
MINUTES

COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION Videoconference via ZOOM Thursday, December 3, 2020

Public notice of meeting

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 DECEMBER 3, 2020. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 8:30 A.M. AND ADJOURN AT APPROXIMATELY 11:45 A.M.

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

DR. DEBORAH FRISON, CHAIR

Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Deborah Frison called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and asked for introductions.

Commissioners Present

Colleen Adam
Gwenn Aspen
Dr. John Bernthal
Tim Daniels
Dr. Deborah Frison

Charles Garman (arrived 8:47 a.m.)
Mary Lauritzen
W. Scott Wilson
Dr. Paul Von Behren

Commission Staff Present

Dr. Michael Baumgartner
Dr. Kathleen Fimple
Jill Heese
Kadi Lukesh
J. Ritchie Morrow

Helen Pope
Gary Timm
Mike Wemhoff
Joe Velaquez (Zoom moderator)

Minutes of October 8, 2020, approved

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 8, 2020, COMMISSION MEETING

Commissioner Bernthal made a motion to approve the October 8, 2020, minutes as written. Commissioner Aspen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioner Adam abstained. The remaining seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.

Chair's Report

Chair Frison reported on MHEC activities

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Frison stated she has participated in several activities associated with the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC). Their annual meeting was held virtually on November 9 and 10. Chair Frison and Executive Director Dr. Mike Baumgartner, two of Nebraska's appointed commissioners, attended the meeting. She noted that recently MHEC formed a comprehensive learner record advisory group and she was invited to serve on the advisory group. The group studies the future of comprehensive learner records (CLRs). CLRs fill a niche in the market in that they merge technology with the detailed, expansive documentation students and employers wish to see pertaining to the college experience. The advisory group will provide feedback to MHEC's digital credentialing committee regarding vendor proposals and help MHEC strategize and prioritize work to help states toward the use of comprehensive learner records.

Executive Directors Report

Dr. Baumgartner reported on recent college visits

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Baumgartner reported that he traveled to Western Nebraska Community College for a visit with President Carmen Simone since the last Commission meeting. While in the western part of the state he made stops at McCook Community College and met with Mid-Plains Community College (MPCC) Vice President Kelly Rippen and visited MPCC extended campuses at Imperial and Ogallala.

Dr. Baumgartner participated in several virtual meetings

Dr. Baumgartner stated he recently participated in virtual annual meetings with the National Council of State Directors of Community Colleges, Midwestern Higher Education Compact as Chair Frison reported, Education Commission of the States, and the Higher Learning Commission's (HLC) Annual State meeting with Dr. Kathleen Fimple.

Dr. Baumgartner discussed staff activities

Dr. Baumgartner reported that J. Ritchie Morrow, Financial Aid Officer, has completed the college audits and recently attended the virtual National Association of State Student Grant & Aid Programs Administrators Meeting. Dr. Fimple attended the virtual HLC state agencies meeting in November and recently had a meeting with the legal office of the U. S. Department of Education in Kansas City.

Dr. Baumgartner presented the preliminary 2020 Fall Enrollment Report

Dr. Baumgartner spoke on the preliminary 2020 Fall Enrollment Report, noting that Research Coordinator, Jill Heese, received the information directly from the institutions since IPEDs no longer collects preliminary fall enrollment information. The Commission uses the enrollment information for the Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report.

Public Hearing on Matters of General Concern

PUBLIC HEARING ON MATTERS OF GENERAL CONCERN

There was no testimony on Matters of General Concern.

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

*Public Hearing on Academic Programs
Committee Items*

*Dr. David Jackson, University of
Nebraska*

*Dr. Matt Bice, University of Nebraska
at Kearney*

*Dr. Jodi Kupper, Nebraska State College
System*

PUBLIC HEARING ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE ITEMS

Dr. David Jackson, Vice Provost at the University of Nebraska, came forward to state that representatives from the University were available to discuss and answer questions pertaining to programs on the agenda.

Dr. Matt Bice, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, made introductory remarks on the need and demand for UNK's Master of Science degree in Health Sciences.

Dr. Jodi Kupper, Vice Chancellor for Academic Planning and Partnerships with the Nebraska State College System, noted she and Dr. James Powell were available to discuss and answer questions on the Chadron State College proposal.

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

Academic Programs Committee

Commissioner Adam spoke

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

*Dr. Fimple and Commissioner Adam
presented the proposal*

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Commissioner Adam, Committee Chair, acknowledged Committee members who were on the recent Committee call.

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Proposal for a New Instructional
Program – Supply Chain Management, MS**

Dr. Fimple and Commissioner Adam presented the proposal. Dr. Fimple stated there is a Supply Chain Management undergraduate program in place and the target audience for the Master of Science would be working professionals who want to expand their knowledge base. The program would be offered entirely online and could be completed in one year. Dr. Fimple noted there is great need for this program with many job openings in Nebraska. She noted the University contracted a marketing firm that conducted an assessment indicating the demand for the program.

*Dr. Jennifer Ryan, University of
Nebraska-Lincoln*

*Dr. Scott Swenseth, University of
Nebraska-Lincoln*

Dr. Jennifer Ryan, Chair, Department of Supply Chain Management and Analytics, clarified that there would be 400 job openings annually in Nebraska that require a Bachelors or Master's degree. Dr. Ryan also discussed the industrial advisory board the Supply Chain Management and Analytics Department has that meets twice a year and provides feedback and input on the curriculum. Dr. Ryan and Dr. Scott Swenseth, Associate Professor, Department of Supply Chain Management and Analytics, answered Commissioners' questions.

