## Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education Meeting

## University of Northern Colorado, June 4, 2009

Chairman James Polsfut called the meeting to order at 1:15 pm.

Commissioners James Polsfut, Hereford Percy, Larry Beckner, Happy Haynes, Edward Robinson, Greg Stevinson, and Patricia Pacey were in attendance. Commissioners Richard Ramirez, Jill Brake, BJ Scott, Michael Plachy attended via teleconference. Also in attendance were Advisory Committee members Dr. Alan Lamborn, Jack Wylie and Darryl Bonds. Advisory Committee members Dr. Toni Larson and Donna Theimer attended via teleconference.

Commissioner Robinson moved to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2009 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott and unanimously passed.

Kay Norton, President of the University of Northern Colorado, followed by Dr. Michael Kimball, Director of the UNC Center for Honors, Scholarship and Leadership, welcomed the Commission to the University of Northern Colorado and gave the Commissioners a brief overview of the university and its programs.

**Advisory Committee Report:** Jack Wylie, Student Representative, introduced Ms. Julie Shepard, to the Commission. Ms. Shepard, a University of Colorado medical student, is the newly elected student representative to the CCHE Advisory Committee and will be replacing Mr. Wylie at the end of his term in September 2009.

**Public Comment:** Mr. George Walker of Denver spoke to the Commission about the ethnic gap in high paying "green jobs" and the importance of funding for higher education, especially in preparing students for those jobs.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

**Fiscal Year 2010 Financial Aid Allocations** – Celina Duran, Financial Aid Administrator, presented the Commission with recommendations for FY 2010 need-based aid allocations, merit-based recommendations and work-study allocations. Several commissioners expressed their concern about cuts to merit and pre-collegiate aid. Ms. Duran and Mr. Skaggs explained that the due to the limited resources available for state financial aid the Governor and the legislature determined two years ago to direct state aid to need-based programs.

Commissioner Stevinson moved to approve the FY 2010 financial aid recommendations. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Percy. The item passed by a vote of eight to three.

Credit Hour Waiver For Science Teacher Preparation Programs – Dr. Ian Macgillivray, Academic Policy Officer for Teacher Education, presented the Commission with the recommendation for an "across the board" credit hour waiver for science teacher preparation programs, increasing the cap to 138 credit hours and lifting the four-year graduation agreement for those programs.

Commissioner Haynes moved to approve the credit waiver. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and unanimously passed.

**Re-approval of Jones International University Teacher Preparation Programs** – Dr. Ian Macgillivray informed the Commission that the teacher preparation programs at Jones International University have undergone their five year review and were re-approved by the State Board of Education at its meeting on May 14, 2009. Department staff has determined that the programs meet all statutory performance measures and recommends the Commission re-approve the teacher preparation programs at Jones International University.

Commissioner Robinson moved to re-approve the programs. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stevinson and unanimously passed.

**Re-approval of University of Phoenix Teacher Preparation Programs** – Dr. Ian Macgillivray informed the Commission that the teacher preparation programs at the University of Phoenix have undergone their five year review and were re-approved by the State Board of Education at its meeting on May 14, 2009. Department staff has determined that the programs meet all statutory performance measures and recommends the Commission re-approve the teacher preparation programs at the University of Phoenix.

Commissioner Stevinson moved to reapprove the programs. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Percy and unanimously passed.

**State Guaranteed General Education Courses, Review Cycle VII, Round I** - Vicki Leal, Academic Policy Officer, presented to the Commission recommendations for courses nominated by institutions, reviewed by faculty and recommended for the general education guaranteed statewide transfer program, gtPathways, during review Cycle VII, Round I (April 3, 2009). The recommendations represent the outcome of faculty consideration of 73 course nominations for approval and placement into the gtPathways program effective August 2009. This will bring the total number of courses in the gtPathways curriculum to 1,129.

Commissioner Stevinson asked Ms. Leal when the process would be completed, and she replied that it could go on indefinitely.

Commissioner Stevinson moved to approve the 73 courses for placement in gtPathways. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pacey and passed unanimously.

**Degree Authorization Act: Veritas College International** – Heather DeLange, Degree Authorization Officer, presented a request to the Commission from Veritas College International for authorization as a religious exempt school. Staff has conducted the required review of the institution's application materials and found that the institution meets all the requirements.

Commissioner Stevinson moved to approve authorization for Veritas College International. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and unanimously passed.

Approval of Baccalaureate Degree in Speech, Language, and Hearing at Metropolitan State College of Denver - Dr. Julie Carnahan, Chief Academic Officer, presented this item for approval.

Commissioner Stevinson moved to approve the baccalaureate degree program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Haynes and unanimously passed.

Approval of Baccalaureate Degree in Recreation Management at Metropolitan State College of Denver - Dr. Julie Carnahan presented this item for approval.

Commissioner Stevinson moved to approve the baccalaureate degree program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Haynes and unanimously passed.

Performance Contract Extension to June, 30, 2011 – Executive Director David Skaggs informed the Commission that the current performance contracts between the Commission and department and each governing board expire June 30, 2009, except the Colorado School of Mines, which contract expires June 30, 2011. Mr. Skaggs explained that the recent evaluation of the College Opportunity Fund (COF) had identified some areas in which the performance contracts could be strengthened, and that the proposed comprehensive planning effort would certainly include consideration of changes to COF and to the performance contracts. It is therefore appropriate to extend the terms of the current contracts during the time of the planning effort. Mr. Skaggs requested that the Commission authorize agreements with the governing boards to extend, through June 30, 2011, the performance contracts that otherwise expire June 30, 2009.

Commissioner Stevinson moved to approve the extension. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Beckner and unanimously passed.

**Draft Description on Post-secondary Workforce Readiness** – Dr. Julie Carnahan presented the Commission with a working draft description of Post-secondary and Workforce Readiness in preparation for the Commission/State Board of Education meeting on June 30, 2009 at which the Commission and Board would consider official action on the description.

This was a discussion item and required no action by the Commission.

Framework Draft for Comprehensive/Master Planning for Higher Education – Executive Director David Skaggs briefed the Commission on the proposed comprehensive planning effort for Higher Education in Colorado.

This was a discussion item and required no action by the Commission.

Commissioner Stevinson moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm.