MINUTES
COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
October 11, 2018
The Apothecary Building, 5th Floor, North Loft
Lincoln, Nebraska

Public notice of this meeting was given by posting notice on the Commission’s website; posting notice on the State of Nebraska's online public meeting calendar; e-mailing news media; and keeping a current copy of the agenda in the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education's office, listing the date, time, and location of the meeting.

NOTICE OF MEETING
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION WILL HOLD A MEETING ON OCTOBER 11, 2018. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 8:30 A.M. AND ADJOURN AT APPROXIMATELY 11:00 P.M.
AN AGENDA IS MAINTAINED IN THE COMMISSION OFFICE, 140 N. 8TH STREET, SUITE 300, LINCOLN, NEBRASKA.

W. SCOTT WILSON, CHAIR

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS
Chair W. Scott Wilson called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. and asked for introductions.

Commissioners Present
Colleen Adam             Dwayne Probyn
Gwenn Aspen             Dr. Paul Von Behren
Dr. Deborah Frison      W. Scott Wilson
Mary Lauritzen

Commissioners Absent
Dr. John Bernthal
Dr. Ron Hunter

Commission Staff Present
Dr. Michael Baumgartner  Helen Pope
Dr. Kathleen Fimple      Gary Timm
Kadi Lukesh             Mike Wemhoff
Commissioner Probyn moved to approve the September 11, 2018, Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Adam seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioner Frison abstained. The remaining six Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.

**CHAIR’S REPORT**

Chair Wilson reported that they are working with the Governor’s office to find and appoint two more Commissioners.

Chair Wilson noted that some Commissioners may have received emails from him that are a scam, so be aware that if they do not come from his usual email address, to delete them.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Dr. Mike Baumgartner, Executive Director, introduced Kadi Lukesh, Budget Coordinator/Office Manager, who presented the First Quarter Budget Report for the fiscal year 2018-19. Ms. Lukesh reported the budget is overspent by 3.2 percent because of the $115,000 payment for MHEC dues. In benefits and personal services, worker’s compensation dues of $8,861.00 were paid. Ms. Lukesh noted that Commissioner expenses were low, most likely due to the July Commission meeting being cancelled. There was not a lot of spending in the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Program (NOG) as those payments are paid as institutions request. The Improving Teacher Quality (ITQ) Grant’s last day will be December 31, 2018. All of the payments have been made to the sub-recipients. Payments are made quarterly to the Community Colleges from the Community College GAP Assistance Program, and the first payment has been made. The Access College Early Scholarship (ACE) money will be spent once the institutions request those dollars.

Dr. Baumgartner recently visited and toured the math and science building at Chadron State College and the new construction of the administration building and performing arts center at Western Nebraska Community College. Dr. Baumgartner stated he was able to spend time with Commissioner Emeritus Eric Seacrest in North Platte on his way back to Lincoln.

Dr. Baumgartner will be visiting Peru State College next week.

J. Ritchie Morrow, Financial Aid Officer, will be going to Albuquerque, New Mexico next week to attend the National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs annual meeting. Ritchie has been on the executive committee for many years and will be stepping down from those duties.

On October 26, Dr. Baumgartner and Dr. Kathleen Fimple, Academic Programs Officer, will be attending a meeting on the Higher Learning Commission’s Substantive Change Process at UNO. On November 8th and 9th, Dr. Baumgartner will attend the Higher Learning Commission’s Fall State Agency meeting in Chicago.
Dr. Baumgartner will be attending the NCCA annual meeting on November 5, at Northeast Community College. The annual meeting will focus on student success and includes a number of national experts on student engagement, College Promise programs, and student success research.

Commissioner Frison and Dr. Baumgartner will be attending the Midwest Higher Education Compact’s annual meeting in Fargo, North Dakota, November 14-16.

Dr. Baumgartner reported that October is Teammate Recognition month statewide, and CCPE has three employees to be recognized:

- Miste Adamson, Administrative Assistant, 10 years with the state and CCPE, will be recognized in the Warner Legislative Chamber at the capitol next Thursday.

