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# MINUTES

## COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

April 26, 2018

Northeast Community College  
Lifelong Learning Center, Suites C & D  
Norfolk, 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.

*Public notice of meeting*

### NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION WILL HOLD A MEETING ON APRIL 26, 2018. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 9:30 A.M. AND ADJOURN AT APPROXIMATELY 12:30 P.M.

AN AGENDA IS MAINTAINED IN THE COMMISSION OFFICE, 140 N. 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET, SUITE 300, LINCOLN, NEBRASKA.

W. SCOTT WILSON, CHAIR

*Meeting called to order at 9:35 a.m.*

### CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair W. Scott Wilson called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and asked for introductions.

#### Commissioners Present

Gwenn Aspen  
Dr. John Bernthal  
Dr. Ron Hunter  
Mary Lauritzen

Dwayne Probyn  
Dr. Joyce Simmons  
Dr. Paul Von Behren  
W. Scott Wilson

#### Commissioners Absent

Colleen Adam

Dr. Deborah Frison

#### Commission Staff Present

Dr. Michael Baumgartner  
Dr. Kathleen Fimple  
J. Ritchie Morrow

Helen Pope  
Gary Timm  
Mike Wemhoff

### WELCOME

Dr. Michael Chipps, President of Northeast Community College, welcomed the Commissioners, stating the work the Commission undertakes on behalf of Nebraska's colleges and universities is highly valued. Dr. Chipps gave a

*Dr. Michael Chipps, Northeast  
Community College*

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brief background history of NECC and commented that they have collaborated with 60 schools and hundreds of communities in the 20 county service area for decades and are currently working to consolidate offerings into career academies such as those at the new West Point Career and Technology Center. He noted that Northeast Community College serves 13,000 students, of which 7,000 are credit students.

*Minutes of March 8, 2018, Commission Meeting approved*

**MINUTES OF MARCH 8, 2018, COMMISSION MEETING**

**Commissioner Probyn moved that the March 8, 2018, minutes be approved. Commissioner Bernthal seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all eight Commissioners present voting yes. The motion carried.**

*Chair Wilson's report*

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Wilson thanked Dr. Michael Chipps, Lyle Kathol, Vice President of Educational Services; Dr. Tracy Kruse, Associate Vice President of Development & External Affairs; and John Blaylock, Executive Vice President, for starting the day with a wonderful and comprehensive tour of the Northeast Community College campus.

Chair Wilson thanked Commissioners and staff who attended a work session the evening of the 25<sup>th</sup> to review duties and responsibilities of the CCPE.

*Gary Timm presented third quarter budget report*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. Michael Baumgartner, Executive Director, asked Gary Timm, Chief Finance & Administration Officer, to come forward and present the Third Quarter Budget report. Mr. Timm stated the governor signed LB 944, which decreases the state appropriations for state agencies. For the CCPE administrative budget, this was a decrease of \$7,000 or .6%. General Fund money for the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Program (NOG) decreased by \$137,000, and for the Access College Early Scholarship (ACE) by \$20,000. The budget reductions continue in the fiscal year beginning in July, and the administrative general fund budget will be decreased by \$24,000. NOG will be decreased by \$175,000, and ACE funding will decrease by \$40,000. Mr. Timm noted those reductions are listed in the 2017-2018 appropriations column on the handout. The CCPE has chosen not to fill vacant positions, allowing us to plan accordingly for these reductions. Mr. Timm noted the increase in the NOG cash fund appropriation, which holds the NOG harmless for this and next year. The Improving Teacher Quality (ITQ) Grant will end in December. The Community College GAP Assistance Program dollars received from the Nebraska Lottery are sent in quarterly payments to the community colleges.

*Dr. Baumgartner presented Legislative update*

Dr. Baumgartner presented an update on Legislative bills of interest, stating that none of the legislation, outside of the budget, that we were following passed. The legislature ran out of time in the short session to consider all bills that made it out of committee. Unfortunately, the Gap program will not

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be offered to students enrolling in short-term credit classes this year, but the program will continue to serve non-credit students.

*Dr. Baumgartner discussed interim study resolutions*

Dr. Baumgartner stated there were a few interim study resolutions, with only LB 457 involving postsecondary education, which directs the appropriations committee to study how state appropriations to higher education institutions or agencies support first generation students. The bill was sponsored by Senators Vargas, Walz, and Williams. Dr. Baumgartner will contact Sen. Vargas to see if we can be of service if the committee takes up the study.

*Dr. Baumgartner presented the final budget summary*

Dr. Baumgartner provided a budget summary handout showing the final budget. The final budget reduces the University, state colleges, and the community colleges by 2% in fiscal year 2018 and 1% in fiscal year 2019. Good news for the coming fiscal year is that the university, state and community colleges' budgets have been decreased by 1% rather than the original 4% that was proposed.

