Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting Pickens Technical College April 9, 2010

Chairman James Polsfut called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm.

Commissioners James Polsfut, Jill Brake, Happy Haynes, Patty Pacey, Dave Edwards, and Regina Rodriguez were in attendance. Commissioners Hereford Percy and Larry Beckner attended via conference call. Also in attendance were Advisory Committee members Representative Nancy Todd, Representative Randy Fischer, Bill Mansheim, and Dr. Toni Larson. Advisor JulieMarie Shepherd attended via conference call.

Commissioner Edwards moved to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2010 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brake and unanimously passed.

Executive Director of Pickens Technical College, Dean Stecklein, welcomed the Commission to the Pickens campus. Mr. Stecklein introduced Pickens, Delta Montrose Technical College and Emily Griffith Opportunity School as the three area vocational schools serving the state of Colorado. He explained the joint role and mission of the schools is to provide technical certificates that lead to employment and/or build towards an associate degree or above. The three schools provide 24 percent of the vocational certificates awarded in Colorado and 87 percent of the students at Pickens are employed after completing one of the school's programs. Pickens has a concurrent enrollment program with Aurora public high schools and thus has a secondary and post secondary student population.

Higher Education Strategic Plan Report: Executive Director Rico Munn, informed the Commission that the Steering Committee had discussed the following broad goals for the process: (1) identify systematic approaches that enhance and improve the educational pipeline for youth and adult learners; (2) provide recommendations to lessen the educational attainment gap between majority and underrepresented populations throughout the state; (3) lessen geographic, economic, and demographic disparities in access and opportunity to complete a broader array of quality educational programs; (4) strengthen the link between undergraduate and research programs and the state's economy; (5) ensure fiscal stability and affordability of Colorado public higher education into the future; and (6) provide recommendations for systemic governance reform.

The Mission subcommittee is discussing the overall purpose of higher education and evaluating the governance structure. The Sustainability subcommittee is looking at funding allocation models, resource generation strategies and the economic outlook for higher education. The Pipeline subcommittee is looking at best practices such as concurrent enrollment and development and remedial education delivery. The Accessibility subcommittee is defining

accessibility as it relates to the higher education system and to individual institutions, and discussing financial aid, academic and other barriers.

Executive Director's Report: Director Munn introduced Dr. Cheryl Lovell, the new Chief Academic Officer for the Department to the Commission.

Mr. Munn also informed the Commission that the two-year terms of several CCHE Advisory Committee members have expired and that Department staff will request nominations from the relevant organizations. Also, 2009 legislation added a new member to the Advisory committee to represent parents; DHE staff are requesting nominations from several state-wide parent organizations.

Public Comments: Kay Norton, CEO of the University of Northern Colorado (UNC), requested that the Commission add to its agenda UNC's proposal for a Masters of Accountancy degree. Dr. Norton said that UNC had been subjected to unprecedented scrutiny of whether the proposed degree is consistent with UNC's statutory role and mission. Department staff responded that the Department had not received answers to questions asked of UNC to explain how the program fits UNC's role and mission.

Commissioner Edwards moved adding UNC's program proposal to the agenda. Commissioner Haynes seconded the motion. The motion failed by a vote of five to three.

WORKPLAN ITEM

Review of Performance Contracts for Adams State College and Ft. Lewis College – Dr. Cheryl Lovell, Chief Academic Officer, summarized for the Commission a report on Adams State College's and Ft. Lewis College's performance contracts. She reminded the commission that the reviews of performance contracts are intended to determine whether or not the contract mechanism is a useful accountability tool for the institutions in Colorado. Each report covers all general indicators in the performance contract: Access and Success; Quality in Undergraduate Education; Efficiency of Operations; Other State Needs – Teacher Education; and Other State Needs – Workforce and Economic Development.

The annual reports provided by Adams State College and Ft. Lewis College, along with other DHE data, were reviewed and presented in this report.

CONSENT ITEMS

Reauthorization of Teacher Preparation Program at Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design

Approval of Elementary Teacher Preparation with M.A.T. Degree at Metropolitan State College of Denver

Approval of Master Of Arts in Teaching American Sign Language at University of Northern Colorado

Proposal to Offer a Doctor of Asian Languages and Civilizations Degree at University of Colorado-Boulder

Proposal to Offer a Master of Laws Degree at University of Colorado Law School

Proposal to Offer a Baccalaureate Degree in Public Health at Fort Lewis College

Proposal to Offer a Baccalaureate Degree In Engineering At Fort Lewis College

Proposal to Offer a Master of Science in Biology, Chemistry and Biochemistry at Colorado State University-Pueblo

Proposal to Offer a Bachelor of Science in Construction Management at Colorado State University -Pueblo

Commissioner Brake moved to approve the consent items. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards and unanimously passed.

ACTION ITEM

2010 Legislation Impacting Higher Education – John Karakoulakis, Director of Legislative Affairs, introduced Senator Sue Windels, former member of the Senate Education Committee and former CCHE Advisory Committee Legislative member. The Senator is a board member of Great Education Colorado, a "statewide, nonpartisan, grassroots organization that is focused on improving education in Colorado through wise, increased investment in our schools, colleges and universities". Senator Windels stressed the importance of educating the general public in Colorado on the importance of the state's revenue issues regarding higher education. Great Education Colorado has launched an effort to address educating the public throughout the State. Additionally, the organization is proposing restoring representative government to the Colorado legislature for the purpose of funding pre-school through post-secondary education (P-20), via HR1002 and SR002. These resolutions give the legislature the power to raise revenue for higher education by changing the tax structure. The House and Senate concurrent resolutions will be heard in Committee later this month.

Commissioner Haynes moved to support the concurrent resolutions supported by Great Education Colorado. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards and unanimously passed.

John Karakoulakis informed the Commission that HB137, the so-called Long Bill, has passed though the Senate on third reading and is going to the House. Of note, HB137 took \$45 million

from the CollegeInvest Scholarship fund to help balance the budget; \$15 million will be used to refinance need-based financial aid and the remainder used for current scholarship obligations.

Commissioner Rodriguez moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm.