

**Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting
Civic Center Plaza
February 2, 2018**

Commissioner and Advisor Learning Session

Geoff Renstrom and Sarah Lehmann, communications consultants from Ebb+Flow Creative, presented a draft elevator pitch and engaged Commissioners in a discussion about how to personalize the message around the master plan. Commissioners learned how to weave in their own “why” story to make the master plan presentation more relatable. Commissioners were given a one-pager that included key messaging and a summary of the benefits of higher education for the individual, economy and public good.

I. OPENING BUSINESS

Chairman Luis Colón called the business meeting to order at 1:00pm.

A. Attendance

Chairman Luis Colón, Vice Chairman Renny Fagan, Commissioners Maia Babbs, Mary Beth Buescher, Jeanette Garcia, Vanecia Kerr, Tom McGimpsey, Monte Moses and Paula Sandoval attended the meeting.

Also in attendance were CCHE Advisory Committee members Representative Jeff Bridges, Wayne Artis, Mark Cavanaugh, Keri Lee, Audy Leggere-Hickey and Chad Marturano. Advisor Barbara Morris attended via conference call.

B. Minutes

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

C. Chair, Vice Chair, Commissioners and Advisors Reports

- Chairman Colón reported that, based on the feedback, the Department delivered a strong budget presentation to the Joint Budget Committee in early January.
- The Chairman also offered support to Commissioner John Anderson, who has been unable to attend recent CCHE meetings due to his health.
- Commissioner Garcia reported on the College in Colorado (CIC) retreat held in Pueblo. She suggested that the Director of CIC present information about CIC’s valuable admissions tool online to the Commissioners at a future learning session.
- Advisor Artis told the Commission that the Colorado Faculty Advisory Council had met recently and hosted guests from the University of Colorado’s Open Educational Resources Council and a policy analyst from the Joint Budget Committee present to discuss open textbooks for students.

D. Executive Director Report

- Dr. Kim Hunter Reed also reported on how positive the presentation was to support increased funding for higher education to the Joint Budget Committee. She reminded everyone that the Governor's budget request for higher education funding was almost \$90 million.
- Dr. Reed honored Commissioner Vanecia Kerr's recent induction to the Top Twenty Most Powerful Women in Denver, as well as Advisor Barbara Morris being named as the new president of State University of New York (SUNY) Oneonta. She also applauded Carl Einhaus, Director of Student Services, for his upcoming recognition as Friend of CACTA for his CTE work.
- Dr. Reed reported that CDHE was among the top three state agencies for improvement on the statewide employee engagement survey.
- Dr. Reed's upcoming visit to Pikes Peak Community College will complete her tour of public institutions in the state.
- Dr. Reed thanked Diane Duffy for her service as the Department's Chief Operating Officer. Diane will transition into a new role at the University of Colorado Denver - Anschutz.

II. Consent Items

A. Degree Authorization Act – Platt College - Recommendation of Approval for Renewal of Authorization – Heather DeLange

Commissioner Sandoval moved to approve consent item A. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Fagan and unanimously passed.

III. Master Plan Progress

A. Master Plan Updated Attainment Numbers and Workforce Alignment and Career Apprenticeships - Dr. Beth Bean

Dr. Bean presented on the most recent statewide attainment numbers for the population aged 25-34. Over the last year, Coloradans have achieved a 1.2 percentage point increase in attainment rates from 55% to 56.2% with steady increases in attainment for African American, American Indian and Hispanic students too. The 2018 attainment rates are as follow:

- Statewide 55% to 56.2%
- Hispanic 28.5% to 28.8%
- White 64.1% to 65.1%
- African American 39.4% to 45%
- American Indian 28.5% to 37.7%
- Asian 77.4% to 77.0%

Dr. Bean reminded the commission the attainment data are based upon the American Community Survey from the Census Bureau and are estimates. She introduced the concept of smoothing years over time to represent a more useful trend line because small population changes from year-to-year can be quite volatile.

