

**Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting
Denver School of Science and Technology
May 7, 2010**

Chairman James Polsfut called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm.

Commissioners James Polsfut, Hereford Percy, Larry Beckner, Dave Edwards, Happy Haynes, Patty Pacey, Michael Plachy and BJ Scott were in attendance. Commissioners Greg Stevinson and Jill Brake attended via conference call. Also in attendance were Advisory Committee members Representatives Nancy Todd and Randy Fischer, Bill Mansheim, Donna Theimer and Dr. Toni Larson.

Commissioner Percy moved to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2010 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Haynes and unanimously passed.

Bill Kurtz, CEO of Denver School of Science and Technology (DSST), welcomed the Commission to the Denver Public Charter School. The school, which combines middle and high school, will have its third graduating class in May. Mr. Kurtz informed the Commission that along with the main campus of DSST, there will be four additional campuses opening in the Denver area. The school will eventually serve 4,300 students in Denver, 12 to 13 percent of the population of six- to twelve-year olds in Denver Public Schools. He noted that 90 to 95 percent of DSST graduates go on to a two or four year college.

Chair's Report: Chairman Polsfut reported that he had testified before the state legislature regarding Senate Bill 10-003 (the so-called tuition flexibility bill).

Chairman Polsfut, along with Commissioner Haynes, appeared before the Senate Education Committee and were approved for another term on the CCHE.

Higher Education Strategic Plan Report: Executive Director Rico Munn informed the Commission that the Steering Group continues to move forward in shaping the report for the strategic plan. He said the Steering Group has defined its goals and is discussing its philosophical approach. The Group and the subcommittees have held close to 50 meetings since mid-January.

Executive Director's Report: Director Munn's reported that Senate Bill 10-003, having passed out of the second reading in the House, will very likely pass. The issue going forward will be the implementation of the bill by the CCHE. A special CCHE meeting will be held on May 20th to start the process.

WORKPLAN ITEM

Review of Performance Contracts for Metropolitan State College of Denver and Mesa State College – Dr. Cheryl Lovell, Chief Academic Officer, summarized reports on Metropolitan State College of Denver and Mesa State College for the Commission. She reminded the Commission

that the reviews of performance contracts are intended to determine whether or not the contract mechanism is a useful accountability tool for the CCHE and for the institutions in Colorado. Each report covers all general indicators in the performance contract: Access and Success; Quality in Undergraduate Education; Efficiency of Operations; Other State Needs – Teacher Education; and Other State Needs – Workforce and Economic Development.

CONSENT ITEMS

FY 2011 COF Eligibility for Off-Campus Programs

Proposal to Offer a Bachelor of Science In Athletic Training at University of Northern Colorado

Proposal to Offer a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science Degree In Public Health at The University of Colorado Denver

Proposal to Offer a Master of Science In Dentistry Program, School of Dental Medicine at The University of Colorado Denver

Proposal to Offer a Master of Science Degree In Historic Preservation at The University of Colorado Denver

Commission Approval of Final Capital Projects Using the Financing Instruments in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and HB09-1346

Two-Year Cash Funded Capital Program List – Colorado State University

Commissioner Edwards moved to approve the consent items. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott and unanimously passed.

ACTION ITEM

Proposal To Offer Master Of Accounting Degree At University Of Northern Colorado – Dr. Cheryl Lovell and Heather DeLange, Academic Program Coordinator, presented this item to the Commission. Based on the discussion at the April 9, 2010 CCHE meeting regarding masters programs meeting the statutorily defined missions of the respective institution of higher education, DHE staff has attempted to qualify and define terms in several of the mission statements. And Staff has restructured the framework for the exchange of information between an institution requesting program approval and the Department. This process has resulted in parameters for operationally defining an institution's mission for purposes of program approval. Dr. Lovell requested the Commission determine if these parameters work to help the approval process of proposed programs. After discussion, the Commission agreed that the new set of parameters reduced the amount of confusion around program approval.

Regarding the University of Northern Colorado (UNC) agenda item, based on the more specific information requested of the institution, staff recommends the Commission approve the proposed Master of Accounting Degree program at UNC.

Kay Norton, President of the University Of Northern Colorado, said that the new set of parameters had helped in the information exchange process with the Department, but she cautioned against the use of a formula. President Norton said that the program approval process should be done on a case-by-case basis with due deference to the findings of the respective governing board, which is responsible for administering the institution's mission.

Commissioner Percy moved to approve the proposed program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards and unanimously passed.

Proposal To Offer Master Of Arts In Criminal Justice At University Of Northern Colorado – Heather DeLange presented this item to the Commission for approval. Commissioner Percy moved to approve the proposed program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards and unanimously passed.

Proposal To Offer A Master Of Arts Degree In Higher Education Administration And Leadership At Adams State College – Heather DeLange presented this item to the Commission for approval. Commissioner Scott moved to approve the proposed program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Plachy and unanimously passed.

Approval of New CCHE Advisory Committee – Director Munn brought forward nominations for the four positions on the CCHE Advisory Committee that were vacant due to two-year terms expiring: Dr. Abe Harraf, Provost and Senior Vice President, University of Northern Colorado to replace outgoing academic affairs representative Dr. Alan Lamborn; Kelly Fox, Chief Financial Officer, University of Colorado System, to replace Bill Mansheim as financial officers representative; Michael Mincic, Associate Professor, University of Colorado-Colorado Springs, to replace Donna Theimer as faculty representative; and Dr. Toni Larson, representing the private institutions, nominated for another two-year term.

Commissioner Haynes moved to approve the nominations. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards and unanimously passed.

A new position was statutorily added to the CCHE Advisory Committee; that of a parent advisor. The parent advisor must have a child/children currently enrolled in a Colorado public higher education institution.

Commissioner Scott nominated Ruth Annette Carter to the parent advisor position. Ms. Carter is the parent of a freshman currently attending Colorado State University and has been involved with PTA since 1997, when her daughter was a first grader. She has held many elected positions in the local unit, including co-president and was asked by Representative Debbie Benefield in 2002 to also take a position on the Jeffco Council PTA and is currently the 3rd Vice President/Membership. Ms. Carter is also on the Diversity and Inclusion Committee for Colorado PTA.

Commissioner Haynes seconded the nomination of Ms. Carter. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Beckner moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Pacey. The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm.