

Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting
Fort Lewis College
August 5, 2011

Vice Chairman Kauffman called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm.

Vice Chairman Richard Kaufman, Commissioners Larry Beckner, Happy Haynes, Patty Pacey, Jim Polsfut, Regina Rodriguez and BJ Scott were in attendance. Chairman Hereford Percy and Advisory Committee member Dr. Toni Larson attended via teleconference call.

Commissioner Beckner moved to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2011 teleconference meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pacey and passed unanimously.

Ft. Lewis College President, Dr. Dene Kay Thomas, welcomed the Commissioners to the campus and thanked them for holding their annual retreat and CCHE meeting there and gave an overview of the campus. Commissioner Polsfut commented on the campus' use of professional associates. The Professional Associates of Fort Lewis College is a group of fifty retired and semi-retired professionals who volunteer their time and talents in support of the college. They come from several disciplines including advertising, biology, business, chemistry, education, engineering, ethics, geology, government, history, human resources, law, libraries, medicine, military, music, ornithology, physics, and psychology. Professional Associates manage programs for the college including the Life Long Learning lecture series and the Host Family program, and have been instrumental in establishing programs such as the college Veterans programs and the Off-Campus Services Guide.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Lt. Governor Joe Garcia reported that the Department of Higher Education (DHE) had received a grant of \$1,000,000 from Complete College America (funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation) to apply for the effectiveness delivery of remedial courses in the community college system. Lt. Governor also reported that he had updated the State Board of Education (SBE), at their monthly meeting, on the Commission's agenda, as well as the Governor's. He mentioned the re-organization of DHE included new staff, as well as some internal staff changes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. George Walker of Denver commented on the SBE's recent meeting where he encouraged the SBE and the CCHE to support Senator Rollie Heath's initiative; a proposal to raise taxes by \$3 billion over five years to help fund Colorado's education system

Report on the Colorado Youth Advisory Council (COYAC) - Senator Ellen Roberts, co-chair of COYAC, along with Daniel Fallon-Cyr, a member of Durango presented to the Commission a

brief introduction to COYAC. The Council was established in 2004 for the purpose of providing the legislature with feedback, information, and input on policy issues affecting Colorado's youth. The Council is comprised of 40 young people between the ages of 14 and 19, and four nonvoting members from the legislature. Members represent the diversity of Colorado's youth, with one member selected from each of the 35 Senate district and five at large members selected to ensure adequate rural representation. The Council meets four times per year, with two meetings occurring during the legislative session and elects a youth member and legislator as co-chairs. Senator Roberts pointed out that COYAC looks like the youth of Colorado. Sen. Roberts believes these students have a powerful voice in the legislature. She invited CCHE to use COYAC as a resource.

CONSENT ITEM

Colorado State University, Global Campus – New Degree Programs

Commissioner Rodriguez moved to approve the new degree programs. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott and unanimously passed.

ACTION ITEMS

DAA – Request for Authorization: Nova Southeastern University –Dr. Matt Gianneschi, Deputy Executive Director, presented this item recommending authorization for Nova Southeastern University to offer its Doctor of Education degree in Colorado in Durango, CO. Department staff empanelled an evaluation team to review the school. Their findings came back favorable after a few minor findings were corrected.

Greg Stiber, Executive Director of Nova Southeastern University, joined the meeting via teleconference to answer any questions.

Commissioner Edwards moved to approve full authorization for Nova Southeastern University. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Haynes and unanimously passed.

Appointments to the Education Success Taskforce created by Senate Bill 11-111 – Dr. Matt Gianneschi, Deputy Executive Director, presented this item. Senate Bill 11-111 created the *Educational Success Task Force* (task force), an entity established to study intervention strategies, recommend best practices to school districts, and recommend statutory or regulatory changes for the purpose of minimizing the need for remediation in postsecondary education. The task force is housed in the Colorado Department of Education.

Members of the task force are to be jointly appointed by the State Board of Education (SBE) and Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE). The bill specifies certain constituencies to

be represented on the task force. Staff from CDE and DHE collaborated to prepare recommendations for the membership of the task force.

It is anticipated that the SBE will appoint individuals to this task force during its monthly meeting on August 4th. The membership to the task force recommended to the SBE and CCHE is identical. The task force is required to work with the Governor's Education Leadership Council (ELC). On or before July 1, 2012, the task force must submit findings and recommendations to SBE and CCHE; in turn, CDE and CDHE will post such findings on their respective websites.

Also, the task force shall recommend legislation to legislative council and shall meet with the House and Senate education committees no later than January 31, 2012. This task force is repealed as of July 1, 2013.

Commissioner Beckner moved the CCHE approve the appointment of the names chosen to the Education Success Task Force.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.