

Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education Meeting

July 10, 2008

Chairman James Polsfut called the meeting to order at 10:12 am.

Commissioners James Polsfut, Larry Beckner, Patricia Pacey, Richard Ramirez and Edward Robinson were in attendance. Commissioner B J Scott attended via conference call. Also in attendance were Advisory Committee members Dr. Toni Larson, Dr. Alan Lamborn, Bill Mansheim, Jack Wylie and Donna Theimer via conference call.

Commissioner Ramirez moved to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2008 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and unanimously passed.

President Marilyn Liddell welcomed the Commission to Aims Community College.

Executive Director David Skaggs announced that the Governor named B J Scott from Colorado Springs as the newest member of the Commission. Commissioner Scott is a Republican from the Fifth Congressional District. She will serve in the interim until action is taken by the State Senate in the next session of the General Assembly.

Chairman Polsfut asked for a CCHE Commissioner nomination to the Colorado Commission on Autism. Commissioner Pacey nominated Commissioner Beckner and Commissioner Robinson seconded the nomination. The vote to nominate Commissioner Beckner was four in favor, none against and one abstention from Commissioner Beckner.

ACTION ITEMS

Adams State College 2008 Facilities Master Plan Update – Ryan Stubbs, Capital Assets Coordinator, gave an overview of the 2008 Adams State Master Plan, which updates the Commission-approved 1993 Master Plan and brings the college into compliance with current Commission policies on facilities master planning.

Erik van de Boogaard, Associate Vice President of Facilities Planning, Design and Construction at Adams State College, asked the Commission for approval of their Master Plan. He explained that the Plan identifies outdated and underutilized spaces, which will be reconfigured over the next several years to address growth and use of technology in educational programs.

Commissioner Beckner moved to approve the plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pacey and passed unanimously.

New Commission Policy Regarding Adjusting National Center for Higher Education Management System (NCHEMS) Gap Allocation Model for Resident FTE – Diane Lindner, Chief Financial Officer, and Andrew Carlson, Budget and Financial Aid Director, presented a draft policy to the Commission that described how the NCHEMS gap analysis would be adjusted to account for resident students for the purpose of allocating state funds. The draft policy also

recognizes the need for governing boards to have greater flexibility in setting tuition rates and fees to meet their operating expenditures.

G. P. Peterson, Chancellor of the University of Colorado-Boulder, questioned the methodology in the proposed model, noting that this causes students to make decisions based on their economic situation. He expressed concern about the impact of non-resident tuition in the model and recommended the model President Bruce Benson has proposed.

Commissioner Beckner moved to table the item until the September 11, 2008 CCHE meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and passed unanimously.

Executive Director Skaggs noted that the departmental budget request for FY 09-10, to be submitted to the Office of Planning and Budget on August 1, 2008, does not depend on adoption of the measure.

New Commission Policy Regarding Treatment of Other Revenues in NCHEMS-Gap Allocation Model - Diane Lindner and Andrew Carlson presented a draft policy regarding treatment of other revenues in the NCHEMS-gap allocation model. The policy recommends that no revenue sources other than state and local appropriations and total tuition revenue be included in determining the total funding gap at each institution for purposes of allocating state general funds. Commissioner Beckner moved to table the item until the September 11, 2008 CCHE meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pacey and passed unanimously.

Policies to Inform Colorado Promise Scholarship Guidelines – Executive Director David Skaggs introduced policy options that must be decided in order to prepare guidelines contemplated by the proposed ballot initiative 113, the Colorado Promise Scholarship, should that initiative pass in the November election. In presenting this item, David Skaggs reminded the Commission of the rationale for staff working on policy guidelines prior to the November election. The scholarship will have to be implemented by February 2009 for the academic year 2009-10, and the three months between the election and February would not permit preparation of the guidelines for the program.

Celina Duran, Financial Aid Coordinator, reviewed the 15 components of the policy framework for drafting guidelines.

Mr. George Walker, Jesse Jenson and Scott Ehrlich, members of the public, expressed their views on the Colorado Promise Scholarship.

David Longanecker, President of Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education (WICHE), addressed the need for guidelines regarding how and in what order the scholarships should be distributed.

Commissioner Robinson moved to approve the policy framework. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pacey and passed unanimously.

2010 Higher Education Admission Requirements (HEAR): Review and Proposed Recommendations for Implementations – Julie Carnahan, Chief Academic Officer, updated the Commissioners on the 2010 Higher Education Admission Requirements and requested

approval for revisions to the existing policy. The first recommendation would allow for an exemption for students with an index number more than 10 points above the minimum index number required for a particular institution; the second recommendation would apply the 20% admissions window on a statewide rather than on an institution basis; and the third recommendation would give school districts the option of requesting a school district waiver.

Commissioner Robinson moved to revise the Admission policy on the 2010 HEAR requirements. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Beckner and passed unanimously.

Resolution Concerning Initiative 113 (Severance Taxes and Colorado Promise Scholarships) – Commissioner Pacey moved to move the draft resolution to the floor. Commissioner Becker seconded the motion.

Commissioner Pacey requested that the words “and its mission” be added in the last paragraph to have it read:

“Now, therefore, the Colorado Commission on Higher Education does express its support and Initiative 113 *and its mission* in being placed on the November 2008 ballot and in being approved by the People of the State of Colorado.”

The resolution with the addition of the words “and its mission” passed unanimously.

Resolution Concerning Initiative 121 (Gaming and Community Colleges) – Commissioner Robinson moved to table this item until the September 11, 2008 CCHE meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Beckner and passed unanimously.

STUDY SESSION ITEM

Draft Policy Regarding Periodic Review of Peer Institutions for NCHEMS-Gap – Andrew Carlson, Budget and Financial Aid Director, brought the study session item before the Commission. The policy would allow institutions, beginning in April 2010, to request the Department and the Commission to review their peers. Following 2010, such review could on request occur every three years. The policy also recognizes that extenuating circumstances may warrant a peer review more frequently than every three years. The policy also confirms that the department will annually update each institutions peer gap based on new data that comes in from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Systems (IPEDS).

Commissioner Robinson moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm.

