

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
February 2, 2007**

Chairman Ray Baker called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

Mr. Hank Brown, President of the University of Colorado System and Dr. Roy Wilson, Chancellor of the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center welcomed the commissioners to the Auraria campus, home of the University of Colorado at Denver.

Chairman Baker welcomed David Skaggs to the position of Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Higher Education. Executive Director Skaggs expressed his delight in his appointment and looks forward to contributing to higher education in the State of Colorado.

Commissioners Ray Baker, Dean Quamme, Rick Ramirez, Ed Robinson, Joel Rosenstein, Greg Stevinson, James Stewart, and Judy Weaver were present. Commissioner Richard Garcia was excused.

Commissioner Quamme motioned to approve the November 2, 2006 minutes with a second by Commissioner Weaver. The minutes were passed unanimously.

There were no chair or advisory committee reports.

**COMMISSIONER REPORT:** Commissioner Stewart said that the high schools in the Colorado Springs area have not been contacted by College in Colorado staff. Only one in four high schools in the area had any materials regarding the College in Colorado effort.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** George Walker commented on the lack of adequate public funding and the relation to diversity at the institutions.

**PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION**

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:** John Karakoulakis gave an update on legislation that will affect or potentially affect the Colorado Department of Higher Education.

**HIGHER EDUCATION SUMMIT PROPOSAL – DAVID LONGANECKER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WICHE:** Dr. Longanecker gave an overview of WICHE and its purpose and made the offer to contribute to the Higher Education Summit. The Commissioners all agreed to allow WICHE to proceed.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

**2007-2008 STUDENT FINANCIAL AID BUDGET PARAMETERS:** Tobin Bliss, Director of Financial Aid for the Colorado Department of Higher Education presented the agenda item to the Commissioners. He gave an overview of how the student budget parameters are used by the financial aid administrators in determining student eligibility for need-based financial aid. The parameters were set using published data from the Colorado Division of Housing, the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics and various business and industry sources. Depending on the student's living situation, housing, food, transportation, medical and personal expenses are set into different categories (see table in Agenda item). Books and supplies, child care and computer allowance is set at the same level for all students.

Commissioner Stevinson motioned to approve budget parameters and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Quamme. The motion passed unanimously.

**MODIFICATIONS TO THE STATEWIDE TRANSFER POLICY:** Vicki Leal gave a brief overview of the change in the communication content area of the current Statewide Transfer Policy. Specifically, the change includes an addition of an (optional) advanced writing course (in lieu of the intermediate writing course), thereby making the six-hour sequence of courses for students either beginning/intermediate writing or intermediate/advanced writing. The communication content requirement could be achieved by a student completing one of the two-course sequences listed above. The change would be effective fall semester 2007.

Commissioner Weaver motioned to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Quamme, the motion passed unanimously.

**STATE GUARANTEED GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES, REVIEW CYCLE V, ROUND II:** Vicki Leal provided the Commissioners with an overview of the most recent State Guaranteed General Education Course review. If approved, the results of the November 9, 2006 review will add 88 more courses to the gtPathways curriculum.

Commissioner Stevinson asked Ms. Leal how close this task is to completion. Ms. Leal said the Department of Higher Education is still waiting on a number of courses from the University of Colorado and Colorado State University. Alan Lamborn, Colorado State University, said his final courses should be submitted by April 2007. Michael Poliakoff, University of Colorado at Boulder, said that half of the submissions will be made by 2008 and completion by 2010.

Commissioner Stevinson motioned to approve the courses as submitted, Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

### **VACANT BUILDINGS REPORT:**

### **DEGREE AUTHORIZATION ACT:**

Commissioner Weaver motioned to approve both consent items as one and Commissioner Quamme seconded her motion. The single motion was passed unanimously.

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### **CAPITAL ASSETS COMBINED QUARTERLY REPORT**

### **LETTERS OF RESIGNATION:**

**CARRIE BESNETTE – COMMISSIONER**

**JOEL FARKAS - COMMISSIONER**

There was no discussion and no action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20.