

**Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting
Civic Center Plaza
May 4, 2018**

Commissioner and Advisor Learning Session

The topic for the Learning Session was “Equity in Practice” presented by the Chief Student Success and Academic Affairs Officer, Dr. Kim Poast. Her guests were Janiece Mackey, Young Aspiring Americans for Social & Political Activism and Jonathan McCorey, Urban Male Initiative Retention Specialist, Community College of Denver.

I. OPENING BUSINESS

Chairman Luis Colón called the business meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

A. Attendance

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

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

B. Election of Officers

Chairman Luis Colón and Vice Chairman Renny Fagan were nominated to serve a second one year term by Commissioner Sandoval. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Babbs and passed unanimously.

C. Minutes

Commissioner Moses moved to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2018 CCHE meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McGimpsey and passed unanimously.

D. Chair, Vice Chair, Commissioners and Advisors Reports

- Chairman Colón congratulated Dr. Kim Hunter Reed on her new position as the Commissioner of Higher Education in Louisiana.
- The Chairman reported that feedback from stakeholders on the Bachelors of Science degree in nursing (BSN) is being collected and will be presented to the Colorado Community College System.
- The Chairman also noted that it was College Friday.
- Vice Chairman Fagan noted that the bill to establish an option for Colorado taxpayers to designate their refund go to any nonprofit in Colorado on their

income tax form passed and will go into effect for the 2019 tax year, to be filed in 2020.

- Commissioner Buescher reported that she visited the campuses of Northwestern Community College in Rangely and Craig. They were pleased to have a Commissioner visit and expressed a desire to host a future CCHE meeting.
- Advisor Artis informed the Commission that the Colorado Faculty Advisory Council met on April 27th, primarily to discuss Prior Learning Assessment.

E. Executive Director Report

- Dr. Kim Hunter Reed welcomed the Commissioners to CDHE's new building.
- Dr. Reed was on a local morning television show for College Friday with 12 college mascots to talk about the importance of promoting Colorado colleges and universities.
- Dr. Reed told the Commission that the legislature approved a nearly 10% increase in higher education funding.
- Dr. Reed outlined the process and timeline to provide feedback on BSN proposals from the Colorado Community College System, aligned with the Governor's request for the Commission to have a role.
- Adams State University's interim President, Dr. Matt Nehring, informed Dr. Reed that ASU received notice that the Higher Learning Commission will reaffirm the site selection's recommendation that the campus be removed from probation, with a continued watch on finances.
- Dr. Reed also mentioned an incident that has been on state and national news at CSU involving two Native Americans students visiting the campus for a college tour. Dr. Reed noted the student outreach efforts and stated that there is still work to be done to make sure everyone feels welcome on our college campuses, especially in light of our statewide focus on erasing equity gaps.

II. Consent Items

- A. Degree Authorization Act: Calvary University Request for Authorization as a Seminary/Religious Training Institution – Heather DeLange**
- B. Recommend Approval of Special Education Generalist Endorsement at University of Denver – Dr. Brittany Lane**
- C. Two-Year Cash Funded Capital Program List Amendment – Colorado School of Mines – Lauren Lopez**

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

III. Action Item

- A. Prior Learning Assessment: Recommendations for Awarding College Credit for Military Courses and Occupations, College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), and Dantes Subject Standardized Tests (DSST) – Dr. Kim Poast, Chief Student Success and Academic Officer, and Spencer Ellis, Academic Policy Officer presented proposed Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) changes to the Commission for action. The presentation included recommendations based on stakeholder groups' feedback, including that of GE Council, Academic Council**

and the Colorado Faculty Advisory Council. Wayne Artis, representing CFAC indicated that CFAC unanimously supported the policy intent of these recommendations and looked forward to working with staff on implementation. Dr. Michael Lightner (representing CU Boulder, UCCS, CSU Ft. Collins, Colorado Mesa and UNC), articulated opposition to the CLEP, DSST and DLPT assessments being included in the Commission policy. Commissioners discussed the policy and implications for students and institutions. The Commission adopted recommendations as put forth by staff, with the change of including the DLPT assessment in the same category as the DSST, allowing for immediate implementation and Department review of available data at its December 2018 Commission meeting.

Commissioner Sandoval recommended a final motion to approve staff recommendations. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and unanimously passed.

IV. Master Plan Progress

A. Master Plan Progress: Erasing Equity Gaps – Amanda DeLaRosa, Chief of Staff, presented this agenda item to the Commission. In October 2017, Colorado became the first state in the nation to be awarded Lumina Foundation’s Talent, Innovation and Equity (TIE) grant with the goal of increasing educational attainment of African American, American Indian and Hispanic students by 6-8% in four years.

Lumina Foundation invested in Colorado to lead the way citing persistent equity gaps in attainment and, at the same time, a dynamic group of stakeholders committed to equity throughout the state.

In its implementation, the TIE grant advances three primary strategies:

- Campus interventions in partnership with Colorado State University-Pueblo, Pueblo Community College and Community College of Aurora.
- Culturally responsive professional development and a toolkit of resources and best practices for faculty that will be shared statewide.
- Equity Champions Coalition of key influencers from every region of the state to provide sound advice on policy alignment and to build and sustain the narrative for erasing equity gaps statewide through any changes in administration.

V. Presentation

A. Update: Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative (COSI) – Shelley Banker, Director, Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative, provided an update on programmatic changes made to Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative (COSI) over the past year that are positioning the program to better serve students across Colorado, report more uniformly on grantee outcomes in future years, and consider sustainability of the program long-term. Ms. Banker stated that those changes include:

- Community Partner Program (CPP) grants will follow two distinct models focusing on pre-collegiate career and college readiness centers and postsecondary Colorado Challenge-like services.

- Two new policies for Matching Student Scholarship (MSS) grants were introduced by the COSI advisory board in September 2017 allowing the use of endowments as an acceptable match and providing a reduced match for underserved communities.
- Through a grant provided by the Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSBP), COSI reevaluated funding mechanisms for CPP grants and the type of activities each grantee should implement in order to achieve the greatest outcomes. Upon awarding grants and prior to program implementation, COSI staff will work with grantees to develop rigorous program metrics that will help them meet their program goals. Technical assistance offerings will be expanded to provide evidence-based practices, implementation, and evaluation for CPP grantees in the new cycle of funding to support organizational capacity of each grantee.
- The Department requested a \$4 million General Fund increase to COSI bringing the total annual budget to \$9 million General Fund in FY 2018-19. COSI is positioned to receive \$2 million from the General Fund in FY 2018-2019.
- Joint Budget Committee (JBC) staff initiated a Request for Information (RFI), due October 1, 2018. Staff will finalize a work plan by June 1, 2018 to respond to the RFI. The strategy will include the engagement of community members and grantees, COSI advisory board and CCHE to gather feedback.

VI. Discussion Item

A. Legislative Update – Katie Zaback and Tyler Mounsey

Ms. Zaback began her update by acknowledging the legislative team for their work during the legislative session. She then provided an update on the legislative agenda which included HB18-1322 – The Long Bill. This bill has been signed by the Governor and includes CDHE’s two primary budget items. She also mentioned that the two orbital bills attached to the long bill including HB18-1331– Higher Education Open Educational Resources and HB18-1332 – Collaborative Educator Preparation Program Grants have passed both chambers and have been signed by the Governor. Ms. Zaback also included an update on several rural teacher shortage bills, including HB18-1189, Expanding Effective Teacher Residency Programs, which was concurred in the House and ultimately passed.

Mr. Mounsey then provided an update on outstanding bills including HB18-1217, Income Tax Credit For Employer 529 Contributions, which passed on Senate Thirds. Additionally, Mr. Mounsey informed the Commission that HB18-1414, regarding emergency completion and retention grants, was postponed indefinitely in Senate State Affairs Committee. He also updated the Commission on the current status of SB18-262, Additional Higher Education Master Plan Funding, which was awaiting a hearing in Senate Appropriations Committee. The institutions of higher education in Colorado remained committed to its passage.

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