

TOPIC: NOMINATIONS FOR CCHE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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I. BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

Section 23-1-130(1), C.R.S., provides for an “advisory committee to the commission for the purpose of suggesting solutions to the problems and needs of higher education and maintaining liaison with the general assembly and the governing boards for state-supported institutions . . .” that “shall consist of not less than thirteen members.” The Commission is authorized and directed by section 23-1-130(1)(b) and (c), C.R.S., to appoint seven advisory committee members, in addition to the six members appointed by the leadership of the general assembly. Paragraph (1)(b) specifies that one member shall be a faculty representative and one shall be a student representative. Paragraph 1(c) specifies that not more than five other members should be appointed to represent “educational and other groups.”

At present, the Advisory Committee consists only of the legislative members and the faculty and student representatives. The statutory language appears to be mandatory as to filling the remaining five seats on the Advisory Committee. The purpose of this agenda item is to suggest a Commission policy regarding nominations for the remaining five vacancies and for successors to the current faculty and student representatives.

The Commission has broad discretion under the statute to determine how to handle this responsibility. It would be useful to regularize the process and well to comply with the statutory mandate for a full thirteen-member Advisory Committee.

II. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Advisory Committee affords the Commission an opportunity to maintain a closer consultative relationship with key constituencies and stakeholders in higher education and to tap their expertise on matters coming before the Commission. Staff recommends that the entities listed below be requested to nominate representatives to serve on the CCHE Advisory Committee for staggered terms of two years, beginning January 1, 2008. To enable the staggering of terms, the initial appointments of the faculty, academic officer, private college and one of the K-12 representatives would be for one year. The nominations for representatives of the students, faculty, academic officers and financial officers should be rotated as much as practicable to enable representation over time from the different public institutions. The Commission would retain full discretion regarding actual appointment of nominees.

- Faculty Member to be nominated by the Colorado Faculty Advisory Council (universities and colleges) or the State Faculty Advisory Council (community colleges).
- Student Member to be nominated by the Associated Students of Colorado.

- Academic Officer Member to be nominated by the Department of Higher Education's Academic Council.
- Financial Officer Member to be nominated by the Department of Higher Education's Chief Financial Officers Council.
- Private Colleges Member to be nominated by the Independent Higher Education of Colorado organization.
- Two representatives from K-12 education to be nominated by the Commissioner of Education in consultation with the Colorado Association of School Boards and the Colorado Association of School Executives.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

Section 23-1-130(1)(b) and (c), C.R.S.