

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

Commissioner and Advisor Learning Session

Staff provided an overview of the HB 14-1319 funding model. This overview consisted of a description of the statute, the context, and the process involved in creating the current allocation model.

I. OPENING BUSINESS

Chairman Luis Colón called the business meeting to order at 1:10pm.

A. Attendance

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

Also in attendance were CCHE Advisory Committee members Wayne Artis, Mark Cavanaugh, Keri Lee, Misti Ruthven and Chad Marturano. Advisor Barbara Morris attended via conference call.

II. Presentation (Agenda item taken out of order to accommodate the presentation panel)

Mark Cavanaugh, Executive Director of Independent Higher Education of Colorado and CCHE Advisor, introduced the presidents of three private colleges: Dr. Rebecca Chopp, University of Denver; Father John Fitzgibbons, Regis University; and, Dr. Jill Tiefenthaler, Colorado College.

The presidents discussed how their schools align with the Master Plan Goals and the importance of liberal arts colleges and universities.

I. OPENING BUSINESS (continued)

B. Minutes

Commissioner Garcia moved to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2018 CCHE meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Buescher and passed unanimously.

C. Chair, Vice Chair, Commissioners and Advisors Reports

- Chairman Colón reported that he presented the Master Plan to the University of Colorado South Denver Chamber, along with Inta Morris, Chief Advocacy and Outreach Officer.

D. Executive Director Report

- Dr. Kim Hunter Reed welcomed Pierre Powell, Lauren Lopez and Matthew Jenkins to the CDHE team.
- Dr. Reed reported that figure setting with the Joint Budget Committee is the next step in this year's higher education state budget process. There is a special emphasis in the budget on funding for rural teachers. The next revenue forecast will occur at the end of March.
- On February 20th, the Lumina Talent, Innovation, and Equity (TIE) grant was launched at a well-attended event. Three institutions are partnering in the work: CSU-Pueblo, Community College of Aurora and Pueblo Community College.
- The Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education (WICHE) also received a Lumina grant to assist in improving American Indian student outcomes.
- Dr. Reed traveled to Washington, D.C. to meet with Colorado's congressional delegation to discuss higher education reauthorization and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).
- Dr. Reed traveled to Nashville, TN with Commissioner of Education Katy Anthes to discuss transitions and improved outcomes for students through the entire education pipeline and to address achievement and equity gaps.
- Dr. Reed informed the Commissioners that CDHE will be moving to 1600 Broadway, Suite 2200 on April 21st, saving the state over \$140,000 per year for the life of the lease.
- Dr. Reed thanked Dr. Beth Bean, who is departing mid-March for a position with Strada Education Network (formally USA Funds), for her years of outstanding service to the Department and the Commission.

III. Master Plan Progress

Expanding Credentials – Dr. Beth Bean

Dr. Bean presented on how states are trying to expand the credentials that count towards their statewide attainment goals. The discussion, at the national level, has occurred for several years and a lot of work was done to create common definitions for the various credentials including degrees, certificates, certifications and licenses. Expanding how we capture, count and report on credentials is an important step that will lead us to a robust effort to define “credentials of value” in pursuit of achieving our 66% attainment goal.

Through technical assistance from the National Skills Coalition under Lumina Foundation's TIE grant, Colorado has been working on a plan to begin to incorporate credentials into our statewide data systems. Colorado needs to be able to demonstrate the value of all credentials and to align credentials of value with high demand workforce needs. A unified credentialing system would assist Colorado on our road to success in meeting the 66% attainment goal and workforce needs. An initial stakeholder meeting is scheduled for March 9th and is part of the Talent Found collaborative work.

The Commission discussed its role as the ideal body to define “quality” and that the metrics should align with the Talent Pipeline Report. A plan and timeline is forthcoming, but some work should be initiated by 2019 per our Lumina TIE Memorandum of Understanding.

Carl Einhaus, Director of Student Affairs, provided a Degree Within Reach (Reverse Transfer) update to the Commission to highlight a program that is assisting with credential completion in Colorado at the request of Commissioner Jeanette Garcia.

We are in the 5th cycle of Degree Within Reach (DWR). Community colleges are currently performing degree audits for students who have opted-in to this round. Through four cycles, 999 associate degrees have been awarded through the program. Each year the number of degrees awarded has increased. 22,885 students have been eligible for DWR to date, but only 2857 (12.5%) students total have opted-in to participate (FERPA requires student consent to participate). Many ideas were offered by Commissioners to increase the number of degrees awarded. Carl also shared ideas for improvement developed through internal department meetings. Some of these suggestions included:

- In partnership with Colorado Community College System, promote the 1000th degree awarded to help market the program and help connect student to future jobs, photoshoot with Dr. Reed, etc.
- Assist four-year institutions in marketing DWR to their students (provide a template).
- Encourage four-year institutions to promote DWR at their transfer orientation programs.
- Connect with Work Force Centers to help in reaching out to eligible students who “stopped out” (left their four-year institution before earning a degree).
- Continue working with CCCS to improve operational efficiencies.