B. Workforce Alignment and Career Apprenticeships - *Stephanie Veck, Colorado Workforce Development Council and Gretchen Morgan, CareerWise Colorado*

Stephanie Veck is the Director of the Colorado Workforce Development Council (CWDC) which facilitates the creation and sustainability of a business-led Colorado talent development pipeline that appropriately integrates the work of economic development, education, training, and workforce development to meet the needs of business, workers, job seekers and students. Ms. Veck presented an overview of CWDC's work and highlights from the fall 2017 Sectors Summit. A short video discussing work based learning and hiring and competency based education was shown alongside a PowerPoint presentation.

Gretchen Morgan is President of CareerWise, the first modern youth-apprenticeship system in the United States. As a nonprofit intermediary, CareerWise weaves together Colorado's industries, and provides students a practical learning experience to augment the classroom in fields such as healthcare, business operations, information technology, advanced manufacturing and financial services. Ms. Morgan gave an overview of the program and long term plan for CareerWise. A short video featuring CDHE's apprentice, Lauryn Bracken, was shown alongside a PowerPoint presentation.

IV. Presentation

Dr. Nichole Torpey-Saboe presented the 2017 Talent Pipeline Report.

The 2017 Colorado Talent Pipeline Report was released in late December, offering an examination of issues related to the supply and demand of talent in Colorado and strategies for strengthening the state's talent pipeline.

The report focuses on high-demand, high-growth jobs that pay a good wage in two earnings tiers: one including jobs meeting a living wage for a family of three with one working adult, and a second including jobs meeting a living wage for an individual. The report also explores areas of untapped talent in Colorado.

Recommendations were shared and include:

- Accelerate and deepen partnerships among education, business, and industry to develop Colorado talent.
- Ensure that Coloradans have the skills they will need to succeed and grow the state economy in the future.
- Mobilize Colorado's untapped talent potential to close the skills gap and connect people to careers leading to the middle class.
- Promote equitable growth and opportunity across the state.

V. Discussion Items

A. Degree Authorization Act – Creation of a Standing Committee For Private Postsecondary Institutions - *Heather DeLange*

Ms. DeLange proposed the creation of a standing committee to support and advise CDHE staff and the Commission on issues related to private university authorization and regulation under the Degree Authorization Act.

Ms. DeLange explained that in recent years, colleges and universities have become innovative in modes of delivery that are not always covered by policy or statute. Ms. DeLange described the recommended composition of the committee and informed the Commission the item will be an action item at the March 2, 2018 CCHE meeting.

VI. Action Items

A. Degree Authorization Act – American Pathways University – Recommendation for Approval of Revocation for Authorization – Heather DeLange

Heather DeLange, Office of Private Postsecondary Education, presented this action item recommending revocation of authorization for American Pathways University (APU). Ms. DeLange recapped the history of the authorization for the university and its attempts to attain accreditation. Department staff recommended revocation based on approved CCHE policy limiting the time an institution may be authorized on a probationary level as well as the recent Accrediting Commission for Career Schools and Colleges denial of accreditation.

President and CEO of American Pathways University, Larry Marlatt and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Gene Marlatt addressed the Commission. The Commission asked several questions of the APU administrators.

Commissioner McGimpsey moved to revoke authorization for American University Pathways. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Babbs and passed with a vote of seven for and two against.

B. Legislative Update – Katie Zaback and Tyler Mounsey

Ms. Zaback provided an update of the 2018 Legislative Agenda. Mr. Mounsey provided an update of a number of bills impacting higher education under consideration in the legislative session including HB18-1086 concerning the Community Colleges Offering a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and SB18-133 concerning the weighting of certificates in the state's funding allocation model.

VII. Written Report

A. Legislative Report on Fiscal Year 2016 Financial Aid – Emily Burns

Ms. Burns reviewed the financial aid report. Highlights included:

- Pell Grants made up 26% of total grant aid for Colorado's students.
- The cumulative average student debt load at a Colorado public four-year is \$26,259.
- Federal aid, which includes student loans, continues to be key source of funding for students attending college.
- Institutional aid has continued to grow in recent years.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10pm.