



**Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting  
University of Colorado – Anschutz Campus  
December 6, 2018**

**Commissioner and Advisor Learning Session**

The topic for the Learning Session was “The Legislative Agenda and Election Debrief,” presented by the Colorado Department of Higher Education Legislative Team—Katie Zaback and Chloe Mugg

**I. OPENING BUSINESS**

Chairman Luis Colón called the business meeting to order at 12:59 p.m.

**A. Attendance**

Chairman Luis Colón, Vice Chairman Renny Fagan, Commissioners Maia Babbs, Mary Beth Buescher, Cassie Gannett, Jeanette Garcia and Monte Moses attended the meeting.

Also in attendance were CCHE Advisory Committee members Wayne Artis, Mark Cavanaugh, Troy Fossett, Chad Marturano, Christina Powell, Misti Ruthven and Rick Miranda.

**B. Minutes**

Commissioner Babbs moved to approve the minutes of the Oct. 22, 2018 CCHE meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Buescher and passed unanimously.

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

- Chairman Colón expressed support with the budget that was presented to the governor. He stated that although there is a long way to go, the Commission is very thankful to the governor for pushing forward and focusing on the importance of higher education. Chairman Colón reported that he and Vice Chair Fagan met with Governor-Elect Polis’ transition subcommittee on education. The focus of the meeting was on the priorities that Governor-Elect Polis outlined in his campaign regarding higher education and continued support of the master plan. The Governor-Elect also has a strong interest in the CCHE and enabling the commission to do its duties as the coordinating body of the state’s higher education system.
- Vice Chair Renny Fagan reiterated Chairman Colón’s comments about the meeting with the transition sub-committee. He also reported that they highlighted the importance of the master plan, erasing equity gaps, pushing concurrent enrollment, innovation and the use of school to career methods.
- Commissioner Gannett reported that the standing committee on Student Success and Academic Affairs met earlier and discussed OERs and PLA. The conversation on these topics will continue later in this meeting.

- Commissioner Babbs reported on the meeting of the Fiscal Affairs and Audit Committee. They are working on the capital project prioritization process and discussed the criteria involved in prioritization. Commissioner Babbs also thanked CDHE financial analyst Lauren Lopez for her work in preparing for the meeting and gathering a large amount of information and data for the committee.
- Mr. Troy Fossett, Student Advisor, reported that he will be working with Dr. Kim Poast and Carl Einhaus to form a student advisory group enabling him to relay the student voice from across the state to the Commission.
- Mr. Rick Miranda, Academic Council Representative, announced that there will be a day long workshop on digital learning with CSU and Colorado Technical University at the end of January.

#### **D. Executive Director Report**

- Executive Director Baer reiterated that the department will begin a process to look at the funding formula currently in use and start an aggressive push to revise that formula as efficiently as possible with a commitment to transparency and openness and alignment to our policy goals. Dr. Baer explained that the goal is to have something ready to submit with our department's budget request next fall to the incoming governor for incorporation in the FY 20/21 budget. The department welcomes the engagement from commissioners.

Vice Chair Fagan moved to ask the Executive Director to make revising the funding formula a priority with utmost transparency in the process. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Moses and passed unanimously.

- There will be a convening of governing boards Dec. 11. . This is in accordance with a law passed last year requiring all state appointed boards to receive annual training on the roles and responsibilities of board members. Broader conversations about public narratives regarding higher education will take place, and Dr. Baer encouraged all commissioners to attend.
- Dr. Baer reported on roundtable discussions he has participated in around the state focused on various diverse groups (young men of color and immigrant and DACA students).
- Governor Hickenlooper signed an executive order banning vaping on the grounds of state buildings, and this has an impact on all college campuses. the Department has been working directly with institutions on the implementation and enforcement of this new order.
- Education Secretary Betsy DeVos and the Federal Department of Education released new proposed rules around Title IX, and staff are working on both analyzing them and understanding the implications of them.
- Dr. Baer announced that as of Dec. 1, , Inta Morris will take on the roles of COO/CFO. Andrew Rauch will move on to HCM Strategists at the end of the month and was thanked for his work at the department.

#### **E. Public Comment**

Brandon Thierry, an elected representative of the State Student Advisory Council, announced that the Council strongly supports approval of consent item III, D,

Approval of Bachelor of Applied Science Program in Respiratory Therapy at Pueblo Community College.

## **II. Campus Welcome and Master Plan Progress**

**A. University of Colorado-Anschutz Campus Chancellor Don Elliman welcomed the commission to campus and talked about the University of Colorado Anschutz Campus, its creation, mission and accomplishments.**

## **III. Consent Items**

**A. Updated Admission Index: Incorporating New Concordance Advice from ACT & College Board (SAT) – Carl Einhaus**

**B. Five-Year State Funded Capital Program List – Lauren Lopez**

**C. Two-Year Cash Funded Capital Program List – Lauren Lopez**

**D. Approval of Bachelor of Applied Science Program in Respiratory Therapy at Pueblo Community College – Dr. Chris Rasmussen**

**E. Proposed additions to CCHE Policy I, Part V: Authority for Aims Community College to offer the Bachelor of Science in Nursing completion degree – Dr. Chris Rasmussen**

**F. Degree Authorization Act - Recommendation for Approval of Authorization Renewals – Heather Delange**

**G. Degree Authorization Act – Liberty University – Recommendation of Approval for Renewal of Authorization – Heather Delange**

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

## **IV. Discussion Items**

**A. Open Educational Resources (OER) Grant Program – Spencer Ellis**  
Mr. Ellis was joined by Ms. Brittany Dudek, from the Colorado Community College System, and Dr. Jonathan Poritz, from Colorado State University-Pueblo, to present on the OER grant program and OER efforts in the state. This included the request for proposals (RFP), scoring rubric, list of proposals for the first cycle of grant funding and the OER Council and staff's plan for outreach and expansion of OER adoption in the state. Staff emphasized the broad parameters in year one and Council's intent to fund as many qualified proposals as possible, given the grant budget in year one. It was noted by Advisor Ruthven that CDHE should continue to work with CDE colleagues to ensure the reach of OER into concurrent enrollment sphere of instruction. Mr. Ellis ensured Advisor Ruthven that her staff would be invited to a future OER Council meeting. Mr. Ellis noted the shortlist of grantees needing final approval in the form of a consent agenda item would appear at the Commission's February 2019 meeting and encouraged any questions, and further involvement from Commissioners and others at any point.

**B. Affordability White Paper- follow up from October Learning Session - Katie Zaback and the Department of Higher Education Budget Services Team - Emily Burns, Emma Fedorchuk, Lauren Lopez and Katie Wagnon**

This was a continuation on the conversation of affordability from the October meeting when three national experts presented different ways to define

affordability. The budget services team prepared a draft white paper designed to contextualize these three models to the Colorado context. These models include:

- Free College
- Shared Responsibility
- Responsible Borrowing

The white paper also highlights that the exercise of setting an affordability standard is not meant to be a strategy or an intervention, or even a financial tool. Instead, the standard is a policy tool that will help families, lawmakers and institutions work together to ensure college is affordable for Colorado students. Much like the 66 percent goal, it guides the department's work. The Commission agreed to review this white paper and have a longer discussion at the February learning session.

## V. **Presentation**

### **Prior Learning Assessment Update** – Spencer Ellis and Michael Vente

Mr. Ellis updated the Commissioners on the status of the new Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) policy. It was noted that the Department's Academic Affairs team is working closely with each institution to ensure proper implementation and meet the expectations articulated by the Departments July 2018 memo. Mr. Ellis shared the plan for assessing the efficacy of the policy, as determined by the Director of Academic Affairs in conjunction with the Department's Data and Research Division, with the Commissioners. CDHE also shared the plan for moving forward in partnership with campuses, institutions, and other stakeholder groups to ensure the integrity of this policy. The timeline for assessment and implementation was also outlined for the Commissioners.

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