were part of the bachelor degree requirement, the transfer would apply; otherwise, a student could apply for a waiver. There was no public comment.

Commissioner Stewart moved for approval and Commissioner Montoya seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Colorado School of Mines Facilities Master Plan; Pikes Peak Community College Centennial Campus and Downtown Studio Campus Master Faculties Master Plan; Pikes

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Peak Community College Rampart Range Campus Facilities Master Plan: Staff member Gail Hoffman stated that staff recommended approval of the Mines Facilities Strategic and Master Plan and of the Pike's Peak Community College (PPCC) plans. She reported that the Pikes Peak Community College Foundation was helping to raise money. The Rampart Range Plan was for a parking lot, which would be self-sustaining upon completion. Parts of the Pikes Peak projects have already been accomplished with the college's cash fund. In addition, staff recommended that parking facilities be self-sufficient.

Commissioner Farina recommended approval with the understanding that parking facilities would be self supporting and would like to know PPCC's perception of that recommendation. PPCC President Joe Garcia said the college was donating the land and its neighbors were contributing cash to the project. He added that PPCC is working with its foundation to develop resources to raise funds for renovations. He did not want to increase student fees to raise the money.

President McCallin stated that, if there is compromise on state budget issues, CCCS reserved the right to ask for state funds if they are available. President Garcia concurred with her stating, PPCC will continue to look for other sources of funding. President McCallin noted that all CCCS schools are required to put aside 4% of their budget for capital maintenance.

Commissioner Weaver motioned to change the staff recommendation to suggest that CCCS campuses make parking facilities self-supporting rather than mandating they do so. Commissioner Altenberg seconded the motion.

Commissioner Weaver Motioned for approval of all projects as amended and Commissioner Vollbracht seconded the motion. The three projects were unanimously approved as modified.

CONSENT ITEMS:

State Guaranteed General Education Courses for Adams State College; Metropolitan State College of Denver Teacher Education Program Proposals; Vacant Building Report; Teacher Education Reauthorization: Metropolitan State College of Denver: There was no public comment.

Commissioner Baker moved to approve all Consent Items and Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

WRITTEN REPORTS - NO DISCUSSION

2005 No Child Left Behind Grants; FTE-Service Area Exemptions; Report on Out-of-State Instruction; Teacher Education Report to the Governor and General Assembly:

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Commissioner Weaver thanked Staff member Dr. Gianneschi for the Teacher Education Report.

Commissioner Montoya asked if there had been a follow-up to the on-site visit at University of Northern Colorado (UNC) as recommended in the survey. Dr. Gianneschi stated he had not received anything from UNC and will look into it.

Commissioner Montoya expressed concern that the teacher education clause of the performance contracts do not adequately address increased training in classroom management, second language acquisition or teaching of poverty students. Dr. Gianneschi stated the information in the report dates from April 2004, prior to performance contracts and subsequent reports should address these issues.

Commissioner Weaver noted that teacher education programs are dominated by white females and there needs to be recruitment of diverse teacher education candidates and a change in diversity measurement in contracts. She reported that many teacher-in-residence graduates were consistently dissatisfied because they had not been adequately trained to teach the at-risk students for which they were hired. These programs need to be put on notice that if there is not significant improvement, their funding will be terminated after their programs are carefully reviewed. Dr. Gianneschi will prepare a report on the future success of these programs.

Commissioner Garcia noted the report shows that some Hispanics who apply are not accepted and some Hispanics that are accepted do not enroll. The institutions need to investigate why those who are accepted do not enroll. Dr. Gianneschi will follow up with institutions, include this element in on-site visits and follow up with the students.

Advisory Committee representative Wayne Artis reported there was no report on how rural community college students achieve when they transfer to teacher education programs. Dr. Gianneschi stated there is currently no way to track which of these students enters a teacher education program and that is being rectified in the performance contracts. Mr. Artis also asked if there was a survey showing how students at community colleges feel their education transfers to a four-year program. Dr. Gianneschi stated new reporting data will include student satisfaction data resulting in such a report.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Weaver adjourned the meeting stating, the next meeting would be on February 3, 2005.