

**TOPIC: DESIGNATION OF NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVES TO THE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO THE CCHE**

PREPARED BY: DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION STAFF

I. SUMMARY

By statute, the CCHE is charged with selecting and designating a number of different individuals representing higher education stakeholder groups for the purpose of advising CCHE and suggesting solutions of the problems and need of higher education.

This agenda item is specific to the selection and designation of new advisory committee members in the following roles:

1. Student Advisor (position has been vacant for the past year);
2. Chief Financial Officer Advisor; and
3. K-12 Advisor.

II. BACKGROUND

Student Advisor – Ms. Laura Rutz

Ms. Laura Rutz is completing an Associate of Science degree at Front Range Community College, and plans to pursue a bachelor's degree at Regis University in fall 2012. In addition to attending FRCC, she also obtained an Associate of Occupational Science from Pima Medical Institute in 2007.

While at FRCC, Ms. Lutz was a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society (where she served as the Public Relations Officer), President of the FRCC Student Ambassador program, and President of the FRCC Student Government Association. In 2011, Ms. Rutz was elected chair of the State Student Advisory Council, an advisory board for the Student Leadership Development Council, which works in conjunction with the State Board of Community Colleges and Occupational Education. Ms. Lutz also works with the Community College System Office.

Ms. Rutz' resume is attached to this agenda item.

Chief Financial Officer Advisor – Mr. Mark Superka

Mr. Mark Superka is currently the Chief Financial Officer at the Colorado Community College System Office. Prior to this role Mr. Superka was the Budget Director at the Colorado Community College System Office and also held senior analyst positions in the Governor's Office of State Planning and Budgeting.

On May 23rd, following one of the master planning meetings, the higher education chief financial officers meeting included the nomination of Mr. Superka to represent the voice of the public institutions' of higher education CFO's to the Commission as an advisory committee member. The institution CFOs unanimously agreed to Mr. Superka's nomination as their representative to the Advisory Committee to the CCHE.

Mr. Superka, as a CFO of the two-year system, completes the informal rotation of the of the CFO Advisor based on the general type of public institutions with the previous two CFO advisors coming from the four-year system (Bill Mansheim – Adams State) and research system (Kelly Fox – CU System).

K-12 Advisor – Dr. Keith Owen

Dr. Keith Owen currently serves as the Deputy Commissioner at the Colorado Department of Education. Prior to that, as an associate commission with CDE, Dr. Owen primarily oversaw the state's special education programs, federal programs including Title I, support for local school districts, and accountability systems.

Prior to his position with the Colorado Department of Education, Dr. Owen worked at the Durango School District where he's served as the superintendent for three years. During his tenure in Durango, he is credited with initiating a principal professional development program for principals in the southwest portion of the state.

Dr. Owen has also served in a variety of leadership positions with the Pueblo City School District. His experience in Pueblo included being a teacher, principal, director of reading programs, executive director of elementary education and chief academic officer. In these roles, Owen honed his expertise in the areas of literacy, implementing effective accountability systems, and school improvement.

Dr. Owen replaces Dr. Diana Sirko as the K-12 Advisor to the CCHE

III. STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that:

Ms. Laura Rutz be designated as the Student representative to the Advisory Committee to the CCHE;

Mr. Mark Superka be designated as the Chief Financial Officer representative to the Advisory Committee to the CCHE; and

Dr. Keith Owen be designate as the K-12 representative to the Advisory Committee to the CCHE.

IV. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

C.R.S. § 23-1-103 (1) (b) Student Advisor

C.R.S. § 23-1-103 (1) (c) Four Additional Advisors