
MINUTES

COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION Virtual Meeting via Zoom Thursday, March 11, 2021

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 MARCH 11, 2021. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 8:30 A.M. AND ADJOURN AT APPROXIMATELY 12:30 P.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 8:32 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Deborah Frison called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. and asked for introductions.

Commissioners Present

Colleen Adam	Gene Kelly
Gwenn Aspen	Mary Lauritzen
Dr. John Bernthal	Molly O'Holleran
Tim Daniels	Dr. Paul Von Behren
Dr. Deborah Frison	W. Scott Wilson
Charles Garman	

Commission Staff Present

Dr. Michael Baumgartner	Helen Pope
Dr. Kathleen Fimple	Gary Timm
Jill Heese	Mike Wemhoff
Kadi Lukesh	Joe Velaquez (Zoom moderator)
J. Ritchie Morrow	

Minutes of January 21, 2021, approved

MINUTES OF JANUARY 21, 2021, COMMISSION MEETING

Commissioner Bernthal made a motion to approve the January 21, 2021, minutes as written. Commissioner Adam seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. All eleven Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

Chair's Report

Chair Frison appointed nominating committee

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Frison appointed Commissioners Garman, Von Behren, Aspen and Bernthal to the nominating committee, with Commissioner Bernthal chairing the committee. The nominating committee is responsible for submitting a slate of nominations at the May 20 Commission meeting for chair, vice chair, and two additional members making up the Executive Committee. Commission officers will serve July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

Executive Director's Report

Out-of-service area authorizations approved by the Executive Director

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The following out-of-area authorizations were approved by the Executive Director:

1. Offered by Metropolitan Community College
Hybrid format utilizing CANVAS online learning management system and classroom site from Metropolitan Community College to Lincoln Fire Department
 - FIST 2900 Fire Officer One (3 cr.)
TBD - prior to August 1, 2021
2. Offered by Metropolitan Community College
Hybrid format utilizing CANVAS online learning management system and classroom site from Metropolitan Community College to Lincoln Fire Department
 - FIST 2900 Fire Instructor One (3 cr.)
TBD - prior to August 1, 2021
3. Offered by Metropolitan Community College
Hybrid format utilizing CANVAS online learning management system and classroom site from Metropolitan Community College to Lincoln Fire Department
 - FIST 2900 Incident Safety Officer (3 cr.)
TBD - prior to August 1, 2021

Dr. Baumgartner discussed meeting to consider participation in Credential Engine

Dr. Baumgartner reported that recently he, along with Dr. Kathleen Fimple, Academic Programs Officer; Chair Frison, and representatives from the State Colleges and the University, met with the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) to consider Nebraska's participation in Credential Engine, a web-based directory of academic and occupational credentials developed to make credentials more transparent and available to those making decisions. MHEC has received grant funding to encourage all MHEC states to participate. Dr. Fimple, Dr. Jodi Kupper, Vice Chancellor at the Nebraska State College System, and Dr.

Baumgartner previously spoke to the Kansas Board of Regents about their use of Credential Engine. The return on investment to our institutions is still to be determined, along with their participation.

Dr. Baumgartner spoke on recent and upcoming meetings

Dr. Baumgartner gave an update on recent and upcoming meetings. On March 17, Chair Frison and Dr. Baumgartner will participate in MHEC's virtual state visit. Ritchie Morrow, Financial Aid Officer, along with Dr. Baumgartner will meet with Nebraska Appleseed about getting SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits information to college students. Mr. Morrow will be attending the upcoming Nebraska Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators virtual annual meeting and working with Education Quest on a presentation to high school counselors. Dr. Fimple will be attending the NC SARA State Portal meeting. On March 31, Dr. Baumgartner will attend the Fostering Achievement in Nebraska project (Nebraska Children and Families Foundation) statewide meeting. On April 8, Dr. Baumgartner plans to attend the National Council of State Directors of Community Colleges Virtual Spring meeting.

Dr. Baumgartner reported on ARPA

Dr. Baumgartner reported that on the Federal level, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) has passed the Senate and the House. Nebraska's estimated higher education share is \$211.8 million, and estimates, subject to release of actual figures by the U.S. Department of Education, are that the University of Nebraska will get \$86.1 million, the State Colleges \$14.2 million, the community colleges \$61.4 million and the independent colleges \$50.3 million. The ARPA funds will be divided 50 percent for student financial aid and 50 percent for institutional uses. Dr. Baumgartner stated he was asked to make a presentation at a briefing held on March 10 by the Education Committee on the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund.

Dr. Baumgartner gave a legislative update on bills of interest

Dr. Baumgartner presented a legislative update, commenting that committee hearings have ended but committees are still conducting executive sessions to determine which bills they will forward to general file. Dr. Baumgartner has testified on several bills at the Education Committee, one at the Revenue Committee, and on our agency budget before the Appropriations Committee. The Appropriations Committee's initial report was favorable for CCPE and included the same funding for agency operations as the Governor's budget, but full funding for the ACE and NOG requests.

Dr. Baumgartner reported on bills of interest, including LB 529, which would distribute lottery funds for the next five years. It is a priority bill, which will expedite its consideration by the legislature after it is voted out of committee. Another bill of interest is LB 528, a priority bill that would fix old statutory language affected by other state or federal law changes and include the extension of the GAP program to the Tribal Colleges. It also would provide a fix for determining ACE eligibility in certain circumstances. LB 243 would create the ACE Tech Promise Program. Dr. Baumgartner stated he worked with Sen. Bolz during the last session, and Sen. Bostar, her successor, has picked it up. The bill is on general file now, having been voted out of committee.

Lane Carr, Nebraska Department of Education

PRESENTATION

Dr. Baumgartner introduced Lane Carr, Director of Accountability for the Nebraska Department of Education. Mr. Carr gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Revision of Nebraska's Every Student Succeeds Act Plan (ESSA). In December of 2015, President Obama signed into law the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). The title of the reauthorized legislation, which replaces the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), is the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The passage of ESSA provides a much-anticipated opportunity to improve outcomes for all students. Mr. Carr gave an overview of the ESSA plan revisions. The plan has six sections; long-term goals; consultation and performance management; academic assessments; accountability, support, and improvement for schools; supporting effective educators; and supporting all students.

Mr. Carr noted that the Nebraska Department of Education has made a significant commitment to the plan and is committed to collaborating with stakeholders, including educators, policymakers, and community members, to ensure coherent and thoughtful state-level implementation of ESSA. Mr. Carr answered questions from Commissioners.

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. Jodi Kupper, Nebraska State College System

PUBLIC HEARING ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE ITEMS

Dr. Jodi Kupper, Vice Chancellor, Academic Planning and Partnerships, Nebraska State College System, came forward to thank the Commission for their consideration on the Athletic Training proposal from Chadron State College. She stated that Dr. James Powell, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Chadron State College, and Dr. Scott Ritzen, Chair of Family and Consumer Science; Health Physical Education, and Recreation; Military Science and Leadership, from CSC are present to discuss the program proposal and answer any questions.

Dr. David Jackson, University of Nebraska

Dr. David Jackson, Vice Provost at the University of Nebraska, stated that representatives from the University were available to discuss and answer questions pertaining to the two proposals on the agenda. In addition, Dr. Jackson noted there are several program proposals being prepared for upcoming meetings. Also, Dr. Susan Fritz plans to attend the May Commission meeting to comment on undergraduate certificates.

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

Academic Programs Committee

Commissioner Adam spoke

Chadron State College

Commissioner Adam and Dr. Fimple presented the proposal

Dr. James Powell, Chadron State College

Dr. Scott Ritzen, Chadron State College

Dr. Jodi Kupper, Nebraska State College System

APC recommendation

Chadron State College Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Athletic Training, MS approved

University of Nebraska Medical Center

Commissioner Adam and Dr. Fimple presented the proposal

Dr. Kyle Meyer, University of Nebraska Medical Center

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Commissioner Adam, Committee Chair, acknowledged committee members who recently met to discuss action items on the agenda.

