

**Minutes of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) Meeting  
Civic Center Plaza, Suite 1940  
April 1, 2016**

**I. OPENING BUSINESS**

Chairman Monte Moses called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

**A. Attendance**

Chairman Moses, Vice Chair Colon, Commissioners John Anderson, Maia Babbs, Dick Kaufman, Jeanette Garcia, Vanecia Kerr, Tom McGimpsey and Paula Sandoval attended the meeting. Commissioner BJ Scott attended via conference call.

Also in attendance were CCHE Advisory Committee members Representative Mike Foote, Wayne Artis, Mark Cavanaugh, Tyrel Jacobsen, Steve Kreidler and Melissa Wagner.

**B. Minutes**

Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2016 CCHE meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kaufman and passed unanimously.

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

- For Lt. Governor Garcia's last CCHE meeting, Chairman Moses presented him with a flag and read a proclamation honoring the Lt. Governor and thanked him for his service as Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Higher Education
- Student Success & Academic Affairs Standing Committee - Commissioner Anderson, Chair, updated the Commission on the committee's activities.
- Fiscal Affairs and Audit Standing Committee – Commissioner BJ Scott, Chair, updated the Commission on the committee's activities.
- Advisor Wagner told the Commission about an article in the Association of Middle Level Educators magazine on the similarities of a middle school teacher and a college professor and how important relationships are to the success of both.

- Advisor Kreidler, on behalf of the institution's CFOs, expressed appreciation for the Department's Budget and Finance team's work.
- Advisor Artis talked about his recent attendance of the Colorado Math Pathways Conference to reform the math curriculum in higher education.
- Advisor Cavanaugh reported that the Independent Higher Education of Colorado Day at the Capital was a success on Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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

Lt. Governor Joe Garcia reported the following:

- Advocacy and Outreach - College Friday is April 29<sup>th</sup>. Commissioners were encouraged to wear their favorite college gear that day and talk to students about post-secondary options.
- Finance – the Department entered into an agreement with History Colorado to share their Controller, Michelle Zale, as well as hiring a new lead accountant, Trisha Equibel.
- Student Success and Academic Affairs – at the Colorado Math Pathways Conference, attendees were asked to help implement the recommendations of the Math Pathways taskforce. The work is being lead, at the Department, by Dr. Ian Macgillivray. Russ, Mayer, interim Chief Student Success and Academic Affairs Officer will be leaving the Department. The new Chief Student Success and Academic Affairs Officer is Dr. Tim Flanagan, a former university president in Illinois.
- Ten Collective Impact Initiative Grant Finalists have been selected to compete for three to four \$150,000 grants from the Scholarship initiative. The Department has secured an additional \$200,000 from Lumina to provide technical support to the Finalists and grantees. This effort is to support the State's Attainment Gap effort.
- The Scholarship Initiative Board approved \$7 million in 1:1 matching scholarship funds for FY 16-17. To date, \$4.3 million of the FY 15-16 funds have been secured.

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

Frank Watrous, Senior Policy Analyst with the Bell Policy Center, thanked staff for the thoughtful discussions on the need based financial aid allocation model being voted on later in the agenda.

## **II. Presentation**

Mr. Noel Ginsburg, CEO of InterTech Plastics, and Chair of the Governor's Business and Experiential Learning (BEL) Commission, gave an informative presentation about the BEL Commission's work around workforce development.

### III. Consent Items

- A. **Recommend Approval of Master of Fine Arts in Experience Design at University of Colorado Boulder – Dr. Ian Macgillivray**
- B. **Degree Authorization Act – Recommendation of Approval for Renewal of Authorization – Heather DeLange**

Commissioner Kaufman moved to approve consent items A and B. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McGimpsey and unanimously passed.

