

**Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting  
Civic Center Plaza  
March 3, 2017**

**I. OPENING BUSINESS**

Chairman Monte Moses called the business meeting to order at 1:00pm

**A. Attendance**

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

Also in attendance were CCHE Advisory Committee members Senator Jeff Bridges, Wayne Artis, Mark Cavanaugh, Steve Kreidler, Audy Leggere-Hickey, Barbara Morris, Misti Ruthven and Melissa Wagner.

**B. Minutes**

Commissioner McGimpsey moved to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2016 CCHE meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Colon and passed unanimously.

Chairman Moses welcomed Acting Executive Director Dr. Kim Hunter Reed to the Commission on Higher Education and invited her to give her Executive Director Report.

**C. Executive Director Report**

Executive Director Reed thanked Diane Duffy for her leadership as Interim Executive Director and complemented her on keeping the staff moving forward.

Dr. Reed also thanked Kachina Weaver for her work in scheduling meetings with legislators, prior to the Senate Education Committee hearing on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, where Dr. Reed received unanimous support.

Since Dr. Reed's arrival at the Department on February 15<sup>th</sup> she has met with institutional leaders, as well as legislative leaders. She has met with Noel Ginsburg and been interviewed with him about the youth apprenticeship program by the Chronicle of Higher Education.

Dr. Reed also met with the State Demographer and spoke at the Colorado Black Round Table in honor of Black History Month.

On February 23<sup>rd</sup>, Dr. Reed held her first meeting with the CEOs. She believes they are very committed to their work and are very concerned about where postsecondary education is headed, in regards to PELL and DACA students.

Dr. Reed also announced that the Chief Data and Research Officer, Dr. Beth Bean, has made the decision to stay with the Department. In regards to data and research, Dr. Reed announced that Complete College America has provided the Department a technical assistance grant of \$10,000 to assist with remedial and math pathways data reporting.

#### **D. Chair , Vice Chair, Commissioners and Advisor Reports**

- Vice Chair Colon also welcomed Dr. Reed. He reported that he has been formally appointed to the board of Study Colorado, the group that supports international students, and attended his first meeting. Staff members attending the meeting voiced the same concerns the CEOs did, along with what the impact of declining international student enrollment will be on the institutions financially, as well as the diversity and equality of the schools. Vice Chair Colon believes this issue, while not receiving a lot of attention outside of higher education circles, is real and very important to address. He suggested putting together a Commission statement about how important international students to Colorado system of higher education, not just for finances but for the education of all the students.
- Commissioner Anderson, Chairman of the Student Success and Academic Affairs standing committee, reported on their last meeting. They discussed the current draft of the revised master plan in regards to the terminology around overarching goals, sub-goals and strategies.
- Commissioner Babbs, Chair of the Fiscal Affairs and Audit Committee, reported that at the last telephonic meeting, the financial aid allocations were reviewed.
- Advisor Artis announced the Colorado Faculty Advisory Council met on February 17<sup>th</sup> and will hold a working session at the department to discuss ways to strengthen their relationship with both the Department and the Commission.

## **II. Consent Items**

- A. Recommend Approval of Master of Arts in Education Degrees in Applied Mathematics, Rhetoric and Literary Studies, and Social Sciences at Colorado Mesa University – Dr. Ian Macgillivray**
- B. Recommend Approval of Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education with Special Education Endorsement at Colorado Mesa University – Dr. Ian Macgillivray and Dr. Robert Mitchell**
- C. Recommend Approval of Master of Science in Addiction Counseling at Colorado State University – Dr. Ian Macgillivray**
- D. Recommend Approval of Supplemental Academic Instruction at Colorado Mountain College – Dr. Ian Macgillivray**
- E. Recommend Approval of Colorado State University – Fort Collins Two-Year Cash Funded Capital Program List Amendment – Cat Olukotun**

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

### **III. Presentation**

Dr. Dene Kay Thomas, President of Ft. Lewis College (FLC), gave the Commission an overview of the campus. Highlights of the presentation included:

- Former CCHE Chairman, Dick Kaufman, is now a member of the FLC Board of Trustees.
  - FLC is a public liberal arts college with selective admission standards, with a historical and continuing commitment to Native American education.
  - One of two institutions in the United States established under an agreement between the state and federal government where any qualified Native American student can be admitted tuition free.
  - Offers professional programs and a limited number of graduate programs to serve regional needs.
  - FLC awards more baccalaureate degrees, including STEM degrees, to Native Americans than any other institution in the country.
  - Part of FLC's role and mission is to reduce the Native American gap both for Colorado and the nation. There are two strategies, a standalone bill to be introduced to the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress to replace some of the state's cost with federal dollars and to be part of higher education reauthorization as a line in that bill.
  - FLC has raised its six year graduation rate from 36 to 45 percent. That includes the Native Americans. The 2013 unemployment rate for Native Americans with a high school education was 16 percent, the rate fell to 5 percent if they have a baccalaureate degree or higher.
  - FLC has not raised its nonresident tuition in eight years and the average student debt load is among the lowest in Colorado.
  - FLC may become a Hispanic Serving Institute (HSI) within a few years.
  - FLC has an active teacher education program.
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- **Revisiting the Master Plan** – Kachina Weaver, Chief Policy Officer; Diane Duffy, Chief Operating Officer, and Inta Morris, Chief Advocacy & Outreach Officer helped facilitate discussion among Commissioners about the initial draft of the refreshed Master Plan that was shared via email on February 13, 2017 as well as some additional edits suggested for the Targets and Indicators. During the Commission meeting, Commissioners shared the Standing Committee conversations and the full group discussed.