Chadron State College - Proposal for a New Instructional Program - Athletic Training, MS

Commissioner Adam and Dr. Fimple presented the proposal. Commissioner Adam stated that CSC has an existing bachelor's degree in Sport and Recreation Management with a Pre-Athletic Training option. She pointed out that our state statutes restrict the graduate degree offerings at the state colleges, but they may offer a master's degree program if they demonstrate a compelling need. Dr. Fimple added that three letters of support for the proposed program were received since the agenda was sent out, and that the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is planning to expand their program to a master's level as well. The Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) has determined that entry-level degrees in the profession should be a master's degree. Students completing a program accredited by CAATE are eligible to sit for the Board of Certification.

There was discussion on support and opposition of the proposed program focusing on need. Dr. James Powell answered questions regarding local support for the program, clinical sites available for students, and having board certified professionals on-site at athletic events. Dr. Scott Ritzen and Dr. Kupper spoke on the need for the program in the panhandle area of the state and several neighboring states.

Commissioner Adam stated the AP Committee recommendation is to approve the Master of Science in Athletic Training at Chadron State College, and that ongoing approval is contingent on CAATE accreditation.

Commissioner Adam, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the Master of Science in Athletic Training at Chadron State College and noted that ongoing approval is contingent on Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) accreditation. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioner Kelly voted no. The remaining ten Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

University of Nebraska Medical Center - Proposal for a New Instructional Program - Master of Healthcare Delivery Science

Commissioner Adam and Dr. Fimple presented the proposal. Commissioner Adam reported this program would be an online, non-thesis master's program and would appeal to people in the workforce to up their leadership competencies in healthcare practice. Dr. Fimple added that UNMC solicited a market analysis and it indicated that Omaha is among the top ten cities in the region seeking master's level delivery graduates. Facilities and faculty are in place and there is no other master of healthcare delivery program in Nebraska. Dr. Kyle Meyer, Dean, College

*Ms. Tanya Custer, University of
Nebraska Medical Center*

of Allied Health Professions at UNMC, spoke on the purpose of the degree and delivery model. He also mentioned that built into this program is the potential for certificates. Ms. Tanya Custer, Director of Distance Education, College of Allied Health Professions at UNMC, answered Commissioners' questions on marketing the program. Dr. Tammy Webster, Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs, College of Allied Health Professions, was also available via Zoom.

APC recommendation

Commissioner Adam stated the AP Committee recommendation is to approve the Master of Healthcare Delivery Science at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

*University of Nebraska Medical Center
Proposal for a New Instructional
Program – Master of Healthcare
Delivery Science approved*

Commissioner Adam, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska Medical Center's Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Master of Healthcare Delivery Science. A roll call vote was taken. All eleven Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Proposal for a New Organizational Unit - Center for Agricultural Productivity

*Dr. Fimple and Commissioner Adam
presented the proposal*

Commissioner Adam and Dr. Fimple presented the proposal. Commissioner Adam stated several entities are currently in place. Dr. Fimple noted the mission of this center is to increase the management capacity of those in the agricultural industry with UNL identifying a five-year plan for the center. Letters of support were received from UNL faculty members, extension educators, and agricultural partners. Dr. Larry Van Tassel, Department Head, Department of Agricultural Economics, and Dr. Ron Yoder, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, were present. Dr. Van Tassel spoke to clarify a rotating directorship and responded to Commissioners' concerns and questions. Dr. Jackson mentioned centers such as this proposal are meant to be self-supporting through grants provided.

*Dr. Larry Van Tassel, University of
Nebraska-Lincoln*

*Dr. David Jackson, University of
Nebraska*

APC recommendation

Commissioner Adam stated the AP Committee recommendation is to approve the Center for Agricultural Profitability at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, adding that approval of the center would not constitute approval of any new programs or construction projects requiring Commission review now nor in the future.