### IV. Discussion Items

- A. **Prior Learning Assessment: Recommendations for Phase 1, Goal 1-Challenge Exams** – Dr. Ian Macgillivray, Director of Academic Affairs, presented this item containing recommendations from the Constituent Review Team (CRT) for Phase 1, Goal 1 of the Commission’s process for a statewide policy on prior learning assessment as regards to challenge exams. The CRT also recommended extending the timeline and due dates to late 2016 for College Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams, DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST), and for portfolio assessment to allow for a thorough review by faculty. Staff will bring this back as an action item at the Commission’s June 2016 meeting.
- B. **Recommend Approval of New Guaranteed Transfer (GT) Pathways Competencies and Content Criteria** – Dr. Macgillivray presented this item which recommended approval of new competencies and content criteria for the state’s GT (guaranteed transfer) Pathways curriculum. These competencies and content criteria set a minimum threshold for what students should know and be able to do after passing a state general education, guaranteed-to-transfer course. Staff will bring this back as an action item at the Commission’s June 2016 meeting. The question was asked if these competencies, which are analogous to standards in K12, have encountered any pushback like the common core standards have. Staff responded that there had not been pushback.
- C. **Legislative Update** – Kachina Weaver, Chief Policy Officer, provided more detail on the actions of the JBC around the Department’s general fund request, the funding allocation formula, and tuition policy. In addition, she provided an update on the Departments agenda bills – HB 16-1350 and HB 16-1375 – and other keys bills still being considered by the General Assembly.
- D. **FY 2016-17 Budget Update** – Todd Haggerty, Lead Financial Analyst, presented this item to inform the Commission of the final decisions made by the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) for the FY 2016-17 Long Bill. Staff will provide a final update on the FY 2016-17 budget at the Commission’s May meeting, specifically if there are any changes to the Department’s appropriations. Commissioner Colón mentioned he was surprised mission differential with building block components was back in the model because it seemed like the model tried to avoid having each institution lobbying individual legislators to get whatever they can. He was also concerned about the future process for creating tuition caps and whether that will include institutional negotiation. Chairman Moses asked if staff believed the

changes made by JBC move to or away from performance-based funding. Mr. Haggerty responded that the intent of these changes is to have a system where new dollars would go to outcomes measures.

- E. Tuition Policy**—Todd Haggerty provided an update on the status of the new tuition policy. He shared that on March 9, 2016, the JBC chose a different path for tuition policy that what was submitted by CCHE. They approved a JBC-staff recommendation to appropriate tuition revenue, accompanied by footnotes in the Long Bill, which explicitly specifies individual governing board tuition rate caps. The JBC’s decision to appropriate tuition does not change the Commission’s annual process for developing a recommended tuition increase limit in conjunction with our annual general fund request.

Chairman Moses asked Advisory member Kreidler for his opinion on the tuition policy and the funding allocation model. Advisor Kreidler shared that CCHE/DHE utilized an open and transparent process in developing the tuition policy. He added that there is disappointment that CCHE and the governing boards did not have a chance to respond to the document that was handed down from JBC staff before the committee took action. He believed that opportunity was lost after a highly inclusive process.

Chairman Moses responded by raising a concern about the Commission’s role and responsibilities after the JBC actions.

Cat Olukotun, Lead Financial Analyst, provided a brief capital budget update.

## **V. Action Item**

- A. FY 2016–17 Need-Based Financial Aid Allocation Model** – Andrew Rauch, Lead Financial Analyst, shared with the Commissioners that the Long Bill holds the state-funded financial aid amount flat from last year; therefore the need-based allocation running through the Completion Incentives Model is just under \$112.8 million. This action item is for approval of the recommended adjustments to the Completion Incentives Grant Allocation Model for the state’s need-based financial aid that includes a 10% guardrail. Chairman Moses asked if the reception was positive from institutions, even with guardrails. Mr. Rauch responded that the institutions responded favorably.

Commissioner Kaufman moved to approve the allocation model. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garcia and unanimously passed.

## **VI. Introduction**

- A.** Kristin Conklin, co-founder of HCM Strategists, introduced the organization to the Commissioners. HCM will be involved with the CCHE Annual Retreat in August 2016.

*There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45pm*