

Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting
Colorado State Capitol, Old Supreme Court Chambers
January 10, 2014

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

Chairman Dick Kaufman, Vice Chair Patty Pacey, Commissioners John Anderson, Jeanette Garcia, James Polsfut and BJ Scott attended. Commissioners Monte Moses and Hereford Percy attended via conference call. Also in attendance were CCHE Advisory Committee members Senators Nancy Todd and Rachel Zenzinger, Representatives Lois Court and Leroy Garcia, Michael Mincic, Dr. Toni Larson, Mark Superka, Dr. Keith Owen and Melissa Wagner. Advisor Frank Novotny attended via conference call.

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2013 CCHE meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Lt. Governor Joe Garcia introduced newly appointed Commissioner John Anderson and welcomed him to the Commission.

The Lt. Governor reported to the Commission about the department's effort to revisit strategic priorities for 2014 and that the DHE senior team will be developing a new organizational design to link to the strategic priorities. He also mentioned the progress on the Governor's Statewide Scholarship model, the department's presentation to the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) on December 12th, and the department's requirements for the JBC Smart Act.

Also reported was the Governor's FY15 Budget request for Higher Education as a separate bill this year, Senate Bill 14-001, rather than being included as a part of the annual Long Bill.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. George Walker of Denver suggested that there be a major bill introduced concerning public funding for higher education together with income tax credits for private colleges.

Senator Kevin Lundberg, attending the CCHE meeting, informed the Commission that he was sponsoring SB14-033, which concerns the creation of income tax credits for nonpublic education.

CONSENT ITEMS

Recommend Approval of Master of Science in Supply Chain Management at University of Colorado Boulder

Recommend Approval of Master of Science in Real Estate at University of Colorado Boulder

Recommend Approval of Bachelor of Science in Statistics at Colorado State University

Recommend Approval of Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems and Business Analytics at Colorado State University - Global Campus

Recommend Approval of Bachelor of Science in Human Resource Management at Colorado State University - Global Campus

Recommend Approval of Master of Human Resource Management at Colorado State University - Global Campus

Recommend Approval of Bachelor of Science in Neurosciences at Colorado State University

Approve Upcoming Student Budget Parameters

Two-Year Cash Funded Capital Program List Amendment– Colorado School of Mines

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

ACTION ITEMS

Degree Authorization Act: Request for Provisional Authorization for Mount St. Mary's College – Heather DeLange, Academic Policy Officer, presented this item recommending authorization as a place of business (with no instruction) for Mount St. Mary's College to operate an administrative office in Colorado, pursuant to the Degree Authorization Act. Ms. DeLange explained, based on the determination of the activities occurring at the Colorado site including recruitment, instructional design, student support services, and administrative staff for the college, that this was not a request for full authorization for the institution. The business office will be recruiting and enrolling students for Mt. St. Mary's College online programs.

Ms. DeLange introduced Dr. Vernon Smith, Provost for Portmont College at Mt. St. Mary's, who offered to answer questions from the Commission. Commissioner Polsfut asked Provost Smith about physical locations outside of Colorado that have residential programs. Provost Smith replied that there are two campuses in southern California. Commissioner Garcia asked about online tuition per credit hour (\$275 per credit hour). CCHE Legislative Advisor, Senator Rachel Zenzinger asked whether the online program offered associate degrees or bachelor's

degrees (associate only) and what majors would be offered (liberal arts, business administration and pre-health sciences).

Commissioner Pacey moved to approve authorization as a place of business for Mt. St. Mary's College. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and passed unanimously.

Request for Authorization to Offer Supplemental Academic Instruction (SAI) from Colorado Community College System (CCCS) – Tamara White presented this item to the Commission, explaining that CCCS seeks authorization to offer non-credit bearing SAI for college composition and reading, called CCR 093 and 094 and MAT 092 and 093. These courses are part of CCCS's developmental education redesign. The SAI policy allows state institutions to offer courses to support students with limited academic deficiency that are attached to college level courses. The policy requires proposals for SAI to be submitted to the Commission indicating how and for which students they intend to apply this policy, such as this one.

Commissioner Polsfut moved to formally authorize CCCS to offer SAI for college composition and reading. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott and passed unanimously.

Community College Bachelors of Applied Science Bill Draft – Chad Marturano, Director of Legislative Affairs, recalled that at the December CCHE meeting this item was discussed and the Commission requested a desire to take a formal position on this bill, Senate Bill 14-004. The provisions of the draft bill that were discussed at the December 2013 meeting have all be incorporated into the current version of the bill which was provided as an attachment to this item.

CCHE Legislative Advisor, Senator Nancy Todd, co-sponsor of the bill informed the Commission that S.B.14-004 was scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education Committee on January 16, 2014.

Commissioner Garcia moved that the Commission take the position of being in favor of Senate Bill 14-004. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott and passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Legislative Update – Chad Marturano, Director of Legislative Affairs, informed the Commission on the status of higher education-related bills currently in the legislature.

S.B.14-001 College Affordability Act – This bill appropriates \$100 million General Fund to the DHE FY2014-15 Budget; \$60 million in operating funds to the public institutions of higher education (an 11% increase) and \$40 million to financial aid (\$30 million for need based aid, \$5 million for work study aid and \$5 million to merit based aid). The bill also caps tuition increases to 6 percent, down from 9 percent.

