

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

**JUNE 7, 2007**

Chairman Ray Baker called the meeting to order at 9:10am.

Dr. Steve Jordan, President of Metropolitan State College of Denver, welcomed the Commissioners to the Auraria Campus and briefed the Commission on several initiatives being undertaken by Metropolitan State College of Denver to broaden its outreach to underserved populations.

Commissioners Ray Baker, Richard Garcia, Dean Quamme, Ed Robinson, Greg Stevinson, Joel Rosenstein, and James Stewart were present. Commissioners Richard Ramirez, Jim Polsfut and Judy Weaver were present by conference call. Advisory Committee members Representative Nancy Todd, Representative Randy Fischer and Robert Applegate were present.

Commissioner Garcia moved to approve the May 4, 2007 minutes with a second by Commissioner Quamme. The motion passed unanimously.

There were no Chair, Commissioner or Advisory Committee reports.

**Executive Director Report:** Executive Director Skaggs reported that the Department was prepared for the Higher Education Summit on June 8-9.

**Public Comment:** Hadley Brown, Vice-Chair of the Associated Students of Colorado announced that the ASC Board members had been elected.

Norman Schultz, Metropolitan State College adjunct faculty member, addressed the Commission regarding funding to institutions and proposals for the need for more full-time, introductory level faculty positions.

## **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION**

Dr. Julie Carnahan, Chief Academic Officer, and Matt McKeever, Director of Extended Studies, presented a briefing on HEAR 2008 and HEAR 2010. In 2008 high school graduates applying to Colorado four-year institutions are required to have four years of English, three years of mathematics, social science, natural science and two years of academic electives. The preliminary data indicate, depending on what institution the students are going to apply to, 10% to 50% of students in the high school graduating class of 2008 may not meet 2008 HEAR requirements. Each institution may admit a certain percentage of students who do not meet admission requirements. After review of data from the institutions, staff expects to make a recommendation to adjust the institutions admissions windows to accommodate implementation of HEAR 2008.

Matt KcKeever briefed the Commission regarding 2010 HEAR, which adds an additional year of mathematics and two years of a foreign language to the 2008 HEAR. The Rural School Caucus has requested changes in these requirements. At the Commission's special July 10 meeting on HEAR staff plans to present comprehensive background information and recommend possible

alternatives for revising HEAR 2010; those recommendations will be posted by June 18 for public review.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

**Fiscal Year 2008 Financial Aid Allocations:** Tobin Bliss, Financial Aid Director, presented recommendations for FY 2008 need-based aid allocations, in accordance with allocation model approved by the Commission for Colorado's College Responsibility Program in November 2006 and for FY 2008 institutional merit-based and work-study allocations.

Commissioner Quamme moved to approve the request and Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**State Guaranteed General Education Courses, Review Cycle V, Round IV:** Vicki Leal, Academic Policy Officer, presented recommendations for courses for the general education guaranteed statewide transfer program, gtPathways, for guaranteed statewide transfer status, effective August 2007 (fall semester 2007) as provided in C.R.S. 23-1-125, the Student Bill of Rights. The recommendations incorporate the faculty review of 151 course nominations for the gtPathways program during Cycle V, Round IV (April 27, 2007). Ms. Leal noted that the Commission has previously approved 829 general education courses in over 20 disciplines during the first four cycles of gtPathways course nominations, which began in January 2003.

Commissioner Stewart moved to approve the recommended courses; Commissioner Stevinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Revisions to WICHE Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP) Policy:** Dr. Julie Carnahan, Chief Academic Officer, briefed the Commission on the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP), noting that it originally was designed to allow Colorado residents to attend optometry school at one of the three participating in-region WICHE institutions: University of California at Berkeley, Pacific University and Southern California College of Optometry. UC-Berkeley has now withdrawn, and due to the limited choices available to students, staff recommended the policy be expanded to include out-of-region institutions, as outlined in the proposed revision to Colorado Commission on Higher Education, Student Services Policies, Section VI, Part E attached to the meeting agenda.

Commissioner Robinson moved to adopt the recommendation; Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Revisions to Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) Policy Due to College Opportunity Fund (COF) Stipend:** Dr. Julie Carnahan informed the Commission that WICHE's Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) is a program through which students in 15 participating western states may enroll in designated programs at public two-year and four-year institutions at a reduced tuition level and presented the recommended changes to the WICHE/WUE tuition policy as outlined in the Colorado Commission on Higher Education, Student Services Policies, Section VI, Part L, attached to the meeting agenda.

Commissioner Stevinson moved to adopt the recommendation; Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Proposal to Offer a Masters Degree in Education at Colorado State University – Pueblo:** Dr. Julie Carnahan presented a proposal submitted by the Board of Governors of the Colorado State University System for Masters in Education degrees in Special Education, Linguistically Diverse Education and Instructional Technology to be offered at Colorado State University-Pueblo and recommended approval

Commissioner Stevinson moved to adopt the recommendation; Commissioner Quamme seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Colorado Higher Education Student Suicide Prevention Program:** John Karakoulakis, Legislative Affairs Director, informed the Commission that pursuant to C.R.S. 23-19.5-103 (2) (a), the Colorado Commission on Higher Education is required to select one or more willing state institution by July 1, 2007, to implement the provisions of the Colorado Higher Education Suicide Prevention Act for a two year period. Adams State College and Northeastern Junior College have volunteered to implement this program beginning in the fall 2007 term.

Commissioner Robinson moved that the Commission select Adams State College and Northeastern Junior College to implement the provisions of the Colorado Higher Education Suicide Prevention Act; Commissioner Stevinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

**Capital Assets Annual Report Fiscal Year 2006-2007:** Andrew Carlson, Capital Assets Manager, presented an annual report summarizing the work of the Capital Assets section, the overall environment of higher education capital funding, and the annual capital budgeting process. The Annual Report is intended to function as an informational resource, similar to the Office of the State Architect's Annual Report, and to present an extensive and consistent set of data that can be updated on an annual basis.

**Report on Out-of-State/Out-of-Country Instruction:** Matt McKeever, Extended Campus Director, noted the Commission's statutory responsibility to approve instruction offered out-of-state and beyond the seven states contiguous to Colorado and referred to action of the Commission in 1986 to delegate to the Executive Director authority to act for the Commission to approve or deny requests for approval of such courses and programs. Mr. McKeever reported that the Executive Director has approved certain course requests from the Trustees at Adams State College and the Board of Regents at the University of Colorado.

**Briefing on the National Conference of State Legislatures/State Higher Education Executive Officers (NCSL/SHEEO) Report:** Julie Bell, Director of the Education Program at the National Conference of State Legislatures, reported on the Blue Ribbon Commission on Higher Education that the National Conference of State Legislatures published. The Commission assessed the crisis of college costs, what legislators had done to contribute to this crisis and the responsibilities and roles of state legislators in alleviating the crisis and emphasized that higher education is an investment for the states and the nation.

Commissioner Quamme moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10am.