APC recommendation

Commissioner Adam stated the APC Committee recommendation is to approve the Master of Science in Supply Chain Management at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Proposal for a New Instructional
Program-Supply Chain Management,
MS approved*

**Commissioner Adam, on behalf of the Academic Programs
Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Supply Chain
Management, MS. A roll call vote was taken. All nine Commissioners
voted yes. The motion carried.**

University of Nebraska at Kearney

Dr. Fimple and Commissioner Adam presented the proposal

Ms. Peggy Abels, University of Nebraska at Kearney

Dr. Matt Bice, University of Nebraska at Kearney

Dr. David Jackson, University of Nebraska

APC recommendation

University of Nebraska at Kearney Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Health Sciences, MS approved

Chadron State College

Dr. Fimple and Commissioner Adam presented the proposal

Dr. Jodi Kupper, Nebraska State College System

Dr. James Powell, Chadron State College

University of Nebraska at Kearney – Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Health Sciences, MS

Dr. Fimple and Commissioner Adam presented the proposal. Dr. Fimple stated the program would be offered entirely online and there are ten introductory classes that would need to be taken before entering this program. The Committee had concerns that even though it appears there is student demand and UNMC support, the need for this program is not well documented, and many students would not be adequately advised regarding admission to a professional school.

Ms. Peggy Abels, Director of Health Sciences at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, spoke on the number of students currently enrolled in the BS program, noting that program would feed the Master's program. Students with a biology background would enter this program also. Dr. Bice added that this program is rigorous and built to prepare students within one year to enter a professional school. Dr. Jackson pointed out the advantage to this program is the in-depth student coaching and advising built into this program.

Commissioner Adam stated for the Master of Science in Health Sciences at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, the APC Committee is forwarding the proposal without a recommendation to the full Commission for consideration.

Commissioner Adam made a motion to approve the University of Nebraska at Kearney Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Health Sciences, MS. Commissioner Lauritzen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioners Daniels, Lauritzen, Wilson, Adam, and Aspen voted yes. Commissioners Bernthal, Frison, Garman, and Von Behren voted no. Chair Frison noted simple majority rules. The motion carried.

Chadron State College – Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Unmanned Aircraft Systems for Remote Sensing, Undergraduate Certificate

Dr. Fimple and Commissioner Adam presented the proposal. Dr. Fimple reported that small unmanned aircraft are commonly known as drones, and the Federal Aviation Administration states you do not need certification to fly a recreational drone. Demand is high for commercial pilots and it was noted that within a five-year period, 350,000 non-recreational pilots will be needed. Dr. Fimple stated the program would be housed in the Rangeland Management program, requiring students to complete 12 semester hours and complete a certification test. Certified pilots will be prepared to assist farmers in spotting livestock, checking weather damage, monitoring irrigation and surveying pastures as well as opportunities in other sectors such as research, utility and energy, and the entertainment industry. Dr. Kupper and Dr. James Powell, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Chadron State College, answered Commissioners' questions regarding a state college offering a certificate.

APC recommendation

Commissioner Adam stated the APC Committee recommendation is to approve the Undergraduate Certificate in Unmanned Aircraft Systems for Remote Sensing at Chadron State College.

Chadron State College Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Unmanned Aircraft Systems for Remote Sensing, Undergraduate Certificate approved

Commissioner Adam, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the Chadron State College’s Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Unmanned Aircraft Systems for Remote Sensing, Undergraduate Certificate. A roll call vote was taken. All nine Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

University of Nebraska at Omaha

Dr. Fimple and Commissioner Adam presented the in-depth review

University of Nebraska at Omaha – In-Depth Review – Art History, BAH

Dr. Fimple and Commissioner Adam presented the in-depth review. Dr. Fimple provided a summary of the program review and UNO’s 2020 report indicating strategies referenced in 2018. Some of those have been implemented showing results and others have not had time to produce results. Dr. Jackson and Dr. Jack Zerbe, Director, School of the Arts at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, discussed the program, noting it is headed in the right direction but will take time.

Dr. David Jackson, University of Nebraska

Dr. Jack Zerbe, University of Nebraska at Omaha

APC recommendation

Commissioner Adam stated the APC Committee recommendation is to continue the Art History program at UNO with a report on number of majors and degrees awarded, due September 30, 2023.

University of Nebraska at Omaha In-Depth Review – Art History, BAH approved

Commissioner Adam, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska at Omaha In-Depth Review – Art History, BAH. A roll call vote was taken. All nine Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

2019-2020 Existing Program Review

2019-2020 Existing Program Review

The following programs were approved by the Executive Director for continuation:

Central Community College

- Academic Transfer (AA, AS)
- Library and Information Services (Certificate)

Metropolitan Community College

- Liberal Arts (AA, AS)
- Creative Writing (AA, Certificate)
- Theatre (AA, Certificate)
- Art (AA, Certificate)
- General Studies (AAS)

Mid-Plains Community College

- Academic Transfer (AA, AS, AGS)
- Fine Arts (AFA)

Northeast Community College

- Academic Transfer (AA, AS)

Southeast Community College

- Academic Transfer (AA, AS)

Western Nebraska Community College

- Associate of Arts (AA)
- Associate of Science (AS)

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- Communication Studies (BA, BS, MA, PhD)
- Advertising and Public Relations (BJ)
- Journalism (BJ)
- Journalism and Mass Communications (MA)
- Public Relations and Social Media (Graduate Certificate)
- Financial Communications (Graduate Certificate)
- Sports Media and Communication (BJ)
- Broadcasting (BJ)

University of Nebraska at Omaha

- Communication Studies (BA, BS)
- Journalism and Media Communication (BA, BS)
- Communication (MA)
- Human Resources and Training (Graduate Certificate)
- Technical Communication (Graduate Certificate)
- Interdisciplinary Studies (BA, BS)

Wayne State College

- Mass Communication (BA, BS)

University of Nebraska at Kearney

- General Studies (BGS)

University of Nebraska at Omaha

Dr. Fimple presented the program requiring additional review

Dr. David Jackson, University of Nebraska

APC recommendation

University of Nebraska at Omaha – Existing Program Requiring Additional Review – Black Studies, BA, BS approved

University of Nebraska at Omaha – Existing Program Requiring Additional Review – Black Studies, BA, BS

Dr. Fimple reported that this program is below threshold as far as total degrees awarded, and the Black Studies, BA, BS program does not meet the requirements for an interdisciplinary program. The University will conduct an in-depth review. Dr. Jackson mentioned that it may be a possibility to combine ethnic studies programs.

Commissioner Adam stated the APC Committee recommendation is to continue the UNO Black Studies, BA, BS with an in-depth review due September 30, 2021.

Commissioner Adam, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska at Omaha

Existing Program Requiring Additional Review – Black Studies, BA, BS. A roll call vote was taken. All nine Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

Report on Institutional Activities Related to Existing Programs

Reasonable and Moderate Extension

Reasonable and Moderate Extensions

- PSC – Public History, Undergraduate Certificate
- SCC – Automotive Technology, Diploma

Name Changes

Name Changes

- MCC – Professional Health Studies – Dental Assisting to *Dental Assisting – Professional Health Studies AAS*
- MCC – Professional Health Studies – Medical Assisting to *Medical Assisting – Professional Health Studies AAS*
- MCC – Professional Health Studies – Paramedicine to *Paramedicine – Professional Health Studies AAS*

Department Merger

Department Merger

- UNK – Department of Family Studies and Department of Counseling and School Psychology to *Department of Counseling, School Psychology and Family Science*

Chair Frison called for a break at 10:20 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:30 a.m.

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

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

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

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

Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee

BUDGET, CONSTRUCTION, AND FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE

Commissioner Aspen, Committee Chair, acknowledged Committee members that were on the recent committee call.

Commissioner Aspen spoke

Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship AY 2019-20 Year-End Report

Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship AY 2019-20 Year-End Report

J. Ritchie Morrow presented the ACE report stating the ACE scholarships pay tuition and mandatory fees for qualified, low-income high school students to enroll in college courses from Nebraska universities or colleges. For 2019-2020, the ACE program was funded with \$1.1 million dollars appropriated by the Legislature. There were 2,473 students from 231 high schools that received 4,420 scholarships. The average award per scholarship was \$248.42. Mr. Morrow reviewed graphs on scholarships awarded, credit hours taken, eligibility, and gender and

J. Ritchie Morrow presented the ACE report

ACE report continued

race of recipients. He spoke on college continuation rates noting ACE students are doing very well going on to college. The ACE report includes each college, the amount awarded, number of students, scholarships, and average amount of each scholarship per college. Mr. Morrow also noted the report includes the number of scholarships awarded by high school.

BCFA recommendation

Commissioner Aspen stated the BCFA Committee amended the original recommendation to approve the 2020 Access College Early (ACE) Report to state that the Commission further explore disparities that face our state and how to overcome those in ACE utilization at a future Commission workshop.

Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship AY 2019-20 Year End Report approved

Commissioner Aspen, on behalf of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee, moved to approve the Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship AY 2019-20 Year-End Report. A roll call vote was taken. All nine Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

Nebraska Opportunity Grant (NOG) AY 2019-20 Year-End Report

Nebraska Opportunity Grant (NOG) AY 2019-20 Year-End Report

J. Ritchie Morrow presented the NOG report

Mr. Morrow presented the report, commenting that every year the CCPE is appropriated grant funds from the legislature for the Nebraska Opportunity Grant, and those funds are combined with the Nebraska Lottery Funds that we receive to award each year. The NOG program uses information from the federal Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine eligibility. Mr. Morrow noted that Nebraska ranked 35th in the country for need-based undergraduate grant dollars per undergraduate enrollment. For the 2019-20 award year, \$18,740,356 was awarded to 12,956 students with the average award being \$1,446.46. He gave an overview of the NOG funding by source, sector, and family income over the past 10 years. Mr. Morrow reviewed allocation funds listed in the report for each participating institution from 2009-10 through 2019-20.

Community College Gap Assistance Program 2019-20 Annual Report

Community College Gap Assistance Program 2019-20 Annual Report

Gary Timm presented the Gap Report

Gary Timm, Chief Finance and Administrative Officer, presented the Community College Gap Assistance Program report, noting this report has been submitted to the Nebraska Community College Student Performance and Occupational Education Grant Committee. The committee requires community colleges to report basic demographic, program, and employment data for each participant to gauge effectiveness of the Gap Assistance program. The committee is made up of representatives from Nebraska's Department of Education, Department of Economic Development, Department of Labor, and three of the six community colleges, as well as the CCPE. The program is designed to provide financial aid to low-income community college students enrolled in credit or non-credit programs that do not qualify for federal Pell grants. Mr. Timm pointed out the number of applicants and approved participants. The report lists all of the programs of study at each of the community colleges.

*Public Hearing on Planning and
Consumer Information Committee
Items*

**PUBLIC HEARING ON PLANNING AND CONSUMER INFORMATION
COMMITTEE ITEMS**

There was no testimony on Planning and Consumer Information Items.

Chair Frison closed the public hearing on Planning and Consumer Information Committee Items.

*Planning and Consumer Information
Committee Items*

PLANNING AND CONSUMER INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Commissioner Garman, new Committee Chair, acknowledged the Committee members that met at the recent Committee meeting.

Commissioner Garman spoke

**2020 Measuring Accomplishments, companion piece to Chapter One
of the Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education**

*2020 Measuring Accomplishments,
companion piece to Chapter One of the
Comprehensive Statewide Plan for
Postsecondary Education*

Jill Heese, Research Coordinator, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the 2020 Measuring Accomplishments Report, noting that this is the fifth edition and is a companion piece to Chapter One of the *Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education*. The report includes national and peer comparisons as well as non-comparative measures and is updated on an annual basis. Our goal is to be in the top 10 states for the national comparisons and the top five institutions for peer group comparisons. Nebraska ranked in the top 10 for ACT college readiness. Nebraska ranked in the top 25 for its high school graduation rate, college continuation rate, and six-year college completion rates. Ms. Heese noted the Data Dictionary describes each of the measures in detail.

Jill Heese presented the report

Executive Committee

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair Frison noted the Executive Committee met in November to review the 2020 Biennial Report and asked Dr. Baumgartner to present the report.

Chair Frison spoke

2020 Biennial Report

2020 Biennial Report

Dr. Baumgartner presented an overview of the 2020 Biennial Report, stating the report is required every two years by statute and is due on December 1 to the Governor. The 2020 Biennial Report includes a summary of Commission activities, responsibilities, programs, and reports during the 2019-2020 year. The CCPE is governed by *Nebraska's Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education*. The "Comp" Plan guides the higher education system in Nebraska.

Dr. Baumgartner presented the report

Chair Frison stated the Executive Committee recommendation is to approve the 2020 Biennial Report.

Executive Committee recommendation

Chair Frison, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to approve the 2020 Biennial Report. A roll call vote was taken. All nine Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

2020 Biennial Report approved

*Next Commission meeting will be held
virtually on January 21, 2021*

FUTURE MEETINGS

Chair Frison and Dr. Baumgartner stated that the next Commission meeting will be held virtually via Zoom on Thursday, January 21, 2021.

Chair Daniels comments

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Daniels expressed his appreciation for having the Commission meeting held remotely as it was convenient for him at a time when he could not travel.

Chair Frison comments

Chair Frison stated her appreciation for the Commissioners' hard work and diligence in preparation for the meeting and wished everyone a happy holiday season.

Meeting adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Frison adjourned the meeting at 11:42 a.m.

Quarterly Report as of December 31, 2020

Administrative Funds (Program 640)

	2020-2021 Appropriations	2020-2021 Current Expenditures	Balance Remaining	% of Budget Expended Time Elapsed 50.00%
PERSONAL SERVICES				
PSL	\$953,884			
Permanent Salaries	\$927,726	\$394,653	\$533,073	42.5%
Benefits	\$237,050	\$101,911	\$135,139	43.0%
Subtotal	\$1,164,776	\$496,564	\$668,212	42.6%
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Postage	\$2,100	\$741	\$1,359	35.3%
Communication	\$10,998	\$3,314	\$7,684	30.1%
Data Processing	\$71,483	\$25,276	\$46,207	35.4%
Publication & Printing	\$12,618	\$1,928	\$10,690	15.3%
Awards Expense	\$200	\$0	\$200	0.0%
Dues & Subscriptions	\$45,362	\$2,767	\$42,595	6.1%
MHEC Dues	\$115,000	\$115,000	\$0	100.0%
Conference Registration Fees	\$1,500	\$650	\$850.0	43.3%
Electricity	\$2,800	\$1,134	\$1,666	40.5%
Rent Expense	\$51,827	\$25,952	\$25,875	50.1%
Office Supplies	\$2,000	\$4,341	-\$2,341	217.1%
Non Capitalized Equipment	\$2,000	\$1,070	\$930	53.5%
Food Expenses	\$1,500	\$501	\$999	33.4%
Education Supplies	\$1,000	\$124	\$876	12.4%
Account & Auditing Services	\$8,420	\$7,838	\$582	93.1%
Purchasing Assessment	\$216	\$216	\$0	100.0%
Insurance Expense	\$200	\$64	\$136	32.0%
Other	\$825	\$203	\$622	24.6%
Subtotal	\$330,049	\$191,119	\$138,930	57.9%
STAFF TRAVEL				
Board & Lodging	\$1,500	\$1,046	\$454	69.7%
Commercial Transportation	\$750	\$0	\$750	0.0%
State-Owned Transportation	\$1,000	\$684	\$316	68.4%
Mileage	\$500	\$373	\$127	74.6%
Other	\$100	\$0	\$100	0.0%
Subtotal	\$3,850	\$2,103	\$1,747	54.6%
COMMISSIONER TRAVEL				
Board & Lodging	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	0.0%
Commercial Transportation	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Mileage	\$4,000	\$667	\$3,333	16.7%
Other	\$150	\$0	\$150	0.0%
Subtotal	\$6,150	\$667	\$5,483	10.8%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES				
	\$1,504,825	\$690,453	\$814,372	45.9%
General Fund	\$1,428,261	\$688,185	\$740,076	
Cash Fund	\$64,518	\$2,268	\$62,250	
Federal Fund	\$12,046	\$0	\$12,046	
Total	\$1,504,825	\$690,453	\$814,372	45.9%

**Note: The percentage of budget spent without including the MHEC dues is 41.4%.
The MHEC dues are paid in full (\$115,000) during the first month of the fiscal year.**

Quarterly Report as of December 31, 2020

Nebraska Opportunity Grant Program (NOG)

	<i>2020-2021 Appropriations</i>	<i>2020-2021 Current Expenditures</i>	<i>Balance Remaining</i>	<i>% of Budget Expended Time Elapsed 50.00%</i>
GOVERNMENT AID				
Other Government Aid	\$21,139,969	\$7,625,723	\$13,514,246	36.1%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$21,139,969	\$7,625,723	\$13,514,246	36.1%
General Fund	\$7,775,172	\$969,915	\$6,805,257	
Cash Fund	\$13,364,797	\$6,655,808	\$6,708,989	
Total	\$21,139,969	\$7,625,723	\$13,514,246	36.1%

Community College Gap Assistance Program

	<i>2020-2021 Appropriations</i>	<i>2020-2021 Current Expenditures</i>	<i>Balance Remaining</i>	<i>% of Budget Expended Time Elapsed 50.00%</i>
PERSONAL SERVICES				
PSL	\$27,566			
Permanent Salaries	\$27,556	\$3,176	\$24,380	11.5%
Benefits	\$4,285	\$488	\$3,797	11.4%
Subtotal	\$31,841	\$3,664	\$28,177	11.5%
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Data Processing	\$500	\$0	\$500	0.0%
Communications	\$550	\$0	\$550	0.0%
Dues & Subscriptions	\$100	\$0	\$100	0.0%
Conference Registration	\$150	\$0	\$150	0.0%
Subtotal	\$1,300	\$0	\$1,300	0.0%
STAFF TRAVEL				
Personal Vehicle Mileage	\$200	\$0	\$200	0.0%
Contractual Service-Travel	\$2,068	\$0	\$2,068	0.0%
Subtotal	\$2,268			
GOVERNMENT AID				
Other Government Aid	\$1,807,896	\$676,138	\$1,131,758	37.4%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,843,305	\$679,802	\$1,163,303	36.9%
Cash Fund	\$1,843,305	\$679,802	\$1,163,503	
Total	\$1,843,305	\$679,802	\$1,163,503	36.9%

Access College Early Scholarship (ACE)

	<i>2020-2021 Appropriations</i>	<i>2020-2021 Current Expenditures</i>	<i>Balance Remaining</i>	<i>% of Budget Expended Time Elapsed 50.00%</i>
GOVERNMENT AID				
Other Government Aid	\$1,103,478	\$209,454	\$894,024	19.0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,103,478	\$209,454	\$894,024	19.0%
General Fund	\$1,103,478	\$209,454	\$894,024	
Total	\$1,103,478	\$209,454	\$894,024	19.0%



NEW INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM PROPOSAL

Institution: Western Nebraska Community College (WNCC)

Program: Diesel, Truck, and Heavy Equipment Technology

Award: AAS, Diploma, Certificates

Institution’s Existing Degree(s) in Same or Similar Discipline: AAS in Automotive Technology

Proposal Received by Commission: December 21, 2020

Proposed Start Date: Fall 2021

Description

The proposed program is designed to develop the skills needed for the repair of diesel trucks with an emphasis on construction and agricultural medium to heavy equipment. The AAS would require 64 to 66 semester credit hours composed of 15 hours of general education and 49 hours specific to the field of study. The courses comprising the 49 credit hours would include 14 new diesel technology courses, three existing automotive technology courses, and one existing course in each of three areas: advanced manufacturing technology, welding technology, and information technology.

Using selected courses from the AAS degree, a student could earn a certificate. Two certificate options would be available: Engine and Powertrain (16 credit hours) and Advanced Electrical/Mechanical (19 credit hours). Students could apply one or both certificates to the AAS or to a diploma. The diploma would consist of 30 credit hours—nine in general education and 21 hours specific to the program.

Consistent with Institutional Role and Mission? YES NO

Consistent with Statewide Comprehensive Plan? YES NO

REVIEW CRITERIA

A. Need for the Program

High-----Low
<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

WNCC cites data from Economic Modeling Specialists, Inc. (EMSI) as evidence of need. In 2017 there were 195 jobs posted in the Panhandle for “farm equipment mechanics and service technicians” and “bus and truck mechanics and diesel engine specialists.” The top hard skill listed in postings was experience with

diesel engines. EMSI reported a projected decline in employment opportunities by 2030 in the Panhandle, but the demand would still exceed national averages.

Letters of support were provided from Aulick Industries (an agricultural equipment manufacturer), Floyd’s Truck Center, Inland Truck Parts and Service, Murphy Tractor and Equipment Company, NMC/CAT, and Paul Reed Construction and Supply, Inc. Several themes repeated throughout the letters.

- The current work force is inadequate.
- The number of applicants for open positions is not sufficient to meet the need and most are not qualified. One letter noted a six-month time frame to find one qualified applicant. Many applicants are self-taught on the farm or ranch with no formal training.
- Recruiting from outside the Panhandle is usually not successful since applicants view the area as less desirable. “Home grown” mechanics would be ideal.
- The employers varied in size. Those who reported the number of technicians needed in the next year cited one, two, six, 15, and 20 to 30.

A group of nine regional businesses and industries have agreed to collaborate and support the program by providing access to specialized equipment, personnel to assist in training, internships, and training facilities at highly reduced lease rates. In addition, an agreement was created to standardize the hourly rates of pay for students on internships and those working when also enrolled in the program. The businesses wanted students to be exposed to their industries but not be subject to undue influence by wage enhancement.

The number of current and anticipated openings reported by local industry supports a need for the program.

B. Demand for the Program

High-----Low
√

WNCC expects high school graduate demand to be high. Both Scottsbluff and Gering High Schools have career and technical programs that would feed into a Diesel, Truck, and Heavy Equipment Technology program. The proposal states that in September 2020 there were 13 students at Scottsbluff High, 16 at Gering High, and three at Morrill High School who indicated interest in the program. The budget bases tuition revenue on eight students in year one, 13 in year two, and 15 in years three, four, and five.

High school students, especially those who have completed a career academy, are the most likely pool for students. Figures provided were only for three high schools so the number of potential students would be higher. There may also be employees in local industry who need to upgrade their skills.

C. Avoidance of Unnecessary Duplication

High-----Low
√

There are AAS programs in diesel technology at the other five community colleges in Nebraska. Most also offer diplomas and certificates. WNCC reports that the diesel program closest to Scottsbluff is a diploma program 98 miles away at Laramie County Community College in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

A diesel technology program is clearly within the role and mission of WNCC. Although there are comparable programs at the other Nebraska community colleges, none would be a realistic option for most students due to the distance required to travel. The number of graduates from the other colleges exceeds the Commission productivity standards, so another program in the state would not constitute unnecessary duplication. In addition, the local employers reported that mechanics from the Panhandle region would be the most likely to apply for and accept positions.

D. Resources: Faculty/Staff

High-----Low
√

WNCC reports that one new faculty member would be needed. This is reflected in the budget. Six required courses and the general education courses are currently offered and can absorb any new students, so additional faculty would not be needed for those classes.

E. Resources: Physical Facilities/Equipment

High-----Low
√

WNCC states that the program would be housed in a new leased facility located about three miles from campus that provides classrooms, offices, and work bays (see separate proposal). Automotive technology and information technology courses would be taught in the respective program's space on the main campus.

Equipment for the program would come from a combination of sources. Select equipment currently used in the automotive technology program would be used to support those classes common to both automotive technology and the proposed program. Local and regional employers have pledged on-going access to major truck components (e.g., engine, powertrain, electrical systems) to be used in the program for hands-on training and potential rebuild and reuse.

Use of new and fully- or partially-operational used diesel and heavy equipment also has been pledged by industry partners. Access to equipment would be available for short to intermediate time periods coinciding with didactic portions of training. Equipment would be available on a temporary basis for training use at the instructional facility and/or at the business locations.

Major capital and intermediate-life equipment for instruction would be supported by a combination of sources including the general operating budget, WNCC Foundation, and donations or industry contributions. The proposed program is integrated into WNCC's Perkins V 2020-24 plan allowing for access to those funds in future years.

F. Resources: Library/Information Access

High-----Low
√

The proposal asserts that the library and technology resources, including staffing and physical resources, already in place at the college are adequate to support the program.

G. Budget

The figures in the following table include both the initial investment for equipment in the first three years as well as the three-year funding specifically for equipment. After three years both the cost for equipment and revenues for equipment (reallocated funds, WNCC Foundation, and Perkins) would drop to zero, but anticipated annual revenue for the program would still be in excess of projected annual costs.

**PROJECTED COSTS AND ANTICIPATED REVENUES FOR THE FIRST FIVE YEARS
As reported by WNCC**

PROJECTED COSTS		ANTICIPATED REVENUES	
Faculty and Staff	\$370,843	Reallocated Funds ⁴	\$191,000
General Operating ¹	\$62,500	New State Funds	
Equipment ²	\$289,689	New Local Funds	
Facilities ³	\$173,400	Tuition and Fees ⁵	\$491,480
Utilities/Maintenance	\$37,500	Aulick Industries ⁶	\$158,400
		WNCC Foundation ⁷	\$124,000
		Perkins grants	\$252,000
		Local/regional pledges received	\$40,000
		Local/regional pledges committed	\$150,000
Five-Year TOTAL	\$933,932	Five-Year TOTAL	\$1,406,880

¹ Educational, office, and shop supplies, travel, and faculty development

² New equipment for program start-up

³ Annual facility lease plus IT, electrical, and infrastructure and installation in year one

⁴ From training academies that were discontinued in FY 2021

⁵ Based on 8 students in year one, 13 in year two, and 15 in years three, four, and five, taking 32 credit hours per year at \$124 per credit hour for tuition and \$500 annual fees.

⁶ Return of lease payment by lessor to WNCC Foundation per lease agreement

⁷ New program development funds, Baxter Foundation, and AkSarBen Workforce Development Grant

Committee Recommendation: Approve the AAS, Diploma, and Certificates in Diesel, Truck, and Heavy Equipment Technology at Western Nebraska Community College.

