

Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting
Community College of Aurora
October 3, 2013

Chairman Kaufman called the meeting to order at 1:30pm.

Chairman Dick Kaufman, Vice Chair Patty Pacey, Commissioners Luis Colon, Jeanette Garcia, Happy Haynes, Monte Moses, Hereford Percy, Jim Polsfut and Regina Rodriguez attended. Commissioner BJ Scott attended via conference call. Also in attendance were CCHE Advisory Committee members Senator Evie Hudak, Michael Mincic, Frank Novotny, Mark Superka and Ruth Annette Carter.

Commissioner Percy moved to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2013 CCHE meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Rodriguez moved to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2013 CCHE meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Percy and passed unanimously.

Community College of Aurora Interim President, Betsy Oudenhoven, welcomed the Commission to the campus.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Lt. Governor Joe Garcia reported on his travels to Washington, D. C. and Albuquerque, NM to present how Colorado's higher education system is collaborating with the K-12 system, the master plan, performance funding, the financial aid redesign, concurrent enrollment and early remediation. Lt. Governor Garcia introduced the department's new Chief Operating Officer, Jennifer Sobanet, to the Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. George Walker, address the Commission regarding the need for funding for higher education and the lack of diversity in the institutions.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Higher Education Symposium Follow-up - Chad Marturano introduced Aims McGuinness, Senior Associate with the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) to address the Commission on the different governing structures nationally. His PowerPoint presentation gave examples of state's systems, noting the differences between regulating boards, governing boards and coordinating boards, of which CCHE is the latter. Mr. McGuinness stresses that the challenge of coordinating boards is to be deeply engaged and respected for objectivity on issues with both the executive and legislative branches, as well as the state institutions. Colorado is one of the leading coordinating boards in the country.

Lt. Governor Garcia suggested the Commission invite speakers who are institution presidents and former State Higher Education Executive Officers to continue the conversation.

New and Continuing State-Funded Capital Projects and Priority List, FY 2014-15 – Vice Chair Pacey, Chair of the Capital Construction Subcommittee, presented this item, along with Mark Cavanaugh, the department’s CFO. Vice Chair Pacey explained that after years without receiving funding for capital construction, this year there would be money from the General Fund. Due to this change, there was a general consensus of the subcommittee that a new system of ranking and prioritizing projects should occur. This change evolved into a scoring process that attempts to quantify certain quantitative types of criteria. This process has raised many questions from institutions and Commissioners alike, which is the reason this was moved from an action to a discussion item.

The criteria for prioritizing the projects are:

Capital construction fund impact	Governing board priority
Health, Life Safety, and Code Issues	Certificates of participation
Cash fund sources other than student fees	Continuation Projects
Clear identification of beneficiaries	Space needs analysis
Program plan appropriateness and	Phase-able projects
Necessity	Achieves goals

Four students from Colorado Mesa University traveled to the meeting from Grand Junction to ask the Commission to consider moving the Tomlinson Library Project higher up on the scoring list.

The decision was made to hold a special telephonic meeting on October 9th to vote on the order of the capital construction priority list.

This agenda item requests that the Commission take action on approving twenty-one new program plans; the twenty listed in the agenda item and one for the University of Colorado – Colorado Springs: Visual and Performing Arts program plan amendment, which was inadvertently omitted from the list. The item also requests that the Commission approve a waiver from program planning requirements for the Otero Junior College’s Agriculture Science Remodel.

Commissioner Percy moved to approve the twenty-one new program plans and grant Otero Junior College a waiver. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moses and unanimously passed.

CONSENT ITEMS

Two-Year Capital Program Amendments – CSU-Ft. Collins

Two-Year Capital Program Amendments – CSU-Pueblo

Two-Year Capital Program Amendments – Pikes Peak Community College

Policy for Institutional Reporting On College Opportunity Fund Student Stipend Enrollment – Revisions to CCHE Policy Section II, Parts D and E
Colorado Educational Exchange Program – Revisions to CCHE Policy Section VI, Part J
Recommend Approval of Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies with Teacher Licensure at Colorado Mountain College
Recommend Approval to offer Bachelor of Applied Science at Colorado Mountain College
Recommend Approval to offer Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Colorado Mountain College
Recommend Approval of Master’s in Physician Assistant Studies at Red Rocks Community College
Recommend Approval of Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education: Teaching for Social Justice at Regis College, Regis University
Recommend Approval to offer Bachelor of Arts in Neuroscience at University of Colorado Boulder
Recommend Approval of Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Toxicology at Colorado State University
Recommend Approval of Master of Computer Information Systems at Colorado State University

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

ACTION ITEMS

Degree Authorization Act – School of Urban Missions (SUM) Bible College And Theological Seminary: Request For Authorization As A Seminary Or Religious Training Institution – Heather DeLange, Degree Authorization Officer, presented this item. A representative from the SUM Bible College and Theological Seminary and Ms. DeLange have been in regular communication to assure the appropriate submission of documents. Staff has reviewed the documents submitted and finds that the criteria outlined in policy are met as outlined in CCHE policy, Section I, Part J.

SUM Bible College and Theological Seminary’s accrediting agency, ABHE, authorized the institution to pursue an extension site in Greeley, Colorado at the New Hope Christian Center. The ABHE Commission on Accreditation’s regulation for an extension site requires that it be managed under the administrative and legal control of the parent institution’s president and board. Based on the affiliation with New Hope Christian Center, SUM Bible College and Theological Seminary meets the definition of “a seminary or bible college as a bona fide religious postsecondary educational institution doing business or maintaining a place of business in the state of Colorado and that offers bachelor’s, master’s, or doctoral degrees or diplomas”.

Commissioner Moses moved to approve the authorization. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Percy and unanimously passed.

Degree Authorization Act - Request for Renewal of Provisional Authorization - Wellington University – Ms. Delange informed the Commission that Wellington University submitted the renewal documentation concerning its progress towards its accreditation along with a renewal fee of \$2,500, which is required of all institutions seeking renewal of provisional authorization. Under the Degree Authorization Act, an institution that has received provisional authorization by the CCHE will not be eligible for full authorization until an on-site visit results in accreditation by a U.S. Department of Education recognized accrediting agency. Wellington University is seeking accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), is meeting HLC deadlines, and is keeping department staff apprised of its progress. Wellington University is currently compiling preliminary evidence to submit to the HLC in November 2013. Given the above, staff concludes the institution is making adequate progress towards accreditation.

Commissioner Percy moved to approve the provisional authorization. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moses and unanimously passed.

Degree Authorization Act - Request for Renewal of Provisional Authorization - College America (Colorado Springs, Denver, Fort Collins) – Ms. DeLange stated that this item recommends the renewal of provisional authorization for CollegeAmerica to continue operating as an authorized private, degree-granting institution in Colorado pursuant to the Degree Authorization Act. Representatives of the college were unable to attend the meeting.

Commissioner Percy moved to table this item until a future meeting when representatives from College America could be in attendance to answer questions from the Commission. Commissioner Rodriguez seconded the motion with the caveat that the Commission be informed of all the details of what the specific allegations are by the accrediting body. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of a New CCHE Parent Advisor – Commissioner Garcia nominated Melissa Wagner to replace Ruth Annette Carter as the CCHE parent advisor. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Haynes and unanimously passed.

The Commission expressed appreciation for Ruth Annette’s tenure as the parent representative.

INFORMATION ITEM

Communications Update – Nancy Mitchell, Director of Communications presented the PowerPoint presentation she, Julie Poppen and Commissioners Percy, Haynes and Scott put together for Commissioners to use when they present to the public, titled “Higher Education in Colorado – Our Challenges and Goals”. Commissioner Percy explained the process of reducing the number of slides to only fourteen and paring down the slides to bullet points and graphs. The Commissioners were also presented a script to accompany the slides that can be edited depending on the group the Commissioners will be addressing. The final slide “Where do we go from here?” is meant to start the discussion with the members of the audience. This slide may change to a more specific tangible call to action.

Advisor Carter requested that a Commission present to the Colorado PTA in April 2014.

Commissioner Percy moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.