

Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting  
Colorado State Capitol, Old Supreme Court Chambers  
January 10, 2014

Chairman Kaufman called the meeting to order at 1:10pm.

Chairman Dick Kaufman, Vice Chair Patty Pacey, Commissioners John Anderson, Jeanette Garcia, James Polsfut and BJ Scott attended. Commissioners Monte Moses and Hereford Percy attended via conference call. Also in attendance were CCHE Advisory Committee members Senators Nancy Todd and Rachel Zenzinger, Representatives Lois Court and Leroy Garcia, Michael Mincic, Dr. Toni Larson, Mark Superka, Dr. Keith Owen and Melissa Wagner. Advisor Frank Novotny attended via conference call.

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2013 CCHE meetings. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and passed unanimously.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Lt. Governor Joe Garcia introduced newly appointed Commissioner John Anderson and welcomed him to the Commission.

The Lt. Governor reported to the Commission about the department's effort to revisit strategic priorities for 2014 and the new organizational chart. He also mentioned the progress on the Governor's Statewide Scholarship model, the higher education's presentation to the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) on December 12<sup>th</sup>, requirements for the JBC Smart Act.

Also reported was the Governor's FY15 Budget request for Higher Education is a separate bill this year, Senate Bill 14-001, this rather than being included as a part of the annual Long Bill.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. George Walker of Denver suggested that there be a major bill introduced concerning public funding for higher education together with income tax credits for private colleges.

Senator Kevin Lundberg, attending the CCHE meeting, informed the Commission that he was sponsoring SB14-033, which concerns the creation of income tax credits for nonpublic education.

#### **CONSENT ITEMS**

**Recommend Approval of Master of Science in Supply Chain Management at University of Colorado Boulder**

**Recommend Approval of Master of Science in Real Estate at University of Colorado Boulder**

**Recommend Approval of Bachelor of Science in Statistics at Colorado State University**

**Recommend Approval of Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems and Business Analytics at Colorado State University - Global Campus**

**Recommend Approval of Bachelor of Science in Human Resource Management at Colorado State University - Global Campus**

**Recommend Approval of Master of Human Resource Management at Colorado State University - Global Campus**

**Recommend Approval of Bachelor of Science in Neurosciences at Colorado State University**

**Approve Upcoming Student Budget Parameters**

**Two-Year Cash Funded Capital Program List Amendment– Colorado School of Mines**

Commissioner Pacey moved to approve the consent items. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott and unanimously passed.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

**Degree Authorization Act: Request for Provisional Authorization for Mount St. Mary's College** – Heather DeLange, Academic Policy Officer, presented this item which recommended authorization as a place of business (with no instruction) for Mount St. Mary's College to operate an administrative office in Colorado pursuant to the Degree Authorization Act. Ms. DeLange explained, based on the determination of the activities occurring at the Colorado site, including recruitment, instructional design, student support services, and administrative staff for the college, that this was not a request for full authorization for the institution. The business office will be recruiting and enrolling students for Mt. St. Mary's College online programs.

Ms. DeLange introduced Dr. Vernon Smith, Provost for Portmont College at Mt. St. Mary's, who offered to answer questions from the Commission. Commissioner Polsfut asked Provost Smith about physical locations outside of Colorado that has a residential program. Provost Smith replied that there are two campuses in southern California with residential programs. Commissioner Garcia asked about online tuition per credit hour (\$275 per credit hour). CCHE Legislative Advisor, Senator Rachel Zenzinger asked whether the online program offered associate degrees or bachelor's degrees (associate only) and what majors would be offered (liberal arts, business administration and pre-health sciences).

Commissioner Pacey moved to approve authorization as a place of business for Mt. St. Mary's College. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and passed unanimously.

**Request for Authorization to Offer Supplemental Academic Instruction (SAI) from Colorado Community College System (CCCS)** – Tamara White presented this item to the Commission, explaining that CCCS seeks authorization to offer ~~non~~-credit bearing SAI for college composition and reading, called CCR 093 and 094 and MAT 092 and 093. These courses are part of the developmental education redesign. The SAI policy allows state institutions to offer courses to support students with limited academic deficiency that are attached to college level courses. The policy requires proposals for SAI to be submitted to the Commission indicating how and for which students they intend to apply this policy, such as this one.

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Commissioner Polsfut moved to formally authorize CCCS to offer SAI for college composition and reading. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott and passed unanimously.

**Community College Bachelors of Applied Science Bill Draft** – Chad Marturano, Director of Legislative Affairs, recalled that at the December CCHE meeting this item was discussed and the Commission requested a desire to take a formal position on this bill, Senate Bill 14-004. The provisions of the draft bill that were discussed at the December 2013 meeting have all be incorporated into the current version of the bill which was provided as an attachment to this item.

CCHE Legislative Advisor, Senator Nancy Todd, co-sponsor of the bill informed the Commission the S.B.14-004 was scheduled for January 16, 2014 to be heard in the Senate Education Committee.

Commissioner Garcia moved that the Commission take the position of being in favor of Senate Bill 14-004. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott and passed unanimously.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Legislative Update** – Chad Marturano, Director of Legislative Affairs, informed the Commission on the status of higher education-related bills currently in the legislature.

S.B.14-001 College Affordability Act – This bill appropriates \$100 million General Fund to the DHE FY2014-15 Budget; \$60 million to operating funds to the public institutions of higher education (an 11% increase) and \$40 million to financial aid (\$30 million for need based aid, \$5 million for work study aid and \$5 million to merit based aid. The bill also caps tuition increases to 6 percent, down from 9 percent.

S.B.14-004 Community College Four-year Programs – Allows the Colorado Community College System and Aims Community College to seek approval from CCHE to offer bachelor of Applied Science degree program

S.B.14-011 Colorado Energy Research Authority – Changes the name from Colorado Renewable Energy Research Authority and allows the Authority to direct the allocation of state matching funds to support activities or proposals for federal funds by the Colorado Energy Research Collaboratory (Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State University, University of Colorado Boulder). Also creates a cash fund of \$2 million annually from 2014 through 2018.

H.B.14-1041 Concealed Handguns Carry Without Permit – Allows a person who legally possesses a handgun under state and federal laws to carry a concealed handgun in Colorado to carry a weapon on school, college or university grounds

H.B.14-1048 Religious Freedom Higher Education – Prohibits a state institution from denying a religious student group a benefit that the institution provides to a nonreligious student group solely because the religious student group requires its leaders to adhere to the group's sincerely held religious beliefs or standards of conduct.

Commissioner Polsfut moved that the Commission take the position of being in favor of Senate Bill 14-001. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott and passed unanimously.

CCHE Legislative Advisor, Representative Lois Court suggested that it is important for the legislature to always know about CCHE's support or non-support of a bill such as the Commissions support of the ASSET Bill and S.B.14-001 and S.B.14-004.

**FY2014 Tuition and Fees Report** –Tonya Covarrubias. Finance Policy Officer, presented the FY2013-14 Tuition and Fee Report. This report will go to the General Assembly on January 15, 2014. The report delves into resident and non-resident base tuition increases, resident and non-resident tuition fee rates and increases in institutional financial aid.

Commissioner Pacey asked whether the chart showing institutional financial aid could also show the per capita amount, in addition to percentages and dollar amounts. Ms. Covarrubias replied that would be included in the future, starting with the FY2014-15 report.

**FY 2014-2015 Financial Aid Discussion** – Celina Duran reminded the Commission that they are charged with allocating the \$5 million for merit aid and the \$5 million for work study aid to the institutions based on the appropriations approved by the General Assembly. She explained the current allocations for work study has not been reexamined in more than a decade. The Commission requested that the department bring allocation recommendations to them this spring. Therefore, Celina will work with both the institution's CFOs and financial aid administrators to

solicit feedback. This discussion will continue at both the January and February 2014 CCHE meetings with the goal of having an action item to present in March.

**2014 Legislative Report on the Skills for Jobs Act** –Dr. Lauren Victor

**Presentation on Common Core Standards** – Dr. Matt Gianneschi, Education Commission of the States

Commissioner Percy moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moses. The meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm.