

**Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting
Civic Center Plaza
May 5, 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, Mary Beth Buescher, Renny Fagan, Cassie Gannett, Vanecia Kerr, Tom McGimpsey and Paula Sandoval attended the meeting.

Also in attendance were CCHE Advisory Committee members Wayne Artis, Steve Kreidler, Misti Ruthven and Melissa Wagner. Dr. Barbara Morris attended the meeting via conference call.

B. Minutes

Commissioner Fagan moved to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2017 CCHE meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Buescher and passed unanimously.

Commissioner McGimpsey moved to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2017 CCHE meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson and passed unanimously.

C. Chair, Vice Chair, Commissioners and Advisors Reports

- Chairman Moses reported that Dr. Tony Frank, Chancellor of the Colorado State University System, shared his affirming feedback in regards to the Master Plan with the Commissioners. He also suggested that the Commissioners not to be bashful about upholding accountability to the goals set in the Master Plan.
- Vice Chairman Colon reported he would be attending both the Western Pathways Conference in Denver and the Guided Pathways to Success conference in Fort Collins. Both conferences will occur during the following two weeks.
- Commissioner John Anderson reported that the Academic Affairs and Student Success committee held discussions on key student success activities across the state. There was also discussion regarding educator preparation, remediation and scaling new guided pathways, a topic being advanced by Complete College America.

D. Executive Director Report

- Dr. Reed reported on the following for the Federal Budget Update:
 - The omnibus budget for the current 2017 fiscal year included good news for higher education.
 - The spending agreement, which funds the government through September, restores year-round Pell Grant.
 - Provides modest increases to college readiness programs TRIO and GEAR UP.
 - Also funds the National Institutes of Health at \$2 billion more than 2016 levels.
- Dr. Reed met with both Congressmen Polis and Congressman Tipton.
- Dr. Reed met with students in a roundtable discussion about Concurrent Enrollment and visited Westminster High School to speak to juniors to advocate the importance of Concurrent Enrollment. She also attended a parent graduation at Westminster Middle School. The parents had attended a nine week program learning about college preparation for their children.
- Dr. Reed told the Commission that she has visited 10 college campuses thus far.
- Dr. Reed announced that Colorado has been selected for a site visit from the Lumina Foundation, and a potential opportunity for support of our equity work.
- She reported that College Friday was a big success.

E. Election of Officers

Chairman Monte Moses nominated Vice Chairman Luis Colon to be the new Chairman and Commissioner Renny Fagan to be the new Vice Chairman. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson and passed unanimously.

F. Public Comment

George Walker, Denver, informed the commission that he was disappointed that TABOR had been upheld, as it effects the low funding from the State for higher education. He also lamented the lack of diversity in Colorado's colleges and universities and hoped for more discussions about race and ethnicity.

II. Consent Items

A. Recommend Approval of Master of Science Degree in Rehabilitation at the University of Colorado Denver – Anschutz Medical Campus – *Dr. Ian Macgillivray*

B. Recommend Approval of Western State Colorado University Two-Year Cash Funded Capital Program List Amendment– *Cat Olukotun*

Commissioner McGimpsey moved to approve consent items A and B. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gannett and unanimously passed.

III. Discussion Item

A. Legislative Update – Kachina Weaver provided an update on the status of pending legislation, as the Legislature nears its final few days of session. Current information on bills can be found via the following hyperlinks:

[Active Bills Impacting Higher Education](#)

[Passed Bills Impacting Higher Education](#)
[Failed Bills that would Have Impacted Higher Education](#)

IV. Revisiting the Master Plan – CEOs from a 2-year and technical institution (Dr. Nancy McCallin, President of the Colorado Community College System; and, Jeff Barratt, Executive Director of Emily Griffith Technical College) joined the Commission to provide input on the refreshed Master Plan as well as to share the work each is doing to meet the goals. Commissioners discussed the pre-publication version of the Master Plan in preparation for action to be taken at the June 2017 meeting.

V. Presentation

A. Student Food Insecurity on Colorado College Campuses – Carl Einhaus, Director of Student Affairs, and Stacie Amaya, Policy Intern, presented on the topic of food insecurity and its impact on Colorado college students.

- A study titled, “Hungry and Homeless on Campus” (March 2017) found that 2 in 3 students expressed experiencing food insecurity. It is a significant social issue, but it is also clearly a barrier to student success, retention, and credential completion which are all part of our Master Plan Goals.
- Of the 22 institutes of higher education who responded to a survey that Mr. Einhaus sent, 14 campuses provide services such as food banks and pantries.
- Ms. Amaya led the Department-wide service project, a food drive to benefit students on the Auraria Campus, and to bring attention to the issues of food insecurity on Colorado college campuses. The effort saw strong participation from each of the Department divisions which resulted in the collection of roughly 500 pounds of food for donation. The food collected by the Department was one of the largest single donations the pantry has received, resulting in an overflow of the pantry storage area.

VI. Written Report

A. Annual Legislative Report on Developmental Education for the High School Class of 2015 – Michael Vente, Research and Information Policy Officer, presented the annual developmental education report (formerly known as the remedial report). Mr. Vente outlined several highlights from the report.

- The number of Colorado high school graduates placed into developmental education when entering college increased slightly in 2015-2016 over the previous year from 35.4 percent to 36.1 percent.
- Measuring success is focused on the number of students who move through the developmental education sequence into credit-bearing courses, into their second year of college and on to graduation. For the third year, students placed into developmental education had higher first year retention rates than non-developmental education students at community colleges. At the four-year level, the retention rate for students not placed into developmental education was 77.8 percent, compared to 66.3 percent for those placed into developmental education
- Various changes over the past few years, including the remedial redesign spearheaded by the Colorado Community College System and the addition of Supplemental Academic Instruction, have impacted developmental

education in Colorado. Supplemental Academic Instruction policy allows institutions of higher education to offer credit-bearing labs and other learning opportunities to students who may need a remedial course.

- The estimated total cost for instruction associated with developmental education enrollments is \$29.6 million. This total is comprised of an estimated state cost of \$10.1 million and an estimated student cost of \$19.5 million. Consistent with last year's estimated figures, students carry a high portion of the responsibility to cover the cost for developmental education courses. The FY 2015-2016 developmental education cost is a decrease over last year's estimated cost of \$39.3 million and shows a savings of \$9.7 million due to fewer developmental education courses being offered and fewer developmental education credit hours taken by students.

Commissioner Moses was interested in the decreased costs of developmental education. Mr. Vente explained that the decreased cost was associated with the elimination of many lower level remedial courses during the remedial redesign in favor of Supplemental Academic Instruction (SAI) options.

Commissioner Colon asked what the developmental education rate goal should be. Misti Ruthven, Executive Director of Innovation and Pathways at the Colorado Department of Education, said that lowering developmental education rates is an on-going discussion with districts. Ms. Ruthven also said that more needed to be done to align high school graduation requirements with workforce expectations.

Commissioner Kerr asked how the developmental education rate is calculated. Mr. Vente said that the rate included students assessed as needing developmental education based on test scores received by postsecondary institutions, enrollment in developmental education courses, and/or enrollment in Supplemental Academic Instruction (SAI) courses. Commissioner Kerr wondered if more support in preparing students for the ACT and/or SAT would impact the rates. Ms. Wagner said that more counseling and less "opt-out" for testing would help student success. Ms. Ruthven also said a wider body of evidence should be used to assess a need for developmental education rather than one test. Commissioner Kerr also asked about the alignment of need for developmental education based on major in college. Dr. Macgillivray explained the on-going work of the Math Pathways taskforce is to make sure that students are placed into the correct math course based on their field of study.

Commissioner Moses noted the increased use of SAI by students and wondered if all students in SAI should be counted as needing developmental education. Mr. Vente said that various stakeholders will convene over the summer and fall to discuss possible changes to the methodology used in calculating developmental education rates to better reflect the various changes to the remedial/developmental education landscape in Colorado.

VII. Action Items

- ### **A. Recommend Approval of Revisions to Commission Policy I, E: Statewide Remedial Education**
- Dr. Ian Macgillivray presented this agenda item to the

Commission and relayed feedback from several institutions of higher education. Overall the feedback was positive and institutional representatives appreciated the flexibility the policy provides. Two institutions submitted concerns that characterizing traditional remedial education as a last resort and “worse” than other options, like Supplemental Academic Instruction, sends a negative message about non-credit bearing developmental education. Commissioner Moses acknowledged that concern but did not think it worth changing the language because the current language is in line with the goal to prevent students, where possible, from spending time and money on coursework that is not credit bearing.

Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the revisions to the Remedial Education Policy. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McGimpsey and unanimously passed.

- B. Recommend Approval of Revisions to Commission Policy I, J and Fee Schedule: Degree Authorization Act** – Heather DeLange, Academic Policy Officer, presented amendments to CCHE policy and the fee schedule for approval. The proposed amendments to policy seek to ensure relevant processes with regard to state authorization for private, four-year institutions. The proposed changes clarify ambiguous language within policy as well as incorporate current practices into policy.

The proposed changes to the fee schedule are intended to ensure that fee revenues are adequate to cover the necessary expenses related to regulating the industry in accordance with state statute.

Commissioner Gannett moved to approve the revision to the Degree Authorization Act Policy and changes to the fee schedule. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McGimpsey and unanimously passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50pm