

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COLORADO COMMISSION

### ON HIGHER EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER 6, 2007

Chairman Raymond Baker called the meeting to order at 9:05am. The meeting was conducted by teleconference call.

Commissioner Raymond Baker, Patricia Pacey, Michael Plachy, James Polsfut, Richard Ramirez, Ed Robinson, Greg Stevinson and James Stewart were in attendance. Commissioner Jill Brake was excused.

Also in attendance were Representative Ken Stevinson, Representative Randy Fischer and Dr. Sallye McKee, Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement at the University of Colorado.

Commissioner Polsfut moved to approve the minutes of the August 13 meeting. Commissioner Pacey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Chair Report:** Chairman Baker reported that the Capital Construction Task Force had not met since the August 13<sup>th</sup> CCHE meeting and will be meeting on September 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm at DHE.

**Executive Director Report:** Executive Director Skaggs advised the Commission that he had met with the Presidents of the private institutions in the state that participate in either the College Opportunity Fund or the department's Financial Aid program and would be working to develop appropriate and improved relationships with these institutions in areas where common concerns were shared.

There were no Commissioner or Advisory Committee reports.

**Public Comment:** George Walker, of Denver, expressed his opinion that ethnic and racial diversity is not being adequately addressed at the University of Colorado at Denver and the University of Colorado-Boulder.

### ACTION ITEMS

**Degree Authorization Act – Shimer College:** Matt McKeever, Director of Extended Studies, presented the action item recommending that the Commission approve Category I-A authorization for Shimer College, Chicago, Illinois to operate the Teacher's Fellow Program in Colorado at the Thompson Schools District. He noted that Shimer College has provided sufficient documentation to demonstrate accreditation and compliance with the requirements of the Degree Authorization Act, including currently accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Commissioner Robinson moved to approve and Commissioner Pacey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**HB 1023 Lawful Presence Verification Policy update:** John Karakoulakis, Director of Legislative Affairs, presented this item to update existing CCHE policy references to reflect the new permanent rules the Department of Revenue promulgated on August 1, 2007. Current CCHE policy on the College Opportunity Fund, Financial Aid, and Tuition Classification reference the outdated emergency rules.

The suggested nominal changes to CCHE policy are in: Section II, Part D, Policy for Public Institutional Reporting College Opportunity Fund Student Credit Hour Stipend; Section II, Part E, Policy for Participating Private Institutional Reporting on College Opportunity Fund Student Stipend; Section VI, Part B, In-State Tuition Classification; Section VI, Part F, State Funded Student Financial Aid Policy.

Executive Director Skaggs added, in a related matter, that the Attorney General's office is in the process of updating the Tuition Classification Handbook.

Commissioner Stevinson moved to approve the suggested changes and Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Peer Gap Analysis: Institutional Peer Group Concurrence.** Diane Lindner, Chief Financial Officer, asked the Commission to ratify the peer institutions recommended by the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) and agreed to by the institutions' Chief Executive Officers for use in the Peer Gap Analysis and subsequent financial modeling. Ms. Lindner reported that NCHEMS worked this summer with each institution of higher education to develop a set of peer institutions for every campus, which will be the basis for beginning a budget model for FY 2008-2009 and later years. The previous peer study showed that approximately \$832 million in additional revenues was required for total revenues to Colorado's public institutions to reach the average revenue levels of these peer institutions. The finance model recommended by NCHEMS compares the total revenues (in the form of state and local appropriations and tuition and fees per student) for each peer institution and with revenues per FTE at the corresponding Colorado institutions. Our evolving budget model must reflect Colorado's unique system of higher education, focus on revenues rather than costs, look at tuition and fees and state funds, and examines policy for apportionment of needed revenues between what students and families pay and what the state should contribute in public support. This agenda item establishes the starting point for the budget model.

Commissioner Pacey moved concurrence in the peer groups for the purposes of the budget finance model. Commissioner Stevinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **CONSENT ITEM**

**Technology Advancement Grant Program Status Report:** John Karakoulakis, Director of Legislative Affairs, presented this item proposing the Commission approve the release of the Technology Advancement Grant status report to the General Assembly.

Commissioner Robinson moved to approve the item and Commissioner Stevinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **Report on Out-Of-State / Out-Of-Country Instruction**

**The Board of Trustees of Adams State College submitted a request to offer the following out-of-state instructional programs:**

- “ED 589: Field Studies at the Zoo” in Bronx, NY; July 16-20, 2007
- “ED 589: Standards-Based Assessment & Instruction in Science” in Austin, TX; August 9-10, 2007
- “ED 589: 4MAT 4 Algebra Workshop” in Crystal Lake, IL; July 23-24, 2007

**The Regents of the University of Colorado submitted a request to offer the following out-of-state instructional programs:**

“78<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Thyroid Association” in New York, NY; October 3-7, 2007

### **Degree Authorization Act – Higher Learning Commission Accreditation Process Changes**

Executive Director Skaggs added that due to an advisory from the Higher Learning Commission the DHE/CCHE accreditation process will need to have a more substantive internal review of an institution prior to giving authorization for it to operate under preliminary status. This action will put the CCHE and DHE in a better position to protect the interests of Colorado students.

Commissioner Stevinson moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35am.