*New database manager has been hired*

We have hired a new database manager, Joe Velasquez, who comes from the Nebraska Department of Banking and Finance. He has extensive experience in database management, with an Associate's Degree in Information Systems from Southeast Community College.

*Dr. Baumgartner and Dr. Fimple attended groundbreaking ceremony for West Point Career and Technology Center*

Monday, April 21, Dr. Fimple and Dr. Baumgartner attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Donald E. Nielsen West Point Career and Technology Center. The center is considered a model for other communities in Nebraska. The center will house partners from eight local high schools, Northeast Community College, and Wayne State College, providing courses in welding, advanced manufacturing, and health.

*Dr. Baumgartner attended ACT State Organizational Council meeting*

Dr. Baumgartner participated in the ACT State Organizational Council meeting at UNO last week where he made a presentation on the *2018 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report*. He was able to meet with Senior Vice Chancellor B. J. Reed from UNO. Later he visited the Metropolitan Community College South Omaha campus to view the renovations coming up to support advanced manufacturing, welding, drafting and design, precision machining, and veterans support services.

*Dr. Baumgartner discussed April 12 meeting*

April 12, Dr. Baumgartner met with Liz Koop, President of EducationQuest; Kim Cook, Executive Director of the National College Access Network; Martha Bruckner, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Omaha Educational Consortium, and Wendy Boyer and Jeff Kutash from the Peter Kiewit Foundation. Ms. Cook spoke about national solutions being implemented to prevent issues like "summer melt," high school counselors' preparation to deal with the FAFSA, and other federal aid issues. J. Ritchie Morrow, Financial Aid Officer, presented at the EducationQuest Symposium to high school counselors about FAFSA completion and about the CCPE financial aid programs.

*Dr. Baumgartner spoke about J. Ritchie Morrow*

Dr. Baumgartner commented that Mr. Morrow participated in the Nebraska Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NeASFAA) meeting

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this month. Mr. Morrow informed the CCPE staff that he will be wrapping up his tenure on the executive committee of the National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs. He has served and represented Nebraska and the interest of its students well since 2006.

*Dr. Baumgartner noted Dr. Fimple will attend Military Credit annual meeting*

Dr. Kathleen Fimple, Academic Programs Officer, will be attending the Multi-State Collaborative on Military Credit annual meeting next week in Chicago.

*Public Hearing on Matters of General Concern*

### **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.**

*Dr. Michael Card, University of South Dakota*

### **PUBLIC HEARING ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE ITEMS**

Dr. Michael Card, Associate Provost & Dean of Distance Education for the University of South Dakota (USD), came forward to request the reauthorization of a recurrent authorization to operate. USD offers special skills and graduate credit for students who are teachers in the Lincoln public schools through a program called Reading Recovery®. Reading Recovery® is a successful program for first graders who have difficulty with early reading and writing. Dr. Card answered Commissioner's questions and offered to present further information.

*Mr. Timothy Scholl, Purdue University Global*

Mr. Timothy Scholl, Director of Operations and Academic Dean at Purdue University Global in Lincoln, testified that he was present to support the authorization to operate in Nebraska. He offered to answer questions or provide more information if needed.

**Chair Wilson closed the public hearing on Academic Programs Committee Items.**

### **ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

*Purdue University Global*

*Commissioner Bernthal and Dr. Fimple presented the proposal*

#### **Purdue University Global – Application for a Recurrent Authorization to Operate**

Commissioner Bernthal, Committee Chair, gave a brief overview of Kaplan University, stating it was recently purchased by Purdue University. Kaplan had two campuses in Nebraska and held authorization to operate. Since it is now under new ownership, it has to apply for a new recurrent authorization to operate. He noted the program and faculty will remain the same. Commissioner Bernthal asked Dr. Fimple to present the proposal. Dr. Fimple stated that Purdue University is the land-grant institution for the state of Indiana. Purdue University had lagged in the development of online opportunities and with the purchase of Kaplan is able to expand those offerings. The U.S. Department of Education and the Higher Learning

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*Mr. Scholl*

Commission both had to approve the change of ownership, which took place the end of February 2018. The change in ownership will not change the educational experience for Nebraska students. The curriculum will remain the same and Kaplan University credits will transfer to Purdue University Global. Dr. Fimple and Mr. Scholl answered questions from the Commissioners.

*APC Committee recommendation*

Commissioner Bernthal stated the committee recommendation is to approve Purdue University Global's application for a recurrent authorization to operate.

**Institution:** Purdue University Global  
**Owner:** Purdue University  
**Level of authorization:** Authorized to offer degree programs at the baccalaureate level and below, limited to the Bachelor of Science in nursing; the Associate of Science in nursing; the diploma in dental assisting; and the certificate in medical assistant.