Staff was provided a significant amount of feedback for the next round of edits and discussions.

### **IV. Action Item**

- A. Proposed Revisions to CCHE Bylaws** – Kachina Weaver, Chief Policy Officer, walked Commissioners through proposed updates to the Commissions Bylaws which were discussed at last month's Commission meeting. This version includes better clarification with regard to term limits for officers.

Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the proposed revisions to the CCHE Bylaws. Vice Chair Colon seconded the motion and the item passed unanimously.

**V. Discussion Items**

**A. Legislative Update** – Kachina Weaver, Chief Policy Officer, provided Commissioners with an update of pending legislation before the General Assembly.

Commissioner Fagan inquired specifically about HB 17-1187, which would change how the TABOR revenue calculations are made. He made a motion that the Commission support this legislation and urged Commissioners to support it. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Colon and the item passed unanimously.

**B. Fiscal Year 2017-18 Need-Based Financial Aid Allocation Models** – Andrew Rauch, Lead Financial Analyst, presented this discussion item to generate conversation and feedback around the undergraduate, need-based, financial aid allocation models for Fiscal Year 2017-18 and seek input from Commissioners on the allocation approaches provided.

Mr. Rauch explained that Department staff actively engaged the Financial Aid Advisory Committee in discussions regarding the proposed models. The Committee generally supports stability with rewards for those increasing enrollment. Background information and a quick synopsis of the models were discussed with the Fiscal Affairs and Audit Standing Committee at their February meeting. A recommendation will be brought forward in April.

Summary Description of Fiscal Year 2017-18 Draft Models

For all models we assumed the following:

- Increased State Funding of \$3.8 million;
- Constant funding increment between grade-level (\$315);
- Fiscal Year 2015-16 Pell-eligible FTE data;
- The advanced senior students are counted at freshman rate.

*Model 1:* This is a baseline model that does not employ a guardrail to stabilize funding shifts resulting from enrollment changes. There are significant shifts in funding across different institutions, but there is no discernable pattern to the changes.

*Models 2, 3, and 4:* These approaches attempt to balance the principles of the Completion Incentives Model by using a guardrail to prevent extreme shifts in funding while still acknowledging the fluctuations in Pell-eligible student enrollment and retention. All of these models cap the decreases and increases that institutions are able to receive.

**VI. Written Report Presentation**

- A. 2017 Legislative Report on the Postsecondary Progress and Success of High School Graduates** – Luke Banaszak, Research Analyst, presented to the Commission a PowerPoint Presentation overviewing the 2017 Postsecondary Success and Outcomes Report. The Report analyzes the postsecondary outcomes of Colorado high school graduates from 2009 through 2015, and the presentation highlighted significant findings from this version. Additionally, Dr. Reed and Mr. Banaszak emphasized the report’s finding that while there are encouraging statewide trends, there are still significant disparities between certain populations.

*There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm*

**Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting  
Telephonic Meeting  
March 13, 2017**

**I. OPENING BUSINESS**

Chairman Monte Moses called the telephonic meeting to order at 12:30pm

**A. Attendance**

Chairman Monte Moses, Commissioners Mary Beth Buescher, Maia Babbs, Renny Fagan, Cassie Gannett, Jeanette Garcia, Tom McGimpsey and Paula Sandoval attended the meeting telephonically.

**B. Action Item**

The Commission voted to support the following statement:

*“Since its founding, Colorado has attracted and welcomed bright minds and hard workers from around the globe—especially to our world-class colleges and universities.*

*Recent federal actions have caused concern among current and prospective students about their acceptance in the United States. Some international students around the world are even reassessing their decision to study here. The Colorado Commission on Higher Education is proud of the way our campuses have stepped up to defend and uphold the powerful tenet of inclusion. We maintain the value of diversity on our campuses as an instrument to foster understanding and to help unite us as a stronger, more vibrant state. We remain committed to providing safe, welcoming, world-class education to all our students.”*

It was suggested that the last sentence read *“We affirm our commitment to providing safe, welcoming, world-class education to all our students.”*

Commissioner McGimpsey moved to support the above statement with the change. Commissioner Gannett seconded the motion and the action item passed unanimously.

***There being no further business, the telephonic meeting was adjourned at 12:45pm.***