

Academic Council

July 13, 2021 – 2:00 - 3:00pm (LATER START TIME)
Colorado Department of Higher Education
REMOTE ONLY

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Agenda -- **NOTES**

1. Greetings and Introductions

In attendance: John Berger (CSM); Joann Brennan (CU Denver); Kent Buchanan (ASU); Katherine Eggert (CU Boulder); Kristine Greer (FLC); Kurt Haas (CMU); Kelli Klebe (UCCS); Rick Miranda (CSU); Constancio Nakuma (CU Denver); Bill Niemi (WCU); Landon Pirus (CCCS); Kathryn Regjo (CMC); Paul Savory (CSU-G); Alfred Tatum (MSU Denver); Linda Van Doren (EGTC); Lisa Vollendorf (UNC); Rebecca Woulfe (CCCS-FRCC); Cynthia Armendariz (CDHE); Christina Carrillo (CDHE); Kim Poast (CDHE); Chris Rasmussen (CDHE)

2. Approval of June Meeting Notes

[see handout: 2021-06-08- NOTES-AC.pdf]

Notes approved

3. Announcements and Discussion Items

a. HB21-1330 overview and implementation updates

- Chris provided an overview of HB21-1330: Higher Education Student Success and the Department's implementation plan.

1. COSI Finish What You Started: Cynthia Armendariz, Director of COSI, provided a comprehensive overview of the expanded program. Over \$46.5M in new allocations from HB21-1330 are specifically for degree completion initiatives, both for students who stopped out of college and individuals who were admitted for 2020-21 or 2021-22 but chose not to enroll. COSI will be hosting an informational webinar with One Million Degrees (OMD) later this week. COSI is encouraging IHEs to do pre-work ahead of time (i.e., pull data) to determine how many students may be eligible. This will not be a competitive process, as the bill specifically outlines how this money should be allocated. Money will be allocated for both direct and indirect costs. Indirect costs also include administration of the program. The COSI Board will be convening to pass emergency rules. If emergency rules are adopted, an RFP will be released by the end of July; if not, it will be released in August.

b. Colorado Re-Engaged Initiative (CORE) (associate completion degree option)

- Authorizes four-year institutions without existing associate degree granting authority to develop associate completion programs and award associates to students who stop out and meet certain conditions (including ineligibility for existing reverse transfer).
- Implementation updates include the hiring of a new Director of Student Transitions and Degree Completion Initiatives (closes July 21). This position will lead the collaboration with IHEs “to



develop and coordinate a process to identify eligible students and award associate degrees through the CORE initiative.”

- CDHE staff met with HLC executive leadership about resources for institutions and potential efficiencies in the substantive change process; CDHE will coordinate with HLC to offer workshops for IHEs.
 - The initiative will be eligible to students whose last enrollment was up to 10 years ago.
 - It will be up to each individual IHE to determine financial obligations.
 - Degrees awarded through CORE will not count toward the funding formula for degree completions.
 - Students who are eligible for the state’s current Reverse Transfer program under statute are not eligible for the CORE initiative.
- c. Additional legislative implementation updates:
- SB21-106 (Concerning Successful High School Transitions) – fourth year innovation pilot program
 - SB21-185 (Supporting Educator Workforce in Colorado) – includes development of an education pathway
 - Admissions related bills: 1) test optional; 2) legacy preferences
 - Other?
- d. “Credentialing As You Go” – advanced to second round of IES review
- Chris will be reaching out to institutions to assess their interest in being part of the initiative and to write a letter of support for the grant application.
- e. HB19-1206 – implementation plans due to the department by August 1 (all community and local district colleges plus Adams, Mesa, Western)

4. New, modified, and closed programs

New

Colorado School of Mines

- Graduate Certificate in Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage

Fort Lewis College

- B.S. in Health Sciences

Western Colorado University

- B.S. in Psychology

Modified

Fort Lewis College

- B.A. Environmental Studies changed to B.A. Environmental Conservation and Management
- B.A. Gender and Women’s Studies changed to B.A. Gender and Sexuality Studies

Metropolitan State University of Denver

- Undergraduate Certificate in Outdoor Recreation Leadership changed to Undergraduate Certificate in Outdoor Recreation and Adventure Tourism
- B.S. in Human Nutrition – Dietetics changed to B.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics
- M.S. in Human Nutrition and Dietetics changed to M.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics
- Graduate Certificate in Human Nutrition Science changed to Graduate Certificate in Nutrition Science

Closed Programs

None