S.B.14-004 Community College Four-year Programs – Allows the Colorado Community College System and Aims Community College to seek approval from CCHE to offer bachelor of Applied Science degree programs.

S.B.14-011 Colorado Energy Research Authority – Changes the name from Colorado Renewable Energy Research Authority and allows the Authority to direct the allocation of state matching funds to support activities or proposals for federal funds by the Colorado Energy Research Collaboratory (Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State University, University of Colorado Boulder). Also creates a cash fund of \$2 million annually from 2014 through 2018.

H.B.14-1041 Concealed Handguns Carry Without Permit – Allows a person, who legally under state and federal laws, can carry a concealed handgun in Colorado, to carry a weapon on school, college or university grounds

H.B.14-1048 Religious Freedom Higher Education – Prohibits a state institution from denying a religious student group a benefit that the institution provides to a nonreligious student group solely because the religious student group requires its leaders to adhere to the group's sincerely held religious beliefs or standards of conduct.

Commissioner Polsfut moved that the Commission take the position of being in favor of Senate Bill 14-001. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott and passed unanimously.

CCHE Legislative Advisor, Representative Lois Court suggested that the legislature, especially the House and Senate Education Committees, should know what is important to the Commission by CCHE's support or non-support of a bill, such as the Commission's support of the ASSET Bill, S.B.14-001 and S.B.14-004. Commissioner Garcia added that endorsements of bills should be tied into the Master Plan goals, as S.B.14-004 ties into access and affordability.

FY2014 Tuition and Fees Report –Tonya Covarrubias, Finance Policy Officer, presented the FY2013-14 Tuition and Fee Report. This report will go to the General Assembly on January 15, 2014. The report delves into resident and non-resident base tuition increases, resident and non-resident tuition fee rates and increases in institutional financial aid.

Commissioner Pacey asked whether the chart showing institutional financial aid could also show the per capita amount, in addition to percentages and dollar amounts. Ms. Covarrubias replied that would be included in the future, starting with the FY2014-15 report.

FY 2014-2015 Financial Aid Discussion – Celina Duran, Financial Aid Administrator, discussed allocation for the \$5 million for merit aid and the \$5 million for work study aid to the institutions should S.B.14-001 pass. Ms. Duran met with the Financial Aid Directors from the institutions but had not yet met with the institutions Chief Financial Officers.

The current allocation of \$16.4 million is the base fund for work study funds. The model under consideration is a base-plus allocation to acknowledge changes in enrollment using the financial aid file.

Some of the institutions are unsure whether, after adding in the administrative component, they could add enough work study positions the first year but thought they could the second year if the funds are available. Also brought to the Commissioner's attention was the statutory requirement that work study funds must be spent on undergraduate resident students; 70 percent going to students of need and up to 30 percent on student's without need.

Merit aid is not spelled out in statute, therefore the Commission retains authority for merit aid allocation. Recommendations for that allocation will be presented at the February CCHE meeting.

Commissioner Polsfut asked Ms. Duran to encourage the institutions to add enough work study positions the first year of the allocation.

2014 Legislative Report on the Skills for Jobs Act –Dr. Lauren Victor, Research Officer, told the Commission that the FY2014 Skills for Jobs report would be released in January. The report is required by statute to provide analysis of Colorado's anticipated work force need and the number of post-secondary degrees, certificates and other credentials being awarded by the states post-secondary institutions. Some of the highlights of the report are:

- By 2020, 65 percent of all jobs will require a post-secondary credential.
- Colorado's projected work force requirements exceed the national average with an anticipated 74% of jobs will require a post-secondary credential.
- Colorado ranks third nationally in terms of anticipated work force training needs
- The state unemployment rate is considerably lower for people with a post-secondary credential than those with a high school degree or less.
- Colorado's post-secondary credentials awarded have increased an average of 5.6 percent growth rate since 2007. This year was an increase of 8.7 percent over last year.

Presentation on Common Core Standards – CCHE Advisor Dr. Keith Owen, Colorado Department of Education gave the Commission a history of Colorado Academic Standards since H.R.93-1313 passed in 1993. In 2008, S.B.08-212, Colorado's Achievement Plan for Kids (CAP4K) called for post-secondary and workforce readiness standards. Final revisions and final drafts of the standards were presented to the State Board of Education and the Colorado Commission on Higher Education for adoption in 2009. The Common Core State Standards were released in June of 2010. After extensive study, the State Board of Education adopted the Common Core Standard in August of 2010.

Dr. Matt Gianneschi, Education Commission of the States, explained that Colorado and Texas were the two states that began aligning standards to college career readiness in 2008, helping to

bring together K-12 and higher education. At the tail end of those efforts, Common Core invited the Governor and the Chief State School Officer to participate. Colorado joined in August 2010. Since then, among the participants in the 45 states that adopted that Common Core Standards, only seven of the Governors are still in office, 16 of the 45 Chief State School Officers are still in their positions and many of the state legislators are no longer in office. Contributing to the criticisms that many states have regarding Common Core Standards, is the process for adopting academic standards have been in the state legislature rather than involving stakeholder groups, as Colorado did.

Colorado has incorporated the Common Core Standards into the Colorado Academic Standards

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