

**TOPIC: REVISION OF CCHE POLICY REGARDING THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND APPROVAL OF NEW CCHE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER**

**PREPARED BY: RICO MUNN**

**I. SUMMARY**

This agenda item revises CCHE policy to conform with statute regarding the CCHE Advisory Committee and recommends that the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) approve the nomination of Diana Sirko, for the Advisory Committee to represent K-12 education.

**II. BACKGROUND AND STAFF ANALYSIS**

*Make-up of Advisory Committee*

Section 23-1-130(1), C.R.S., provides for an “advisory committee to the commission for the purpose of suggesting solutions to the problems and needs of higher education and maintaining liaison with the general assembly and the governing boards for state-supported institutions . . .” that “shall consist of not less than thirteen members.” The Commission is authorized and directed to appoint seven advisory committee members, in addition to the six members appointed by the leadership of the general assembly. Paragraph (1)(b) specifies that one member shall be a faculty representative and one shall be a student representative. Legislation passed in 2009 (SB 09-090) further specifies that one member shall be a parent.

Commission policy adopted in October 2007 specifies the following members:

- One member nominated by Academic Council
- One member nominated by the Chief Financial Officers
- One member to represent Independent Higher Education of Colorado institutions
- Two representatives from K-12

With the change in statute in 2009 specifying a parent representative, the Commission policy contains one too many positions. Staff recommends that CCHE policy be changed to specify one representative from K-12.

*Nomination of Diana Sirko as K-12 representative*

According to Commission policy, members of the Advisory Committee serve two-year terms. The K-12 education position has most recently been filled by Mr. Darryl Bonds; his term expired in January 2010. As specified by CCHE policy, Department staff sought nominations to fill his position from the Colorado Association of School Boards and from the Colorado Association of

School Executives CASE. Diana Sirko was nominated by those organizations and approved by Commissioner Dwight Jones of the Colorado Department of Education.

**III. STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

**That the Commission approve the change in CCHE policy to specify one member representing K-12 education and approve the nomination of Diana Sirko to fill that position for a term of two years.**

**IV. SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

Diana Sirko bio attached.