



**Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting
Colorado School of Mines
June 4, 2015**

I. OPENING BUSINESS

Chairman Dick Kaufman called the meeting to order at 1:05pm

A. Attendance

Chairman Kaufman, Vice Chair Patty Pacey, Commissioners John Anderson, Luis Colon, Vanecia Kerr, Monte Moses, Patty Pacey, Hereford Percy, Paula Sandoval and BJ Scott attended the meeting. Commission Jeanette Garcia attended via conference call. Also in attendance were CCHE Advisory Committee members Representative Mike Foote, Wayne Artis, Steve Kreidler, Dr. Toni Larson, Dr. Barbara Morris, and Melissa Wagner

B. Minutes

Commissioner Percy moved to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2015 CCHE meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moses and passed unanimously.

C. Welcome from President Bill Scoggins, Colorado School of Mines

President Scoggins welcomed the Commission to the campus. He informed the Commission that he is retiring, after nine years as President of the Colorado School of Mines. Lt. Governor Joe Garcia read a proclamation from Governor John Hickenlooper honoring President Scoggins.

D. Chair, Vice Chair, Commissioners and Advisor Reports

- **Chairman Kaufman** – Acknowledging that both Commissioners Patty Pacey's and Hereford Percy's terms end on June 30th, read aloud proclamations written for the two Commissioners. They were both presented with Colorado State Flags that had flown over the Capitol. Chairman Kaufman also noted that Advisor Larson would be retiring at the end of June. She has been the CCHE Advisor representing the Independent institutions of higher Education for 29 years. She will be



replaced by Mark Cavanaugh, former CFO of the Department of Higher Education.

- **Fiscal Affairs and Audit Subcommittee** - Commissioner Scott reported that the Fiscal Affairs and Audit subcommittee met on May 22nd and discussed the new tuition policy mandated by the General Assembly. Some of the Commissioners on the subcommittee traveled to CSU-Ft. Collins to review their 10 year capital construction master plan.

E. Executive Director Report

Lt. Governor Joe Garcia, Executive Director, gave his monthly update:

Update on Adams State University Extended Studies:

- Due to Adams State University's participation in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA), the Department contracted an independent contractor to investigate allegations of academic fraud and inadequate quality. The resulting report found several practices that could be improved and/or strengthened, but overall no major lapses in quality or academic oversight were found. The reports were delivered to John Lopez at WICHE-SARA and Dr. Mary Vanis at the Higher Learning Commission.

Division Update:

- The Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative will hold its program grantee symposium on June 25 at History Colorado.
 - The operational staff of the Scholarship Initiative is moving to Student Success and Academic Affairs under the CDHE structure starting July 1st.
- The Statewide Student Affairs conference will be held June 24 at Arapahoe Community College.
- Communications Director Julie Poppen has taken a position with CU Boulder as Senior News and Content Distribution Editor.

II. Consent Items

I. Recommend Approval of New gtPathways Courses – Maia Blom

II. Renewal of the Colorado-New Mexico Tuition Reciprocity Agreement – Todd Haggerty

Commissioner Percy moved to approve the consent items A and B. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moses and unanimously passed.



III. Presentation

A. Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative

Scott Wasserman, Chief of Staff for the Lt. Governor and Director of the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative and Shelley Woodson, Deputy Director, presented the Scholarship Initiative to the Commission.

IV. Discussion Items

A. 2016 Legislative Agenda – Kachina Weaver

Kachina wrapped up the 2015 legislative session, explained the Department will work with institutions, constituencies and higher education advocates to seek out current statutes and policies which may create barriers to closing the attainment gap in higher education and to create policies and statutes that incentivize increased attainment and production to meet the master plan goals. The Department is also tasked with developing a new tuition policy for HB 14-1319.

B. Remedial Report – Beth Bean & Michael Vente

Michael Vente, Research and Policy Analyst, highlighted the results of the 2014 Legislative Report of Remedial Education.

C. EdPays Report – Beth Bean

Beth Bean, Chief Research Officer, highlighted the results of the Education Pays in Colorado: Earnings 1, 5, and 10 years After College Report.

D. Development of New Tuition Policies – Diane Duffy, Chief Financial Officer & Todd Haggerty, Lead Financial Analyst

Diane Duffy, Chief Financial Officer, and Todd Haggerty, Lead Finance Analyst, reminded the Commission that in HB 1319 charges the Commission to submit tuition policies that ensure both accessible and affordable higher education for residents by November 1, 2015. The discussion item provided background material on the history of tuition in Colorado and policies that are in place and practices from other states to provide the Commissioners a document that can inform and educate throughout the process all of the strategies, goals and plans that lead to a solid tuition policy that can then be accepted by the general assembly in the coming year.

Establishing principals to guide the Commission during the development of state tuition policies was discussed. Commissioner Sandoval suggested that predictability for students and families be added to a list of principals; while Commissioner Moses noted the complexity of tuition policy and the short-time frame to develop new policies. Diane Duffy noted that the CCHE August retreat will focus on tuition policy and that the Commissioners can expect several “summer reading” items to prepare them for the retreat.



E. HB15-1275 Tuition Assistance – Celina Duran, Lead Financial Analyst

HB15-1275, part of the package of workforce bills, includes the creation of a new program that appropriates \$450,000 in FY2015-16 for eligible students enrolled in short-term certificate programs. These short-term certificate programs generally do not qualify for the Pell grant program, so identifying the eligible population is challenging. By the August meeting, when this agenda item is presented for action, staff will work to develop eligibility criteria, guidelines and an allocation method.

V. Action Items

A. Facility Master Plan Review Colorado State University – Fort Collins

Presentation by President Tony Frank and Mr. Steve Hultin– Andrew Rauch, Lead Financial Analyst

Commissioner Moses moved to approve the Facility Master Plan for Colorado State University – Fort Collins. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Pacey and unanimously passed.

B. Degree Authorization Act – Revisions to CCHE Policy Section I, Part J and Fee Schedule – Heather DeLange, Academic Policy Officer

The proposed and updated provisions to the Degree Authorization Act (DAA), the policy that oversees private colleges and universities in Colorado, were presented. The proposed increased fee schedule addresses the \$20,000 monetary shortfall in the administration of the DAA. Two new levels of fees types were added to adjust the shortfall and to bring more equity to the various sized insitutions.

Commissioner Moses moved to approve the revisions to the Degree Authorization Act and the proposed fee schedule. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Pacey and unanimously passed.

C. FY2015-2016 Financial Aid Allocations – Celina Duran, Lead Financial Analyst

Presented were the final allocations by governing board for all financial aid appropriations. There was a \$15.3 million (14%) increase in need based aid by the General Assembly for 2015-16. For the insitutions, there is a minimum increase of 5 percent and a cap at 30 percent. The increment by grade level is \$314. Work study and merit allocations did not change this year.

Commissioner Percy moved to approve the Financial Aid Allocations. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Moses and unanimously passed.



D. Annual Election of Colorado Commission of Higher Education

Officers - Chairman Dick Kaufman

Vice Chair Pacey nominated Commissioner Moses to be the new Chairman of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson and unanimously passed.

Commissioner Percy nominated Commissioner Colon to be the new Vice Chairman of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson and unanimously passed.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Vice Chair Pacey moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Percy. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.

