

**Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting
Metropolitan State University of Denver
September 12, 2017**

Commissioner and Advisor Learning Session

In advance of the regular business meeting the Commission conducted a learning session from 11:00am to Noon. During the session, Inta Morris, Chief Advocacy and Outreach Officer discussed the communication tools and advocacy plans for the Master Plan – Colorado Rises: Advancing Education and Talent Development, including key messaging, frequently asked questions (FAQ), social media posts and graphics, and the landing web page.

I. OPENING BUSINESS

Chairman Luis Colon called the business meeting to order at 12:30pm.

A. Attendance

Chairman Luis Colon, Vice Chairman Renny Fagan, Commissioners John Anderson, Maia Babbs, Cassie Gannett, Jeanette Garcia, Vanecia Kerr, Tom McGimpsey, Monte Moses and Paula Sandoval attended the meeting. Commissioner Mary Beth Buescher attended the meeting via conference call.

Also in attendance were CCHE Advisory Committee members Rep. Lang Sias, Wayne Artis, Mark Cavanaugh, Audy Leggere-Hickey, Chad Marturano, Barbara Morris and Misti Ruthven.

B. Welcome

President Janine Davidson welcomed the Commission to the Metropolitan State University of Denver campus.

C. Minutes

Commissioner McGimpsey moved to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2017 CCHE meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and passed unanimously.

D. Chair, Vice Chair, Commissioners and Advisors Reports

- Chairman Colon welcomed Chad Marturano, representing the Chief Financial Officers, to his role as a CCHE Advisor.
- He also noted the success of the Retreat. He reported that many Commissioners expressed satisfaction with the agenda and in-depth discussions.
- Chairman Colon attended the Education Leadership Council meeting in August with Dr. Reed. He also attended the President's Panel prior to the University of Colorado/Colorado State University football game on September 1st. Commissioner Buescher attended the game, as well.

- Advisor Artis reported the Colorado Faculty Advisory council will meet on September 29th.

E. Executive Director Report

- Dr. Kim Hunter Reed reported on the work accomplished since the retreat in preparation for the Master Plan launch.
- She hosted a series of equity roundtables with Native American leaders, African American leaders and Hispanic leaders.
- Dr. Reed stated that the Department stands with our Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students, neighbors and communities. The Department, along with the Governor and most, if not all, the campus presidents have issued statements in support of DACA students.
- There will be a joint report from the Department of Education and the Department of Higher Education to the legislature on recommendations regarding educator shortage, following town hall meetings around the state.
- Dr. Reed has completed visits to 14 public institutions and plans to visit all 31 campuses by the end of autumn.
- Lorna Candler, Director of the Division of Occupational Schools was named to the executive committee of the National Association of State Administrators and Supervisors of Private Schools, a national association of state regulators.
- Director of Student Services, Carl Einhaus, has agreed to become interim Chief Academic Affairs and Student Services Officer, during the search for Dr. Tim Flanagan's replacement.

II. Consent Items

- A. Recommend Approval of Elementary Education and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Education Programs at Naropa University – Dr. Ian Macgillivray**
- B. Recommend Approval of Reauthorization of Educator Preparation Unit at Colorado College – Dr. Ian Macgillivray**
- C. Recommend Reauthorization of Educator Preparation Unit at Colorado Mesa University – Dr. Ian Macgillivray**
- D. Recommend Reauthorization of Education Preparation Unit at University of Denver – Dr. Ian Macgillivray**
- E. FY 2018–19 Student Budget Parameters – Emily Burns**

Commissioner Anderson moved to approve consent items A through E. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McGimpsey and unanimously passed.

III. Master Plan Progress

Executive Director Kim Hunter Reed discussed the Master Plan launch. Dr. Reed and Scott Jenkins of the Lumina Foundation discussed the partnership between the Department and the Lumina Foundation.

IV. Discussion Items

- A. CCHE Policy I, N: Service Areas of Colorado Public Institutions of Higher Education – Technical Revisions - Kachina Weaver, Chief Policy Officer,**

presented this item making technical changes to the service area policy. Ms. Weaver explained there are no substantive policy changes to policy included in this item, rather it is updating of institution names and re-ordering of sections.

Ms. Weaver shared staff anticipates bringing forward a recommendation for changes to service area policy in a future meeting to provide an avenue to request a change or waiver of policy.

- B. Degree Authorization Act – Update on William Loveland College** - Ina Morris, Chief Advocacy and Outreach Officer, presented the discussion item on behalf of Heather DeLange, Academic Policy Officer, providing an update on William Loveland College’s (WLC) authorization status. Ms. Morris reminded the Commission of a discussion item about WLC at the previous meeting. The Commission had voted to instruct staff to provide notice to WLC of the Commission’s intent to consider revocation due to the institution’s lapse in accreditation through the Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC). Accreditation from a U.S. Department of Education recognized accrediting agency is required for continued authorization under the Degree Authorization Act. Ms. Morris explained that although staff had suggested to the Commission that today’s agenda item would be a vote on revocation, based on further advice from legal counsel, staff is following a timeline that requires notice to the institution and an opportunity for the institution to respond before the Commission takes action.

Commissioners asked questions and engaged in a discussion about whether current or past students would be harmed by this closure, the value of a degree from a closed institution, and whether staff was taking steps to ensure the least harm to students with similar closures in the future. Ms. Morris noted that while closures will happen, staff had already changed internal practice to investigate institutions showing sudden and significant decreases in enrollment; and that in this particular case, students would have a letter attached to their transcripts confirming that the institution was fully accredited and authorized until July, 2017.

- C. Degree Authorization Act – Update on American Pathways University** - Ina Morris, Chief Advocacy and Outreach Officer, presented the discussion item on behalf of Heather DeLange. Ms. Morris reminded the Commission of a discussion item about American Pathways University (APU) at the previous meeting. The Commission had voted to instruct staff to provide notice to APU of the Commission’s intent to consider revocation due to the institution being on probationary authorization since 2013. As with the previous item, Ms. Morris explained that although staff had suggested to the Commission that today’s agenda item would be a vote on revocation, based on further advice from legal counsel, staff is following a timeline that requires notice to the institution and an opportunity for the institution to respond before the Commission takes action.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm