



**Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting
Via ZOOM Teleconference
August 7, 2020**

BUSINESS MEETING

Chair Tom McGimpsey called the business meeting to order at 2:13 p.m.

I. Opening Business

A. Attendance

Commissioners attending: Chair McGimpsey, Vice Chair Kerr, Commissioners Abramson, Colon, Hughes, Kostenbauer, Meyer, Olena, Stich, Trujillo, Tucker, Executive Director Paccione.

Advisors attending: Rep. Kipp, Sen. Lundeen, Rep. McCluskie, Sen. Story, Sen. Todd, Wayne Artis, Mark Cavanaugh, David Olguin, Brad Baca, Landon Pirius, Leah Porter, Misti Ruthven

B. Minutes

Commissioner Abramson moved to approve the minutes for the June 4, 2020 Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tucker and passed unanimously.

C. Chair, Vice-Chair, Commissioners and Advisors Reports

Chair McGimpsey thanked commissioners, advisors, representatives and senators for attending the 2020 retreat. He added that it was a robust conversation and he appreciated everyone participating. He stated that the next question is execution and how the Commission can advance and elevate the discussion. **Vice Chair Kerr** commented that the discussion over the past 2 days has been good and she looks forward to working with everyone as the commission moves forward. She encouraged the commissioners to be bold in their approach to support students, families and communities.



Commissioner Colon reminded all that three commissioners have students beginning college this month. Because of this personal connection, all the discussions have been very near to the heart.

Fiscal Affairs & Audit Committee – Commissioner Tucker reported that at the July 24th meeting, the committee received a budget update from Jason Schrock. There is a substantial 58% decrease in state funding, with much of it offset by the initial federal CARES Act funding. Enrollment is expected to be down 2%. A key question discussed was how the new funding formula will be used in the budget decrease. The committee also reviewed the capital budget and IT request, with initial scoring returned to the universities for comment. On August 21st, a subset of the fiscal affairs committee will look at the capital project scoring.

Student Success & Academic Affairs Committee – No report.

Advisor Cavanaugh reported that the implementation deadline for the new Title IX regulations is coming. This will be a challenge for institutions as it is a complete shift from previous regulations. He thanked Dr. Paccione, Chloe Mugg and the department for help in facilitating the sexual misconduct advisory committee formed via Senate Bill 19-007.

Advisory McCluskey announced that the JBC will meet with OSPB and the executive committee to discuss the disaster emergency funds expended to date. There also will also be a review of the executive orders signed and implemented by the Governor. On September 18th, there will be a new budget forecast and a critical point for all to begin consideration of the next state budget.

D. Public Comment – There was no public comment.

II. Consent Items

- A. Recommend Approval of Graduate Certificate in Cannabis Science and Medicine, and Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences (Cannabis Science and Medicine Specialty Track) at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus – *Dr. Chris Rasmussen*
- B. Recommend Approval of Limited Waiver of GT Pathways Requirements for the Bachelor of Applied Science Degree Program in Automotive Industry Management at Colorado State University-Pueblo – *Dr. Chris Rasmussen*
- C. Recommend Approval of Limited Waiver of GT Pathways Requirements for the Bachelor of Applied Science Degree Program in Leadership & Organizational Management at Colorado State University-Pueblo – *Dr. Chris Rasmussen*

Commissioner Olena moved to approve Consent Items A - C. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Abramson and passed unanimously.

III. Discussion Items



A. Degree Authorization Act: Proposed Revisions to Fee Schedule – Heather DeLange

Heather DeLange, Director of the Office of Private Postsecondary Education summarized the administrative budget for the Degree Authorization Act and the recent shortfall of revenue due to low enrollments and institutional closures. This development necessitates an annual fee increase for all authorized institutions as well as increased application fees for institutions wishing to establish a presence in Colorado.

Ms. DeLange presented proposed increases listed in the fee schedule. A question arose if funds would be refunded to the institution if the Department collected more than the budget line. In that case, institutions would be refunded the excess.

Commissioner Meyer moved that action be taken on the the item. Commissioner Colon seconded the motion. Commissioner Meyer moved that the item be approved. Commissioner Olena seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The new fee schedule went into effect upon the vote.

B. Proposed Introduction of a State Fee to Participate in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) – Heather DeLange

Heather DeLange introduced a discussion item of charging a state fee to participate in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA). Ms. DeLange summarized what SARA does for institutions and how it saves authorization fees in each state in which the institution operates.

SARA regulations permit states to charge a fee to institutions that seek to participate in the reciprocity. Ms. DeLange explained that a fee was not imposed when Colorado first became a member state as Department staff wanted to ensure the fee was warranted. Since that time, staff has tracked administrative work time of SARA and structured a tiered fee system advantageous for the state and institutions alike.

Ms. DeLange explained that a statutory fix would be needed to assess a fee to all participating institutions, but wanted to introduce the introduction of a fee for discussion.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Abramson and seconded by Commissioner Colon. The meeting adjourned at 2:45pm.

