

COLORADO HIGHER EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN

January – August 2010

<http://highered.colorado.gov/dhedefault.html>

Proposed charge to "Pipeline" subcommittee

This subcommittee is charged with developing recommendations to complement and carry forward the work done by Colorado's P-20 Commission. Successful recommendations should address the "leakage" between the K-12 and higher education system. Successful recommendations should also the education and recapture of non-traditional learners.

Specifically, the subcommittee is asked to answer the following questions:

- What should be the role of the system in decreasing the 30% remediation rate?
- What can/should be done to expand transition programs such as dual and concurrent enrollment?
- What incentives can be created or barriers removed to encourage the return and degree/certificate completion of non-traditional learners?
- What structures can be created or barriers removed to decrease time to graduation?

Proposed charge to "Accessibility" subcommittee

This subcommittee is charged with developing recommendations to address the accessibility of the state's system of higher education ("system"). Successful recommendations should result in a clear standard for accessibility and goals to meet and maintain that standard. Successful recommendations should also result in goals to close achievement gaps and clearer pathways for students of all interests and backgrounds.

Specifically, the subcommittee is asked to answer the following questions:

- How should Colorado define accessibility?
- What should be the accessibility standard for:
 - Research institutions
 - State colleges
 - Community colleges
 - Technical schools
- How can the system and individual institutions be held accountable for maintaining accessibility?
- Colorado has the nation's largest gap between the college attainment of its largest ethnic group and other ethnicities and the nation's second largest gap between low and high income groups. What should be Colorado's 5 and 10 year goals to address this gap?

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Proposed charge to initiate strategic plan process

Develop recommendations that answer the following questions:

- There are many potential "top" priorities for a system of higher education including, without limitation, access, affordability, workforce readiness, diversity, economic development, quality, national or international prestige, equity, degree completion, efficiency, local employment base, historical mission, etc. Assuming that such things must be balanced and prioritized, recommend the top five priorities for Colorado's system.
- Colorado's demographics are likely to experience significant change over the next 20 years. What goals should be set for the system in order to maintain the current quality of life in Colorado?
- President Obama and Governor Ritter have set ambitious goals for college and degree completion. What steps are needed for Colorado to meet these goals?

Proposed charge to "Sustainability" subcommittee

This subcommittee is charged with making recommendations related to COHIED funding. Successful recommendations should result in a strategy for stabilizing and sustaining COHIED funding.

Specifically, the subcommittee is asked to answer the following questions:

- What level of funding is needed to meet the system goals?
- What efficiencies can be implemented to decrease the need for funding or annual funding increases?
- If needed, what are viable sources of new or substitute funding?
- Should funding be tied to specific performance criteria? Which ones?
- How should the state allocate/prioritize its financial aid dollars?
- What is the appropriate balance of funding sources for:
 - Research institutions
 - State colleges
 - Community colleges
 - Technical schools
 - Private colleges

Proposed charge to "Mission" subcommittee

This subcommittee is charged with identifying the proper role, mission and governance structure of the various components of the state's system of higher education ("system"). Successful recommendations should result in alignment between state needs, structure and offered programs. Specifically, the subcommittee is asked to answer the following questions:

- What should be the role and mission of:
 - Research institutions
 - State colleges
 - Community colleges
 - Technical schools
 - Private colleges
- Does Colorado have too many, too few or the right amount of:
 - Research institutions
 - State colleges
 - Community colleges
 - Technical schools
- What type of partnerships or relationships should be developed between institutions of higher education and external entities in order to meet the identified goals?
- Does Colorado need to change its oversight structure to achieve its system goals? For example:
 1. Abolish or change role of CCHE?
 2. Consolidate systems or split up systems?
 3. Greater or less autonomy to individual institutions?
 4. Greater or less centralization of common processes?