- J. Ritchie Morrow is completing 15 years at CCPE and 24 years with the state.

- Jill Heese, Research Coordinator, is completing 5 years with CCPE and 13 years with the state.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON MATTERS OF GENERAL CONCERN**

There was no testimony on Matters of General Concern.

Chair Wilson closed the public hearing on Matters of General Concern.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE ITEMS**

Dr. David Jackson, Vice Provost at the University of Nebraska, came forward to update the Commissioners on the UNO/UNMC Applied Behavior Analysis (MA) proposal for a new instructional program that was approved at the September Commission meeting. He reported that the Higher Learning Commission stated that UNMC could not offer a Master of Arts degree, only a Master of Science degree. Through the UNO/UNMC internal approval processes that change will be made and reported to the Commission, where the program approval will be amended.

Dr. Jackson also commented on the report the Commission received relative to UNL’s Geography program. Some elements of that report became outdated and UNL is considering a proposal that would restructure Geography along with Anthropology and Global Studies. They would merge those units into a single school. Individual degrees would be offered, but instead of individual department leaders, the three units would be led by one person.

Chair Wilson closed the public hearing on Academic Programs Committee Items.
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

In Commissioner Bernthal’s absence, Commissioner Lauritzen chaired the Academic Programs Committee. She acknowledged Commissioners and staff that were present at the recent committee meeting.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Follow-up Report on an Existing Program - Geography (MA, PhD)

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal, noting that the low number of degrees in the graduate program is due in part to the declining number of faculty. The first step proposed is to rebuild the number of faculty and improve recruitments. It was noted that while the MA and PhD programs recently were not meeting Commission thresholds, they have in the past. The strategies outlined in the in-depth review to rejuvenate the program are comprehensive and supported by the College of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Elizabeth Theiss-Morse, Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, commented that a proposal will be submitted by the end of this semester to create a school that combines Anthropology, Geography and Global Studies. The school would cover human, spatial, and global studies. With the strong synergy of these three areas, using GIS and remote sensing, they believe it will draw people from around the country. Dr. Theiss-Morse answered Commissioners’ questions.

Commissioner Lauritzen stated the Committee recommendation is to continue the MA and PhD Geography programs at UNL with a report due by September 30, 2019, on the internal evaluation scheduled to be completed in May 2019.

University of Nebraska at Kearney – Follow-up Report on an Existing Program – Philosophy (BA)

Commissioner Lauritzen presented the proposal, noting that the original approval of the Philosophy program in 2004 included the expectations and considerations that need to be discussed again. She stated two points in the review summary that stand out: first, national exams show that students with philosophy degrees score higher than other disciplines, and second, visits to high schools and home schools will be conducted to expose students to the philosophy program before they enter UNK. The interest in philosophy has to be generated among younger students.

Dr. David Rozema, Chair of Philosophy at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, commented that they have conducted a review as to why the number of graduates in the philosophy program have been low over the last
few years. They have proposed steps to alleviate those issues and
generate more interest in philosophy, especially among younger students.
Most students do not know what philosophy is until they take a course,
which then generates more interest and increases the number of
graduates. Dr. Rozema added that graduates from philosophy are easily
employable because they think critically, independently, and creatively. A
huge percentage of philosophy graduates go on to obtain graduate
degrees.

Dr. Fimple added that within the five-year average the philosophy program
has never met the thresholds. The program was continued because reports
from UNK were optimistic. She noted that to grow the program UNK plans
to earmark scholarship dollars that are available for incoming honors
freshmen.

Commissioner Lauritzen stated the Committee recommendation is to
continue the BA Philosophy program at UNK with a report due September
30, 2019, on the internal assessment scheduled to be conducted after one
year. A report on enrollments and number of graduates is due June 30,
2021. The next regular program review is due June 30, 2024.

Commissioner Lauritzen, on behalf of the Academic Programs
Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska at Kearney’s
– Follow-up Report on an Existing Program – Philosophy (BA). A roll
call vote was taken. Commissioner Probyn abstained. The remaining
six Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

Existing Program Review
Dr. Fimple presented the program reviews approved by the Executive
Director.

Chadron State College
Art – BA, BSE
Music – BA, BSE

Peru State College
Art – BS

Wayne State College
Art – BA, BS
Music – BA, BS

University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Art – BA, BFA, MFA
Art History – BA
Graphic Design – BA, BFA
Music – BA, BM, MM, DMA
Music Entrepreneurship – Graduate Certificate
Music Education – BME
Existing Program Review continued

Theatre – BA, BFA, MFA
Dance – BA

University of Nebraska at Kearney
Studio Art – BA, MAE
Art K-12 – BA, BAE, MAE
Studio Art Comprehensive – BFA
Visual Communication & Design – BFA
Music – BA
Music Education – BAE, BM, MAE
Musical Performance Comp – BM

University of Nebraska at Omaha
Studio Art – BFA, BSA, BMS
Theatre – BTH, BMS
Music – BAM, BMS, MM
Music Education – BM
Music Performance – BM

Existing Program Review Action Items

Existing Program Review Action Items
Dr. Fimple presented the Existing Program Review items that are below threshold and are recommended for an in-depth review.

Chadron State College
Theatre – BA

Peru State College
Music – BS/BA

University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Art History – MA
Music - PhD

University of Nebraska at Kearney
Art History – BA
Music Comp-Music Business – BM
Theatre – BA
Theatre Education – BAE
Musical Theatre Comp – BM

University of Nebraska at Omaha
Art History – BAH
Theatre – MA

APC Committee recommendation
Commissioner Lauritzen stated the Committee recommendation is to approve the Existing Program Review Action Items.

Existing Program Review Action Items approved
Commissioner Lauritzen, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve all the Existing Program Review Action Items as a group. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.
Report on Institutional Activities Relating to Existing Programs

Reasonable and Moderate Extensions

1. WNCC - Applied Agriculture Technology: diploma, certificate (applied agriculture basic), certificate (agriculture welder)
2. WNCC - Welding Technology: AAS, diploma, certificate (basic welding), certificate (advanced welding)
3. WNCC - Business Technology: AAS (staff accountant option), diploma (executive assistant option), diploma (staff accountant option), certificate (executive assistant I option), certificate (staff accountant I option), certificate (executive assistant II option), certificate (staff accountant II option)

PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET, CONSTRUCTION, AND FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE ITEMS

There was no testimony on Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee Items.

Chair Wilson closed the public hearing on Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee Items.

BUDGET, CONSTRUCTION, AND FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE

Commissioner Von Behren, Committee Chair, acknowledged Committee members who were present at the recent Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee conference call.

Capital Construction Project Proposal - Northeast Community College / Norfolk Campus – Student Center Addition and Renovation

Mike Wemhoff, Facilities Officer, stated there were representatives from Northeast Community College present that include Dr. Michael Chipps, President of NECC, Ms. Amanda Nipp, Vice President of Student Services, Mr. Derek Bierman, Vice President of Technology Services, Ms. Lynne Koski, Vice President of Administrative Services, and Ms. Kali Eklund, Architect from Wilkins ADP, Inc. Mr. Wemhoff reported the proposal is to renovate and add to the Student Center Building on the NECC Norfolk campus. This project is geared toward the large number of on-campus students and the many students that commute. The current Student Center houses the College Store, Student Health Services, student organization offices, lounge, game room, and activity areas. The addition would allow some student service functions, library and technology service functions, and tutoring functions along with adding some of the business functions to relocate into the Student Center. The cost of the project is $20.3 million with funding sources from student facility fees, local property taxes, and auxiliary funds.
Ms. Koski and Ms. Eklund discussed the project funding, the estimated construction time, and answered Commissioners’ questions. Dr. Chipps commended the Commissioners and staff for their service and expressed his appreciation to Mr. Wemhoff for his work on the proposed project.

