
MINUTES

**JOINT MEETING OF THE NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND THE
COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
The Apothecary Building, 5th Floor, South Loft
140 North 8th Street
Lincoln, Nebraska
Thursday, December 2, 2021, 8:00 a.m.**

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.

Meeting called to order at 8:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND CCPE ROLL CALL

CCPE Chair Gwenn Aspen called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and asked for roll call.

CCPE roll call

CCPE Commissioners Present

Colleen Adam	Gene Kelly
Gwenn Aspen	Mary Lauritzen
Tim Daniels	W. Scott Wilson
Dr. Deborah Frison	

CCPE Commissioners Absent

Charles Garman	Dr. Paul Von Behren
Molly O'Holleran	

CCPE Commission Staff Present

Dr. Michael Baumgartner	J. Ritchie Morrow
Jeremy Chancellor	Helen Pope
Dr. Kathleen Fimple	Gary Timm
Jill Heese	Mike Wemhoff
Kadi Lukesh	Joe Velasquez

NDE roll call

NDE ROLL CALL

President Maureen Nickels called the roll.

NDE Members Present

Maureen Nickels	Lisa Fricke
Patsy Koch Johns	Deborah Neary
Jacquelyn Morrison	Robin Stevens
Patti Gubbels	

NDE Staff Present

Commission Matt Blomstedt
Dr. Deborah Frison
Brian Halstead
Ryan Foor
Drew Worster
Shirley Vargas

Andrea Boring
Lora Sypal
Kristin Yates
Zainab Rida
Cory Epler

WELCOME

Welcome - Chair Aspen

CCPE Chair Aspen welcomed everyone, noting the benefits of being together in person after several years and how much can be achieved through a collaborative effort.

Welcome - President Nickels

NDE President Nickels gave a brief talk on creating an environment to come together in a difficult society and how CCPE and NDE work together to achieve similar goals. She touched on work the NDE members have recently been focusing on.

Message - Executive Director Baumgartner

MESSAGE

Dr. Mike Baumgartner, CCPE Executive Director, spoke on what the Commission does and how the work overlaps with the work the Nebraska Department of Education is involved in. Three areas of commonality are dual credit work, college affordability, and state attainment goals.

Message - Commissioner Blomstedt

Nebraska Commissioner of Education Matt Blomstedt discussed how the pandemic has affected school children. He spoke on CCPE/NDE shared goals, expectations and successes. He talked about William Harvey, who started an educational system in Nebraska, creating a state board of education and becoming the first territorial commissioner of education.

Comments and discussion

COMMENTS AND CONVERSATION

Several meeting attendees made comments regarding equitable opportunities for students, FAFSA completion, vision screening for student's program, career academy successes, dual enrollment, and planting the seed of continuing education early in grade schools.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

ADJORNMENT

Chair Aspen adjourned the meeting at 9:37 a.m.

MINUTES

COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION The Apothecary/Ridnour Building 5th Floor, North Loft, 140 North 8th Street Lincoln, Nebraska Thursday, December 2, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

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 2, 2021. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 10:00 A.M. AND ADJOURN AT APPROXIMATELY 1:30 P.M.

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

GWENN ASPEN, CHAIR

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Aspen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked for introductions.

Commissioners Present

Colleen Adam
Gwenn Aspen
Tim Daniels
Dr. Deborah Frison

Gene Kelly
Mary Lauritzen
W. Scott Wilson

Commissioners Absent

Charles Garman
Molly O'Holleran

Dr. Paul Von Behren

Commission Staff Present

Dr. Michael Baumgartner
Jeremy Chancellor
Dr. Kathleen Fimple
Jill Heese
Kadi Lukesh

J. Ritchie Morrow
Helen Pope
Gary Timm
Mike Wemhoff

Nebraska Math Readiness Project
presented by Dr. Neal Grandgenett,
UNO, Mike Flesch, MCC, and Cory Hatt,
CCC

Minutes of September 22, 2021, Work
Session approved

Minutes of September 23, 2021,
Commission Meeting approved

Chair's Report

Executive Director's Report

First Quarter Budget Report given by
Kadi Lukesh, Budget Coordinator

PRESENTATION

Dr. Baumgartner introduced Dr. Neal Grandgenett, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Corey Hatt, Central Community College, and Mike Flesch, Metropolitan Community College, who gave a presentation on the Nebraska Math Readiness Project. The project is in its third year and is a collaboration between the six community colleges, many Nebraska high schools, and the University system. PowerPoint slides showed three-year results highlighting the successes and challenges of the project. Dr. Grandgenett indicated that math education and readiness for college is a massive challenge nationwide. Across Nebraska, the Math Readiness Project is a strategic effort to provide a pathway for students who struggle with math and prepare them for college.