**Length of authorization:** Five years (valid through April 27, 2023)  
**Stipulation:** Purdue Global University provides evidence of the approval of all programmatic accreditors for program offerings under the new institution.

**Reporting requirements:** Annual reporting is required, with the first report due April 27, 2019. Forms are emailed to the institution prior to the due date and are also available on the Commission's web site.

*Purdue University Global Application for a Recurrent Authorization to Operate approved*

**Commissioner Bernthal, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve Purdue University Global's Application for a Recurrent Authorization to Operate. A roll call vote was taken. All eight Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

*University of South Dakota*

*Commissioner Bernthal and Dr. Fimple presented the application*

**University of South Dakota – Renewal of Recurrent Authorization to Operate**

Commissioner Bernthal and Dr. Fimple presented the application, noting this is specifically designed for the Lincoln Public Schools who use the Reading Recovery® program for first graders having difficulty with reading and writing. Specially trained teachers who use the program would like to get academic credit. Dr. Fimple added that this is a renewal for five years.

*APC Committee recommendation*

Commissioner Bernthal stated the committee recommendation is to approve renewal of the University of South Dakota's recurrent authorization to operate.

**Institution:** University of South Dakota  
**Owner:** State of South Dakota (Public Institution)



**Level of authorization:** Authorized to offer one or more courses, limited to those associated with the Reading Recovery® program.

**Length of authorization:** Five years (valid through May 1, 2023)

**Reporting requirements:** Annual reports are required in a form provided by the Commission. The next report is due May 1, 2019.

*University of South Dakota Application to Renew a Recurrent Authorization to Operate approved*

**Commissioner Bernthal, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of South Dakota’s Application to Renew a Recurrent Authorization to Operate. A roll call vote was taken. All eight Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

*Nebraska’s Renewal Application for Participation in SARA*

**Nebraska’s Renewal Application for Participation in SARA**

Commissioner Bernthal and Dr. Fimple presented the information on renewing membership in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA). Dr. Fimple has prepared the application for Chair Wilson to sign. Dr. Fimple created a fact sheet for Midwest-SARA that will be sent to the steering committee when they meet in July.

*Commissioner Bernthal and Dr. Fimple presented the renewal information*

Commissioner Bernthal stated the committee recommendation is to approve the application for Nebraska to renew its participation in SARA.

*APC Committee recommendation*

**Commissioner Bernthal, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the Application for Nebraska to renew its participation in SARA. A roll call vote was taken. All eight Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

*Application for Nebraska to renew its participation in SARA approved*

**Annual Reports for Institutions Holding a Recurrent Authorization to Operate in Nebraska**

Dr. Fimple presented the report that included a yearly report for Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Hope International University (Nebraska Christian College), and Saint Gregory the Great Seminary.

*Annual Reports for Institutions Holding a Recurrent Authorization to Operate in Nebraska*

*Dr. Fimple discussed the report*

**Report on Name Change**

**A. Degree Name Change**

1. UNO – Bachelor of Arts in General Science to  
*Bachelor of Science in General Science*

*Degree Name Change*

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

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

*Public Hearing on Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee Items*

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



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*Commissioner Probyn acknowledged Commissioners and staff on the conference call and introduced representatives present from Southeast Community College*

*Southeast Community College*

*Mr. Wemhoff presented the project proposal*

*Bob Morgan, Southeast Community College*

*Rick Blessen, Southeast Community College*

*Mr. Morgan and Jill Sand, Southeast Community College*

*Dr. Baumgartner speaks*

## **BUDGET, CONSTRUCTION, AND FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Probyn, Committee Chair, acknowledged Commissioners and staff that were on the recent conference call. He then introduced representatives from Southeast Community College. Those present were: Aaron Epps, Director of Facilities; Rick Blessen, Director of Advancement; Bob Morgan, Vice President Program Development - Beatrice Campus Director; Bev Cummins, Vice President Student Services - Lincoln Campus; and Jill Sand, Dean Health Sciences Division – Lincoln Campus.

### **Southeast Community College / Beatrice Campus – Classroom Building**

Mike Wemhoff, Facilities Officer, presented the project proposal. The Southeast Community College Beatrice Campus was originally a private college and consisted of several buildings. The proposed new building would allow student services functions to be located into the existing Kennedy Center and demolition of two old buildings originally used as dormitories. The new building would relocate space for Nursing, Practical Nursing, Business Administration, Criminal Justice programs, and Academic Transfer, and include the CNA lab. It would also provide eight classrooms and a multipurpose room. Existing biology, chemistry, and physics labs and faculty offices would also relocate into the new building from the Kennedy Center. The cost of the project is estimated at \$19.0 million with funding coming from tax levy funds from the Capital Improvement Fund and \$1.56 million in private donations.