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Proposal for a New Organizational
Unit – Center for Agricultural
Productivity approved*

Commissioner Adam, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Proposal for a New Organizational Unit – Center for Agricultural Productivity. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioner Von Behren voted no. The remaining ten Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

Report on Institutional Activities Related to Existing Programs

Reasonable and Moderate Extensions

Reasonable and Moderate Extensions

- UNL - Marketing Analytics, Graduate Certificate
- UNL – Personal Leadership, Graduate Certificate
- UNL – Strategic Marketing, Graduate Certificate
- UNO – Data Management, Graduate Certificate
- UNO – Spanish, Graduate Certificate *

Discontinued Program

Discontinued Program

- WNCC – Technical Studies AOS

Program Placed on Inactive Status

Program Placed on Inactive Status

- WNCC – Applied Agriculture Technology

Name Changes

Name Changes

- UNL - Supply Chain Management Systems, Graduate Certificate to *Supply Chain Management, Graduate Certificate*
- UNO – Exercise Science, PhD to *Biomechanics and Kinesiology, PhD*

* Meets HLC requirements for teaching dual credit courses

Chair Frison called for a break at 10:42 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:50 a.m.

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

PLANNING AND CONSUMER INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Commissioner Garman comments

Commissioner Garman, Committee Chair, acknowledged committee members on the recent committee call and introduced Jill Heese, Research Coordinator, to present the Progress Report.

2021 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report

2021 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report

Jill Hesse presented the report

Ms. Heese presented PowerPoint slides of the Progress Report. She stated there are three key priorities the Commission is required to evaluate in the report: increase the number of students who enter postsecondary education in Nebraska; increase the percentage of students who persist and successfully complete a degree; and reduce, eliminate, and reverse the net out-migration of Nebraskans with high levels of educational attainment. Ms. Heese stated what is new in the 2021 report: a Key Recommendations summary was added, the degrees data was moved from Section 1 to Section 2.2, the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) released projections of high

2021 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report continued

school graduates data, the National Student Clearinghouse released their college completion study for the Fall 2014 cohort early, and data on national educational attainment was added to Section 3.

Dr. Baumgartner spoke on recommendations

Ms. Heese concluded by stating that given the findings of the report, more work needs to be done in order for Nebraskans to enroll in college and complete degrees. Dr. Baumgartner discussed the recommendations for improvement at the high school, postsecondary, and state government levels listed in the report.

Ms. Heese and Dr. Baumgartner answered Commissioners' questions and it was noted that the full report is provided to the Governor, Legislature, the state's higher education institutions, the media, and is available on the Commission website at ccpe.nebraska.gov/reports.

Planning Committee recommendation

Commissioner Garman stated the Committee recommendation is to approve the *2021 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report*.

2021 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report approved

Commissioner Garman, on behalf of the Planning and Consumer Information Committee, moved to approve the *2021 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report*. A roll call vote was taken. All eleven Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

Executive Committee

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair Frison called on Dr. Baumgartner to present the Biennial Staff Salary Ranges report.

2021-2023 Biennium Staff Salary Ranges

2021-2023 Biennium Staff Salary Ranges

Dr. Baumgartner discussed the staff salary ranges document that the Commissioners received, noting that every two years the Commission sets staff salary ranges. The ranges that are in place are increased by the state budget recommendations. If LB 529 passes, the Commission will acquire two new programs that could entail adding positions; the salary range document includes those positions.

Dr. Baumgartner discussed the staff salary ranges

Chair Frison, on behalf of the Executive Committee moved to approve the *2021-2023 Biennium Staff Salary Ranges*. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. All eleven Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

2021-2023 Biennium Staff Salary Ranges approved

Chair Frison spoke on the upcoming executive director biennial evaluation

Chair Frison reminded Commissioners that every two years the Commissioners do an evaluation of the executive director position. The evaluation is to provide feedback and show appreciation for the executive director's performance over the past two years. She noted that next week she will email the Commissioners the evaluation form along with directions and Dr. Baumgartner's summary of activities. She asked that the forms be returned to her in a timely manner.

*Next Commission meeting will be held
on May 20, 2021*

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Commission meeting will be Thursday, May 20, 2021, at Peru State College, Peru, Nebraska.

Commissioner Aspen comments

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Aspen reminded everyone to be aware of and watch for scam emails, as their frequency has increased.

*The meeting was adjourned at 12:39
p.m.*

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Frison adjourned the meeting at 12:39 p.m.