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2021, WORK SESSION

Commissioner Frison made a motion to approve the September 22, 2021, minutes of the Work Session as written. Commissioner Daniels seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioner Wilson abstained. The remaining six Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2021, COMMISSION MEETING

Commissioner Daniels made a motion to approve the September 23, 2021, minutes of the Commission meeting as written. Commissioner Lauritzen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Aspen stated the joint breakfast meeting with the Nebraska Department of Education members and staff this morning was lovely and thanked Kadi Lukesh, CCPE Office Manager, Andrea Boring, NDE Assistant to the Commissioner, and Helen Pope, CCPE Executive Assistant, for making arrangements for the meeting, room and food.

After the Commission meeting, there will be a luncheon recognizing Commissioner Colleen Adam, who has resigned as a member of the Commission effective December 31. Chair Aspen stated that Commissioner Adam has contributed a wealth of knowledge for many years and will be greatly missed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Baumgartner called on Kadi Lukesh to present the First Quarter Budget Report. Ms. Lukesh noted this quarter ended September 30 and explained why the report looks as though we overspent. At the beginning of July, the Midwest Higher Education Compact dues were paid along with one-time annual payments for accounting and auditing services and purchasing. Ms. Lukesh gave brief overviews of the Nebraska Opportunity

Grant Program (NOG), the Community College Gap Assistance Program, and the Access College Early Scholarship (ACE).

Dr. Baumgartner thanked Mike Wemhoff who is retiring

Dr. Baumgartner thanked Mike Wemhoff, Facilities Officer, for 30 years of service to the Commission, documenting over 300 capital construction projects. He welcomed new Facilities Officer Jeremy Chancellor and asked him to introduce himself. Mr. Chancellor comes from the National Guard and is originally from McCook, Nebraska.

Dr. Baumgartner reported on meetings he attended

Dr. Baumgartner recently attended the Midwestern Higher Education Compact meeting in Grand Rapids, MI, while Commissioner Frison participated via Zoom. The meeting included updates on MHEC's purchasing and insurance programs, strategic planning, and how Wisconsin, Iowa, and Kansas are working with Credential Engine as part of the Midwest Credential Transparency Alliance.

In November Dr. Baumgartner attended the Higher Learning Commission State Agencies Annual Meeting in Chicago. The main topic was accreditation processes. The HLC has changed its bylaws so it can accredit institutions anywhere in the U.S.

Dr. Baumgartner noted he will be meeting virtually with the presidents of Nebraska's independent colleges and universities next week to present the case for a state educational attainment goal and ask for their support.

Dr. Baumgartner spoke on recent staff meetings and activities

Recent staff happenings included Dr. Kathleen Fimple, Academic Programs Officer, traveling to Washington DC for SHEEO's Higher Education Policy Conference. J. Ritchie Morrow, Financial Aid Officer, participated in the Metropolitan Omaha Education Consortium's committee on dual credit, and Ritchie also has been attending the Federal Student Aid virtual training this week.

Dr. Baumgartner reminded Commissioners that there is a virtual Lottery briefing on December 7, and a link is available if they would like to attend.

Public Hearing on Matters of General Concern

PUBLIC HEARING ON MATTERS OF GENERAL CONCERN

There was no testimony on Matters of General Concern.

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

Public Hearing on Academic Programs Committee Items

PUBLIC HEARING ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE ITEMS

There was no testimony on Academic Programs Committee Items.

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

*Academic Programs Committee
Committee Chair Gene Kelly*

*University of Nebraska Medical Center
- Proposal for a New Instructional
Program - Medical Physiology, MS*

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal

Dr. Matt Zimmerman, UNMC

APC recommendation

*University of Nebraska Medical Center
- Proposal for a New Instructional
Program - Medical Physiology, MS,
approved*

*University of Nebraska Medical Center
- Proposal for a New Instructional
Program - Perioperative Nursing,
Undergraduate Certificate*

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal

Dr. Lynette Leeseberg Stamler, UNMC

APC recommendation

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Commissioner Kelly, Committee Chair, opened the Academic Programs Committee portion and introduced the first agenda item.

University of Nebraska Medical Center - Proposal for a New Instructional Program - Medical Physiology, MS

Dr. Fimple asked Dr. Matt Zimmerman, Associate Professor, Department of Cellular and Integrative Physiology and Director, Integrative Physiology and Molecular Medicine Doctoral Program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, to come forward to discuss the proposal. The proposed program is on-line and designed for a student population that is seeking physiology teaching positions in the community colleges or at a four-year institution as an adjunct teacher as well as those intending to apply to a health profession school. Dr. Fimple noted several letters of support were received in favor of this program. Dr. Zimmerman answered Commissioner's questions.

Commissioner Kelly stated the AP Committee recommendation is to approve the Master of Science degree in Medical Physiology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Commissioner Kelly, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska Medical Center's proposal for New Instructional Program - Medical Physiology, MS. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.

University of Nebraska Medical Center - Proposal for a New Instructional Program - Perioperative Nursing, Undergraduate Certificate

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal, stating this program would be a hybrid, delivered on-line, and have in-person labs and clinicals in the student's own hometown. Perioperative nursing includes everything from pre-operative care, operating room time, post-operative and recovery time. Dr. Fimple noted this program would reduce the cost of on-the-job training at hospitals and the need and demand is high. UNMC would like to offer this program in January 2022, and then the 15-week program would be offered in the summer only. There are no programs like this offered in Nebraska. Dr. Lynette Leeseberg Stamler, Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Programs, College of Nursing at UNMC, stated that UNMC has qualified staff willing to teach the program and a recent survey had a large response reflecting demand for this program. Dr. Leeseberg Stamler answered questions from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Kelly stated the Committee recommendation is to approve the Undergraduate Certificate in Perioperative Nursing at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Commissioner Kelly, on behalf of the Academic Programs

*University of Nebraska Medical Center
- Proposal for a New Instructional
Program - Perioperative Nursing,
Undergraduate Certificate*

*Commissioner Adam stepped in for
Chair Aspen while Chair Aspen
participated from another room*

*In-Depth Review of a Program
Previously Reviewed - University of
Nebraska at Omaha - Black Studies,
BA, BS, BMS*

*Dr. Fimple presented the in-depth
review*

Dr. David Boocker, UNO

*Dr. David Jackson, University of
Nebraska*

APC recommendation

*In-Depth Review of a Program
Previously Reviewed - University of
Nebraska at Omaha - Black Studies,
BA, BS, BMS, approved*

*In-Depth Review of a Program
Previously Reviewed - University of
Nebraska at Kearney - Interior Design,
BS*

*Dr. Fimple presented the in-depth
review*

*Dr. David Jackson, University of
Nebraska*

APC recommendation

*In-Depth Review of a Program
Previously Reviewed - University of
Nebraska at Kearney - Interior Design,
BS. Approved*

*In-Depth Review of a Program
Previously Reviewed - Mid-Plains
Community College - Building
Construction Technology, AAS,
Diploma, Certificate*

Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska Medical Center’s proposal for New Instructional Program - Perioperative Nursing, Undergraduate Certificate. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.

In-Depth Review of a Program Previously Reviewed - University of Nebraska at Omaha - Black Studies, BA, BS, BMS

Dr. Fimple presented the in-depth review report, noting that UNO has listed a plan of action. Dr. David Boocker, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences and Professor of English at UNO, discussed the growth of the program and where graduates of the program could be employed. Dr. David Jackson, University of Nebraska Vice Provost, spoke about the in-depth review process.

Commissioner Kelly stated the Committee recommendation is to continue the Black Studies program at UNO with a report on the Board of Regents’ monitoring due December 13, 2024.

Commissioner Kelly, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska at Omaha’s In-Depth Review of a Program Previously Reviewed - Black Studies, BA, BS, BMS, with a report on the Board of Regents’ monitoring due December 13, 2024. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioner Kelly voted no. The remaining six Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

In-Depth Review of a Program Previously Reviewed - University of Nebraska at Kearney - Interior Design, BS

Dr. Fimple presented the in-depth review report, stating that UNK implemented strategies for retention and recruiting. At this point the number of graduates has exceeded the standards and the program is continuing to be successful. Dr. Jackson mentioned he is pleased to see the program turn around and with the results of the recent review.

Commissioner Kelly stated the Committee recommendation is to continue the BS in Interior Design at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Commissioner Kelly, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska at Kearney’s In-Depth Review of a Program Previously Reviewed - Interior Design, BS. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.

In-Depth Review of a Program Previously Reviewed - Mid-Plains Community College - Building Construction Technology, AAS, Diploma, Certificate

Dr. Fimple presented the in-depth review, noting that Mid-Plains successfully implemented several strategies to increase enrollment.

Dr. Fimple presented the in-depth review

APC recommendation

*In-Depth Review of a Program
Previously Reviewed - