Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education Meeting

November 13, 2008

Chairman James Polsfut called the meeting to order at 10:15 am.

Commissioners James Polsfut, Larry Beckner, Hereford Percy, Jill Brake and Happy Haynes were in attendance. Commissioners Michael Plachy, Richard Ramirez, Edward Robinson, BJ Scott and Patricia Pacey attended via conference call. Also in attendance were Advisory Committee members Bill Mansheim and Donna Theimer.

Commissioner Brake moved to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2008 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Percy and unanimously passed.

President Jay Helman welcomed the Commissioners to Western State College. He presented two Western State students, Megan Johnson and Levi Gibbs, who gave an overview of the school from their perspective.

Commissioner Report: Commissioner Larry Beckner reported he has attended several meetings of the State Commission on Autism. The State Autism Commission is in the process of developing a 10-year plan and Commissioner Beckner will keep the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) updated.

Public Comment: Dan Beal, President of the Student Government Association at Aims Community College, read a letter from the Association to CCHE regarding local district community college funding.

George Walker expressed his concern regarding funding for higher education.

ACTION ITEMS

Proposal to Offer a Master of Science in Global Energy Management at the University of Colorado Denver (UC Denver) – Dr. Julie Carnahan, Chief Academic Officer, and Dr. Clifford Young, Associate Dean of Programs at the Business School at UC Denver, presented for the Commission's approval a Master of Science degree in Global Energy Management at UC Denver. Dr. Carnahan presented the evidence of need for the program and assurances from the UC Denver Provost, Dean of the Business School, and Dean of the Graduate School regarding the substantial equivalency of the academic program quality, quality of faculty, admissions policy, and academic standards to comparable programs at the University of Colorado Business School. Dr. Young also affirmed that appropriate consultation on these matters had occurred with cognizant faculty at UC Denver.

Commissioner Percy moved to approve the University of Colorado Denver program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Haynes and passed unanimously.

Coordinated Degree Program Approval – Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering Offered by the University of Colorado-Boulder (CU-Boulder) and Mesa State College – Dr. Julie Carnahan presented for the Commission's approval a request from CU Boulder for a coordinated degree program with Mesa State College (MSC) that would allow MSC students to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from CU-Boulder.

Commissioner Beckner moved to approve the program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brake and passed unanimously.

Revisions to Policy Section I, Part P: Teacher Education Policy – Dr. Ian Macgillivray, Academic Policy Officer for Teacher Education, and Dr. Julie Carnahan presented for the Commission's approval a revision to CCHE policy concerning teacher education. The revisions bring the provisions in the CCHE policy on teacher education policy into compliance with Senate Bill 08-18.

Commissioner Brake moved to approve the revised policy language. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and passed unanimously.

Reauthorization of the Colorado/New Mexico Reciprocity Agreement and Approval of Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Institutional Allocation – Vicki Leal, Academic Policy Officer and Dr. Julie Carnahan presented for the Commission's approval proposed institutional allocations for fiscal year 2009-2010 for the reciprocity agreement. Having consulted with the New Mexico Department of Higher Education, the Colorado Department of Higher Education staff recommended an increase for fiscal year 2009-2010 to 400 FTE from the current 300 FTE.

Commissioner Haynes moved to approve the additional allocations. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott and passed unanimously.

Colorado State University-Global Campus Proposed Degree Program – Dr. Julie Carnahan presented this item to replace the item tabled at the October 2, 2008 CCHE meeting. When the Colorado State University (CSU) extended studies unit submitted three degree program proposals in 2007 (Master of Science in Education: Instructional Development and Online Learning in Higher Education; Bachelor of Science in Public Management; and Bachelor of Science in Leadership and Organizational Studies), staff interpreted the submission for these programs as coming under the auspices of either CSU-Ft. Collins or CSU-Pueblo. Subsequently, staff learned that the extended studies submissions were made on behalf of what is now called the CSU-Global Campus. This agenda item proposed action to conform the degree programs at CSU-Global Campus to Commission policy with regard to role and mission, assurances of the quality of academic programs and faculty, the admission policies and academic standards of CSU-Pueblo extended studies for undergraduate degree programs and of CSU-Ft. Collins extended studies for graduate degree programs.

Richard Schweigert, CEO of CSU-Global Campus and Michael Feeley, outside general counsel for CSU-Global Campus, requested that the Commission take no action on this item.

The staff recommended that the Commission approve the Master of Science in Education: Instructional Development and Online Learning in Higher Education; Bachelor of Science in Public Management; Bachelor of Science in Leadership and Organizational Studies pending the resubmission of degree program proposals with the authoritative assurances from appropriate officials at CSU-Ft. Collins and CSU-Pueblo by March 1, 2009.

Commissioner Brake moved to accept the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Percy and passed unanimously.

Fiscal Year 2009-2010 (FY09-10) Commission Budget Request – Diane Lindner, Chief Academic Officer, and Andrew Carlson, Budget and Financial Aid Director, presented to the Commission a draft CCHE budget recommendation to the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) for FY09-10. Ms. Lindner explained that the Governor's budget recommendation is for \$40,000,000 in new General Fund for higher education to be allocated to the governing boards, local district colleges, area vocational schools, and to the state's financial aid programs. She further explained that the budget recommendation to the JBC from the Commission notes that \$83,000,000 would be required to meet the Commission's objective to close the funding gap between Colorado's institutions and their peers. The draft recommended endorsement of the Governor's request, while noting that the amount is insufficient and justifying the \$83,000,000 figure.

Commissioner Percy moved to approve the request. Commissioner Brake seconded the motion. The motion and second were withdrawn prior to a vote.

Commissioner Beckner then offered the following motion:

The Commission appreciates the great efforts of the Governor's Office to seek increased funding for higher education, and the Commission further appreciates the fiscal realities of limited money available in the General Fund. However, in order to meet the goal of closing the NCHEMS funding gap, the Commission recommends an increase for funding of higher education from the General Fund in the amount of \$83,000,000 for fiscal year 09-10.

Commissioner Percy moved to approve the budget request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brake and passed unanimously.

Linda Crnic Institute 501(C)(3) — David Skaggs, Executive Director, presented for the Commission's approval a request from the University of Colorado to create a new nonprofit corporation to accept and manage a substantial gift from the Anna and John J. Sie Foundation (AJSF) for the creation of the Linda Crnic Institute for research and clinical practice concerning Down syndrome.

Commissioner Percy moved to approve the University of Colorado's request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Haynes and passed unanimously.

Application for Participation in State-Funded Student Assistance Program - Diane Lindner and Celina Duran, Financial Aid Administrator, presented for approval by the Commission

provisional participation of Colorado Christian University in the state financial aid program, making them eligible for a pilot grant (\$15,000) for fiscal year 2008-2009. Funding will be released once audit materials are received verifying CCU's proper administration of federal financial aid.

Commissioner Brake moved to approve Colorado Christian University provisional participation in the state financial aid program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Beckner and passed unanimously.

CONSENT ITEM

College Opportunity Fund (COF) Status Report – John Karakoulakis, Director of Legislative Affairs, presented the FY07-08 annual COF Status Report for Commission approval prior to submitting the report to the Education Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives and to the Joint Budget Committee.

INFORMATION ITEM

Degree Authorization Act-Chamberlain College of Nursing – Dr. Julie Carnahan and Heather Delange, Degree Authorization Officer, informed the Commission that after being granted preliminary authorization at the March 7, 2008 CCHE meeting, Chamberlain College of Nursing is requesting withdrawal of its preliminary authorization status along with its application to operate in Colorado.

Commissioner Beckner moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brake. The meeting was adjourned at 1:15pm.