IV. Consent Items

- A. Degree Authorization Act – Ashford University – Recommendation of Approval for Renewal of Authorization – Heather DeLange**
- B. Degree Authorization Act – Relay Graduate School of Education – Heather DeLange**
- C. Recommendation of Approval for Renewal of Authorization – Heather DeLange**
- D. Recommend Approval of Bachelor of Applied Science in Geospatial Science at Front Range Community College – Dr. Ian Macgillivray**

Vice Chairman Fagan moved to approve consent item A through D. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Babbs and unanimously passed.

V. Discussion Items

- A. Legislative Update – Katie Zaback and Tyler Mounsey**

Mr. Mounsey provided an update on the legislative agenda which included SB17-133, concerning the expansion of bond use for private occupational schools. Additionally, Mrs. Zaback and Mr. Mounsey updated the Commission on monitored bills which included HB18-1086, concerning the Community Colleges Offering a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and the subsequent compromises reached and SB18-133, concerning the weighting of certificates in the state’s funding allocation model.

B. Fiscal Year 2018-19 Need Based Financial Aid Allocation Models – Andrew Rauch

Mr. Rauch presented this item to elicit feedback from the commissioners on several proposed need-based aid allocation models. Staff walked through the history of the allocation model and its intent to incent student completion by increasing the amount each institution receives for students who progress toward a degree. Four proposed models were presented, and the Commission discussed the benefits of guardrails in providing stability for institutions.

VI. Action Items

A. Degree Authorization Act - Recommendation for the Creation of a Standing Committee for Private Postsecondary Institutions – Heather DeLange

Ms. DeLange, Office of Private Postsecondary Education, recommended the creation of a standing committee for the private degree-granting schools. The committee will comprise of one or two Commissioners, three people from the authorized institutions and one at-large representative.

Vice Chairman Fagan moved to approve the creation of a standing committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sandoval and unanimously passed.

B. Recommendation for Adoption of CCHE/CDHE New Vision And Mission Statements – Inta Morris

Inta Morris, Chief Advocacy and Outreach Officer, introduced this action item requesting that the Commission approve the following proposed new vision and mission statements for the Department and the Commission.

- Vision: All Coloradans will have an education beyond high school to pursue their dreams and improve our communities.
- Mission: We advocate, develop policies and support students to maximize higher education opportunities for all.

Ms. Morris informed the Commission that the communications team had sought input from staff members representing all divisions and developed several variations of both statements; senior staff then discussed proposed statements at weekly meetings and finally agreed on a mission and vision statement at their Department leadership retreat in January.

Commissioner Garcia moved to approve the vision and mission statements. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Buescher and unanimously passed.

VII. Written Reports

A. 2018 Legislative Report on the Postsecondary Progress and Success of High School Graduates– Katie Zaback

Ms. Zaback reviewed the findings in the Postsecondary Progress and Success of High School Graduates in accordance with C.R.S. §23-1-113 (9). It provides information about postsecondary enrollment, progress and success for the Colorado high school class of 2016. Highlights included:

- 55.8% of 2016 Colorado high school graduates enrolled in college the fall following graduation.

- Equity gaps start early in a student's postsecondary education with underrepresented minorities accumulating fewer credit hours and achieving lower GPAs in their first year of college.
- Persistent gaps also exist by income with only 42% of high school students who qualify for free and reduced lunch enrolling in college compared to 62% of those who do not.
- Completion rates have been growing overall since 2009, and the trajectory of those rates has also increased.
- Females have higher credential attainment rates within two years than males, and the difference is especially pronounced within four years.
- Hispanic students have one of the highest two-year completion rates and one of the lowest four-year completion rates.

B. Fiscal Year 2017-18 Tuition and Fee Report – Emily Burns and Katie Wagnon
 This report is compiled in accordance with C.R.S. § 23-1-105.5(2). It provides detailed information on the tuition and fee rates that Colorado public institutions of higher education charged resident and non-resident students in the FY 2016-17. The key findings of the report include:

- General Fund support is the decisive factor in moderating tuition rate increases and buying down tuition rates that have risen as a result of state disinvestment.
- According to the State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO), Colorado continues to maintain its rank as 46th in the nation in state funded support per student to higher education. This has resulted in greater reliance on tuition by institutions.
- Despite this, Colorado is near the median (35th) in resident tuition charges. However, non-resident tuition charges are somewhat higher.

The report also included detailed breakdowns of Colorado's position in relation to the other 49 states in terms of tuition at flagship institutions, community colleges and other four year institutions.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15pm.