



**Colorado Commission on Higher Education**  
**Standing Committee on Student & Academic Affairs**  
**April 1, 2016 10:45 am – 11:45 am**  
**Location: CDHE, 1560 Broadway Suite 1600, Denver, CO 80202**  
**Rachel B. Noel Conference Room**  
**Call In: 1-877-820-7831 then enter 368215#**  
**Webinar URL <http://connect.enetcolorado.org/gecouncil/>**

## NOTES

### Attendance:

Commissioners: John Anderson (Chair); Dick Kaufman; Monte Moses; Tom McGimpsey; & Jeanette Garcia.

CDHE and Guests: Bruce Vandal (Complete College America); Ian Macgillivray (CDHE); Shelley Banker (CDHE); Russ Meyer (CDHE); & Carl Einhaus (CDHE).

1. Approve notes from last meeting [see handout: *SS&AA Standing Committee NOTES 2016-03-04.docx*]  
Commissioner McGimpsey moved to accept, Commissioner Kaufman seconded – all were in favor to approve.
2. Update on Guided Pathways to Success (GPS) – *Bruce Vandal, Senior Vice President, Complete College America* (agenda order was switched to accommodate Bruce)

Bruce provided a very well received overview of Complete College America's work, focusing on data from GPS initiatives around the U.S., including Colorado. Bruce highlighted Colorado's remedial education changes (which have resulted in improvements in student success) and our work on Math Pathways. Bruce stressed how GPS initiatives can positively impact higher education issues such as time to completion, expense, the excess number of credits taken, and how all of which ultimately leads to low graduation rates.

Some of the initiatives Bruce discussed include:

- Meta Majors (broad focus areas instead like STEM, Humanities, Health Sciences, Education, Arts, etc.) ;
- On-Time Degree Maps – which not only includes which courses should be taken each term for each year, but also what performance is expected, jobs available in field, etc.);



- Critical Path Courses – identify courses which are critical to do well in to increase likelihood of graduation in program and when to take it, also IHE should be sure that the courses are offered enough so students who need them can take them;
- Default Registration – particularly for required courses for major;
- Proactive Advising – required advising especially for students who are showing signs of falling behind (don't complete critical courses, bad grades, off academic map, etc.);
- Recalculating – getting students back on path who got off path. Choose, Start and Staying on path are core strategies. Georgia State saw 20% increase in grad rates by utilizing these strategies.

Bruce clarified an important point that meta-majors aren't just about the right coursework but also about the right student supports that are contextualized to the meta-major, such as 1) cohorts and learning communities (which have been shown to be especially beneficial for 1<sup>st</sup> generation and minority students) and 2) career and major exploration activities in the meta-major.

3. SS&AA Standing Committee Charter – *Commissioners and CDHE Staff*
  - Degrees needed to reach strategic Goal #1 [see handout: *ISSUE BRIEF - 66% Attainment Goal.docx*]

Everyone thanked Commissioner McGimpsey for his great work on the Charter (first charter for the new standing committee format). Commissioner Kaufman moved to adopt, Commissioner Garcia seconded, and all approved.

Next steps: Submit Charter to Commission for review and approval.

Regarding the *66% Attainment Goal ISSUE BRIEF* and the challenges recently conveyed by the CDHE data team regarding achieving our credential attainment goals by 2025, Commissioner Moses asked if the standing committee should bring back up to discussion the need to revise the Master Plan at the CCHE summer retreat – Jennifer Sobanet has also stated that she would like this topic on the retreat agenda.

Access to the Complete College America Spanning the Divide document was requested – it is available online at: <http://completecollege.org/spanningthedivide/#home>

The GPS presentation by Bruce sparked a conversation regarding including information on national GPS work and data at future commission meetings to give these efforts more exposure and focus.

Commissioner Moses commented that it would be great to find out what institutions have done from GPS event in fall. Tim Flanagan (new SS&AA Chief Operating Officer) will likely take lead in this effort.



Commissioner Garcia proposed that there be a regular 15 minute dedicated time for a presentation in CCHE meeting for an institution to highlight successful GPS initiative. Commissioner Garcia also asked for update on Degree Within Reach (Colorado's Reverse Transfer initiative) – Carl shared that we are now in our 3<sup>rd</sup> outreach round of DWR and hopefully by the end of the spring we'll have over 500 degrees awarded through the program. Much work still needed on reaching out to stop-outs (adults with some college courses with no credential).