Commissioner Von Behren stated the Committee recommendation is to approve the Northeast Community College / Norfolk Campus – Student Center Addition and Renovation.

Commissioner Von Behren, on behalf of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee, moved to approve the Northeast Community College / Norfolk Campus – Student Center Addition and Renovation. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.

Postsecondary Education Operating and State Aid Budget Recommendations for the 2019-2021 Biennium

Gary Timm, Chief Finance & Administrative Officer, presented the Postsecondary Education Operating and State Aid Budget Recommendations for the 2019-2021 Biennium. The Commission is directed to review the budget requests of the governing boards and make recommendations for approval or modification of the budget requests, together with the rationale for its recommendations, in order to promote compliance and consistency with the Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education. Mr. Timm stated the total higher education institutional request is a 7.76 percent increase from the current fiscal year. He reviewed the Commission’s recommendations for each request. He also stated the Commission recommends additional funding for the ACE and NOG programs that would provide financial aid scholarships for low-income students. Mr. Timm gave a brief overview of each section of the report and answered questions from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Von Behren stated the Committee recommendation is to approve the Postsecondary Education Operating and State Aid Budget Recommendations for the 2019-2021 Biennium.

Commissioner Von Behren, on behalf of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee, moved to approve the Postsecondary Education Operating and State Aid Budget Recommendations for the 2019-2021 Biennium. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.

Capital Construction Budget Recommendations and Prioritization 2019-2021 Biennium for the Nebraska State College System, University of Nebraska, and Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture

Mr. Wemhoff gave an overview of each of the five sections of the Capital Construction Budget Recommendations and Prioritization 2019-2021 Biennium for the Nebraska State College System, University of Nebraska, and Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture. Mr. Wemhoff reported that the Commission places high priority on providing safe, functional, and well-maintained facilities that support the institutions’ efforts to provide
exemplary programs. In order to fund the upkeep of existing facilities, the Commission has identified three areas that are in need of new funding during the next biennium: ongoing routine building maintenance, deferred repair, and renovation/remodeling. Mr. Wemhoff answered questions from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Von Behren stated the Committee recommendation is to approve the Capital Construction Budget Recommendations and Prioritization 2019-2021 Biennium for the Nebraska State College System, University of Nebraska, and Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture.

The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2019 CCPE Meeting Calendar

Dr. Baumgartner presented the proposed 2019 CCPE Commission Meeting Calendar. The Executive Committee made the determination that six meetings would be adequate with the majority of those meetings to be held in Lincoln. Commissioner Probyn indicated he would like to see more meetings held at the postsecondary institutions. Dr. Baumgartner replied that currently it is a budgetary issue and two of the meetings in 2019 will likely be held off-site. Chair Wilson added the meeting dates will be approved with location changes as the Commission sees fit.

Chair Wilson, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to approve the 2019 CCPE Meeting Calendar. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Commission meeting will be Thursday, December 6, 2018, at the Nebraska State Capitol, Room 1507, following a joint breakfast with the Nebraska State Board of Education.

Commissioner Von Behren commented that he was intrigued by the September presentation on The Drone School and asked if a tour would be possible. Dr. Baumgartner noted this is not a school that the Commission would regulate, but staff will try to arrange a tour with the Commission while in Omaha.
Commissioner Lauritzen commented she would like to have someone from "Pathways to Tomorrow" come give a presentation to the Commission to discuss its program. She also indicated it would be nice to have the person from West Point talk to the Commission about his ventures in Denmark.

Commissioner Probyn stated the Governor declared October as manufacturing month. The manufacturing trailer that is taken to schools and businesses is being well received. One new technology is the 3D printer. He brought samples of 3D printed ball bearings that were completed in one operation and would be a cost and time saving alternative.

Meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT
Chair Wilson adjourned the meeting at 10:38 a.m.