First Program Review Date: Due June 30, 2024



PROPOSAL FOR AN OFF-CAMPUS CENTER WITH A LONG-TERM COMMITMENT

Institution:	Western Nebraska Community College (WNCC)
Facility:	Instructional Facility for Diesel, Truck, and Heavy Equipment Technology Program
Awards:	AAS, Diploma, and Certificates
Program:	Diesel, Truck, and Heavy Equipment Technology
Institution's Existing Degree(s) in Same or Similar Discipline:	New program seeking approval simultaneous with facility proposal
Proposed Site/Location:	1201 Avenue I, Scottsbluff, Nebraska (approximately three miles from the Scottsbluff campus)
Proposed Start Date:	Program would start in fall 2021; WNCC Governing Board approved the lease on November 18, 2020

COMMISSION RULES

Commission Rule 10 requires any institution intending to enter into a long-term commitment for an off-campus facility to seek Commission approval. The criteria for review of the request are need and demand, avoidance of unnecessary duplication, adequacy of resources, and consistency with the *Comprehensive Statewide Plan*. The approval of a long-term commitment makes no judgment regarding the cost for acquisition or construction of the proposed facility or for operation and maintenance costs. Nothing in the proposal for the Instructional Facility for Diesel, Truck, and Heavy Equipment Technology Program in Scottsbluff would trigger a review by the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee.

DESCRIPTION

The proposed facility includes a single building of approximately 4,400 square feet comprised of shops, storage, offices, and restroom. Major spaces and approximate square feet are:

- Four truck bays – all 14' door heights
 - Bay 1 – 16' x 33'
 - Bays 2 and 3 – 18' x 40'
 - Bay 4 – 16' x 40'
- Supply and storage area – 600 square feet
- Five offices – ranging from 110 to 260 square feet per office

Bay 1 would be utilized initially as a classroom having back-to-back space with bay 2 allowing students to swing from classroom to shop for demonstrations and hands-on live lab. Bays 2, 3 and 4 would be used for hands-on instruction.

Additional parking space of approximately 8,800 square feet is included in the lease.

Key Components of the Lease:

- Term of the lease: Five years with annual renewal thereafter
- Rent: \$2,640 per month (\$31,680 per annum)
 - Rent to be donated to the WNCC Foundation per lease
- Utilities to be paid by WNCC
- Repairs and maintenance to be the responsibility of WNCC
- Liability and property damage insurance to be provided by WNCC

REVIEW CRITERIA

Consistent with Institutional Role and Mission? √ YES _____ NO

Consistent with *Comprehensive Statewide Plan*? √ YES _____ NO

A. Demonstrated Need and Demand for the Facility

High-----Low
√

WNCC determined a need for a Diesel, Truck, and Heavy Equipment program (see the accompanying proposal for a new instructional program for evidence of need). The existing facilities in the Applied Technology Building on the Scottsbluff campus are occupied by the Automotive Technology and Collision Repair and Refinish Technology programs. In addition, these spaces, even if available, do not have the necessary physical access and dimensions to accommodate diesel trucks and heavy equipment along with instructional equipment.

After investigation of potential sites, WNCC determined that the proposed location most highly aligned with the desired facility type for initial operation of the program, including spaces for classrooms, laboratory, office, and external lots. The proposed space is a diesel repair facility that will soon be vacant.

The program was developed in response to both employer need and student demand. Nine major regional businesses and industries met and agreed to collaborate with the college to support the program. The proposal included letters of support from several of the businesses.

B. Avoidance of Unnecessary Duplication

High-----Low
√

There is no diesel technology program in WNCC’s service area and no facility on campus to accommodate the new program. The WNCC Master Facilities Plan provides the opportunity for an addition to the Applied Technology Building and also has a location identified for “future buildings.” The five-year lease would allow the college time to assess the program, its needs, and its future before undertaking a major construction project.

C. Resources: Faculty and Staff

High-----Low				
	√			

One full-time faculty member would be hired for the new program. See the accompanying proposal for a new instructional program for a discussion of faculty.

D. Resources: Physical Facilities and Instructional Equipment

High-----Low				
√				

For the program to remain as space-efficient as possible, three courses utilized in both Automotive Technology and Diesel, Truck, and Heavy Equipment would be taught on the WNCC campus in spaces currently aligned with the Automotive Technology program. In like fashion, courses in Information Technology along with general education courses required by the program would be taught on the WNCC campus.

Local industry would provide access to equipment, but WNCC would also need to purchase start-up equipment. (See the accompanying proposal for a new instructional program for a description of equipment.)

E. Resources: Library/Information Access

High-----Low				
		√		

Library resources would be available at the WNCC main campus.

Committee Comment: The current physical facilities could not accommodate the needs of the new instructional program. If a facility could not be acquired, the program could not be offered. The proposed facility has the spaces needed for a diesel technology program, most prominently the truck bays.

Committee Recommendation: Approve the proposal from Western Nebraska Community College for an off-campus center with a long-term commitment in Scottsbluff, Nebraska.

2019-2020 EXISTING PROGRAM REVIEW
(Item in bold is under Commission Minimum Performance Standard)

COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROGRAMS APPROVED by the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR for Continuation										
Institution	Program	5 yr Average (2014-2019)								
		SCH	SCH/ FTE	Degree		Diploma	Certificate	Total Awards	Justification if under standard	
CCC	Occupational Therapy Assistant	905	730	AAS	15.4				15.4	
NECC	Community Health Worker*	170	343				5.0	5.0		New
NECC	Physical Therapist Assistant	1,007	460	AAS	17.0				17.0	
SCC	Physical Therapist Assistant	919	552	AAS	16.6				16.6	

