

## **Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education Meeting**

**February 1, 2008**

Chairman Raymond Baker called the meeting to order at 1:15 pm.

Commissioners Raymond Baker, Larry Beckner, Patricia Pacey, Michael Plachy, James Polsfut, Richard Ramirez, Edward Robinson and James Stewart were in attendance. Commissioner Jill Brake attended via conference call and Commissioner Greg Stevinson was excused. Also in attendance were Advisory Committee members Senator Gail Schwartz, Dr. Mark Malone, Dr. Toni Larson, Dr. Alan Lamborn, Phil Fox and Darryl Bonds. Senate Education Committee member Senator Sue Windels also attended.

Dr. Michele Haney, President of Red Rocks Community, welcomed the Commission and gave the Commissioners a brief overview of the college and the programs offered.

Commissioner Stewart moved to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2008 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Plachy and unanimously passed.

Chairman Baker welcomed new Advisory Committee members Phil Fox, Darryl Bonds and Dr. Alan Lamborn.

There were no Chair, Commissioner, Subcommittee, Advisory Committee or Executive Director reports.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

**Auraria Higher Education Center Master Plan Update 2007** – Ryan Stubbs, Capital Assets Coordinator, gave the Commission an overview of the Auraria Higher Education Center (AHEC) Master Plan and then introduced Dean Wolfe, Executive Vice President for Administration at Auraria and Chris Geddes of Studio Insights, a planning and architectural firm. The Commission last approved AHEC's facility plan in 2001. The updated plan submits an urban vision for conceptual developments on the Auraria Campus, which includes the Community College of Denver, Metropolitan State College of Denver and the University of Colorado–Denver. The plan is for development over the next 20 years on the 126 acres the campus currently owns.

Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Geddes expanded on the details of the plan with a PowerPoint presentation.

Commissioner Robinson moved to accept the updated plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Plachy and unanimously passed.

**Proposal to Offer a Masters in Education – Educational Leadership Cognate at Mesa State College** – Dr. Julie Carnahan, Chief Academic Officer, presented Mesa State College's proposal to offer a new cognate in educational leadership. The program would allow the college to develop relationships with other Western Slope school districts whose teachers want to obtain a license in principalship or a Masters degree in educational leadership. Mesa State College provided evidence to the Commission in support of this program.

Commissioner Pacey moved to approve the Masters degree. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stewart and unanimously passed.

**2008-2009 Student Financial Aid Budget Parameters** – Andrew Carlson, Budget and Financial Aid Director, presented the recommended Student Financial Aid Budget Parameters for FY08-09. These guidelines are used by each institution to determine the cost of attendance for students and, when that cost is subtracted from the expected family contribution, the amount of aid for which need-based students are eligible. While the parameters establish a reference point, the institutions may adjust them to better reflect their local economic conditions. The commission must recommend guidelines annually to be in compliance with federal financial aid program regulations.

Commissioner Stewart moved to approve the 2008-2009 Student Financial Aid Budget Parameters. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Beckner and unanimously passed.

**Approval of Chief Financial Officers' Nominee for the Advisory Committee** – Diane Lindner presented the Chief Financial Officers' nomination of Bill Mansheim, CFO at Adams State College, to represent the institutions' financial aid officers on the Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Beckner moved to approve the nomination. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and unanimously passed.

**FY 2008-09 General Fund Allocation** – Executive Director Skaggs recommended that the Commission approve the allocation of general fund monies for FY09 for recommendation to the Joint Budget Committee and General Assembly. Mr. Skaggs explained that while staff has been working to develop a new model for distributing state general funds (the NCHEMS-gap model), that model is not yet complete. The CEOs recommended a continuation of the across-the-board percentage adjustment for another year. This adjustment translates to a 7.7% increase for all governing boards and area vocational schools. For local district colleges a 3% across-the-board increase is recommended, a cost of living adjustment as identified by OSPB for FY 08 and 09.

Mr. Skaggs discussed the tobacco settlement monies designated for University of Colorado-Denver, Health Sciences Center (CU-Denver HSC). Before the legislation (SB 07-97) passed last year, there was an agreement to treat the tobacco monies as a credit against the overall amount that would go to the University of Colorado system. However, the provisions of SB 97 made clear the legislative intent that those monies were *in addition to*, not *instead of*, general fund support. Therefore, the 7.7% increase recommendation would apply to the FY08 base of the University of Colorado system and other governing boards without including the tobacco fund money.

Steven Jordan, President of Metropolitan State College of Denver, said he didn't oppose or support the distribution methodology but was there to raise public policy issues. His concern focused on the distribution formula and how it affects the ability of institutions to close their peer gap over the next 10 years.

Hank Brown, President of the University of Colorado, presented a chart showing CU-Denver HSC to be the lowest funded institution in the state compared with its peers (about 20% of average) and that CU-Boulder is the next lowest at 29.3%. CU-Denver HSC has lost \$8,000 per student, despite the tobacco settlement monies over the last six years. He also stated that CU-Denver HSC has the least funding of any public medical school in the nation. He supported the

understanding that tobacco settlement monies were a supplement to other state monies. He also supported CU-Denver HSC being made into a separate line item next year.

Roy Wilson, Chancellor of CU-Denver, agreed that CU-Denver HSC should have its own separate line item in the future, and the school is working toward that end through legislation. He mentioned that the medical school comprises the vast majority of the Health Sciences Center, and is last in the nation in state funding. He supports the current legislation for the coming fiscal year until the new NCHEMS model is adopted.

#### **INFORMATION ITEM**

**2008 No Child Left Behind, Improving Teacher Quality Grants** – Heather Delange, Academic Program Coordinator, reported that DHE staff, CDE staff and teacher education professionals state-wide approved seven proposals from higher education institutions to receive funding for the 2008 No Child Left Behind grant, with a total allocation of \$1,100,000.

Commissioner Stewart moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.