Mr. Morgan answered questions from the Commissioners on the size of the project, classroom utilization, decreased SCC student enrollment, and raising the funds from private donations for the project. He stated classroom usage and a decrease in student enrollment at the Beatrice campus are a result of obsolete campus buildings that are taking a toll on marketing and student recruitment. Mr. Blessen noted his position as director of advancement is new and includes fund raising. There are many opportunities and relationships that will be utilized that previously were not. He stated funding sources will include private and corporate donations, grants, or in-kind donations.

In response to the question of the size of the project, Mr. Morgan commented that SCC Beatrice will be offering new programs and expanding other programs. From a health sciences standpoint, Ms. Sand spoke on how SCC Beatrice campus has a demand that could double CNA classes and is currently not able to accommodate students for lack of space. She stated that with the local hospital expanding and nursing graduates staying in the community, the need for healthcare programs is expanding.

Dr. Baumgartner said to keep in mind that the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), which is the accreditor for SCC, has been concerned about the poor condition of their Beatrice facilities for years and in the most recent cycle required that SCC make progress on its facility needs. SCC has entered into an agreement with HLC to make improvements on their campuses.

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*BCF Committee recommendation*

Commissioner Probyn stated the committee recommendation is to approve Southeast Community College / Beatrice Campus's Capital Construction Project Proposal - Classroom Building.

*Southeast Community College –  
Beatrice Campus Capital Construction  
Project Proposal – Classroom Building  
approved*

**Commissioner Probyn, on behalf of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee, moved to approve the Southeast Community College / Beatrice Campus's Capital Construction Project Proposal – Classroom Building. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioners Simmons and Von Behren voted no. The remaining six Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.**

*Southeast Community College*

*Commissioner Probyn and Mr.  
Wemhoff present the project proposal*

**Southeast Community College / Lincoln Campus – Health Sciences Building**

Commissioner Probyn noted that many of the same issues of antiquated facilities and equipment apply to this building proposal as they did to the classroom building. Mr. Wemhoff presented the project proposal stating the main purpose of this project is to consolidate all of the health science programs into one building. Currently they are scattered at several different locations throughout Lincoln. The project would increase the overall square footage and provide adequate storage, service space for the labs, student collaboration space, and much needed office space for the growing programs. The cost of the project is estimated at \$32.17 million, with the funding coming from capital improvement property tax levy funds and \$3.16 million in private donations for replacing equipment. Mr. Blessen, Ms. Cummins, and Ms. Sand answered Commissioner's questions.

*Mr. Blessen, Bev Cummins, and Ms.  
Sand speak*

*BCF Committee recommendation*

Commissioner Probyn stated the committee recommendation is to approve Southeast Community College / Lincoln Campus's Capital Construction Project Proposal – Health Sciences Building.

*Southeast Community College – Lincoln  
Campus Capital Construction Project  
Proposal – Health Sciences Building  
approved*

**Commissioner Probyn, on behalf of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee, moved to approve the Southeast Community College / Lincoln Campus's Capital Construction Project Proposal – Health Sciences Building. A roll call vote was taken. All eight Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

Chair Wilson called for a break at 11:50 a.m. The meeting resumed at 12:00 p.m.

*Dr. Chipps and Lynn Koski, Northeast  
Community College presentation on  
Master Site and Facilities Plan*

**PRESENTATION**

Dr. Chipps and Lynn Koski, Vice President of Administrative Services, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Master Site and Facilities Plan (MSFP) for Northeast Community College. The plan is used to better address growing demands in the 20-county service area by delivering programs and services that will enable graduates to be successful and boost the economy in the region. Dr. Chipps stated the plan was created by an architect with the help of over 100 students, faculty, and staff. The Northeast Board of Governors adopted new mission and vision statements along with setting four strategic goals: increase student success; increase student access; provide a globally competitive workforce; and develop and

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*Dr. Chipps and Ms. Koski presentation  
continued*

maximize resources. Objectives for each goal were identified along with outcomes to be achieved.

Ms. Koski reported that Vision 2020 Strategic Plan goals are what drove the planning process for the NECC Master Site and Facilities Plan. The process was conducted through five phases over an 18-month period. The MSFP planning team used a comprehensive, data driven process that examined facility utilization and space needs, future programming and service delivery models, land use, building and infrastructure condition, open space and circulation systems, landscape, and sustainable design. The master plan encompasses four areas of emphasis: a ring road, perimeter parking, pedestrian connection and pathways, and campus zones that provide improved movement throughout the campus. A review of NECC extended campuses in South Sioux City, West Point, and O'Neill were also included in the plan. Ms. Koski stated the master facility plan serves as a road map as they prepare for existing and future facilities to support the four strategic goals.

*Next Commission meeting is June 14,  
2018*

#### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next Commission meeting will be Thursday, June 14, 2018, at the Lincoln Public Schools District Office, Lincoln, Nebraska.

*Meeting adjourned at 12:31 p.m.*

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Wilson adjourned the meeting at 12:31 p.m.