*One-year average

UNIVERSITY & STATE COLLEGE PROGRAMS APPROVED by the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR for Continuation										
Institution	Program	5 yr Average (2014-2019)								
		SCH	SCH/ FTE*	Baccalaureate Degrees awarded		Masters Degrees awarded		Doctorate Degrees awarded		Justification if under standard
UNMC	Nursing	21,432	196	BSN	349.0	MSN	65.8	DNP PhD	18.2 5.2	Need
	Undergraduate Certificate for Internationally Educated Nurses			Cert	0.0					New
	Post-MSN Pediatric Nurse Practitioner					Cert	9.8			
UNMC	Medicine			BS	2.8			MD	123.8	Need
UNMC	Cytotechnology	**				Post- BS Cert	9.8			
UNMC	Environmental Health, Occupational Health	**						PhD	2.2	Need
UNMC	Medical Lab Sciences	1,159	132	BS	25.8					Need
UNMC	Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences	***				MS	20.2	PhD	37.4	
UNL	Forensic Science	695	1,679	BS	17.4					

UNIVERSITY & STATE COLLEGE PROGRAMS APPROVED by the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR for Continuation										
Institution	Program	5 yr Average (2014-2019)								
		SCH	SCH/ FTE*	Baccalaureate Degrees awarded		Masters Degrees awarded		Doctorate Degrees awarded		Justification if under standard
UNL	Insect Science	1,772	423	BS	5.6					Need
	Entomology	**	**			MS	19.2	PhD	3.8	
	Insect Biology for Educators					Grad Cert	0.0			Other: Inactive but being revisited

*For the University this is SCH/Instructional Faculty FTE

**Figures not available for graduate programs with no direct undergraduate counterpart.

***Interdisciplinary

PROGRAMS DISCONTINUED by the INSTITUTIONS			
Institution	Program	Degree(s)	Comments
UNMC	Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	MS, PhD	Reorganized into the MS and PhD in Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences
	Cancer Research	MS, PhD	

Commission Minimum Performance Standards

Number of Degrees/Awards in this Program
(the mean of the prior 5 years)

Less Than Two Years and Associate	10
Baccalaureate and First Professional	7
Masters Degree	5
Specialist	4
Doctoral Degree	3

All credit hours produced at the baccalaureate
levels and all credit hours at the associate
level or below except those described below. 300

**Student Credit Hour Production by Department
Per Full-Time Equivalent Faculty**
(the mean of the prior 5 years)

All credit hours produced at the associate level
and below in programs which utilize contact hours
that are converted to credit hours for purposes of
determining full-time equivalency pursuant
to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1503 (2008) 275

Justification Key

R & M:	Program is critical to the role and mission of the institution
Gen Ed:	Program contains courses supporting general education or other programs
Interdisciplinary:	Interdisciplinary program (providing the program meets the requirements set in the existing policy for interdisciplinary programs)
Demand:	Student or employer demand, or demand for intellectual property is high and external funding would be jeopardized by discontinuing the program
Access:	Program provides unique access to an underserved population or geographical area
Need:	Program meets a unique need in the region, state, or nation
New:	Program is newly approved within the last five years
Other:	Detailed explanation provided

Annual Report for Institutions Holding a Recurrent Authorization to Operate in Nebraska Reports Received November – December 2020

Recurrent authorization to operate means approval by the Commission to operate a postsecondary institution in Nebraska until a renewal of the authorization is required. Most authorizations were approved for a five-year period with an annual reporting requirement. The following table is a summary of annual reports submitted November - December, 2020. Reports received after December will be summarized at a later Commission meeting. Dates in the left-hand column are the time frame during which enrollment and graduation data was collected. No action is required.

Institution	Program name	Degree/ Award	# Currently Enrolled*	# Graduated/ Completed**	Total Campus Enrollment*	Recent Accreditation Activity
Andrews University (Original approval 6/14/18) AY 2019-20	Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry	MAPM	37	3	37	
The Creative Center (Original approval 12/8/05) AY 2019-20	Graphic Design	AOS	12	13	22	Closing at the end of AY 20-21
	Graphic Design	BFA	10	9		
Bryan College of Health Sciences (Original approval 7/17/2001) Calendar year 2020	Nurse Anesthesia	DNAP	59	15	867	Virtual site visit for DNAP for continuing accreditation conducted in Nov 2020. Official notice of results not yet received but comments were positive from COA.
	Education Doctorate in Nursing Education	EdD	34	6		
	Graduate Nursing	MSN	11	14		
	Nursing	BSN	467	93		
	Cardiac/Vascular Sonography Dual Major	BS	38	10		
	Diagnostic Medical Sonography	BS	29	12		
	Health Professions	BS	4	0		
	Health Professions-Healthcare Studies	BS	9	1		
	Health Professions-Biomedical Sciences	BS	25	4		
	Health Professions	AS	1	0		
	Healthcare Management	Certificate	0	1		
	Simulation Education	Certificate	8	4		

Bryan College of Health Sciences	Post-MSN – Nursing Education	Certificate	0	0		
	Post-MSN – Nursing Leadership	Certificate	0	0		
	Students at Large	Non-degree	182			

*on date of report **for most recent year

COA = Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Programs

INFORMATION ITEMS

Reasonable and Moderate Extensions

NECC – Horticulture and Golf Course Management, Diploma

NECC – Agriculture AS, Urban Agriculture concentration

Discontinued Programs

NECC – Drafting AAS, Industrial Facility Design concentration

New SARA Institution in Nebraska

Nebraska Wesleyan University was approved to participate in SARA on December 22, 2020.

This brings Nebraska's total number of participating institutions to 26.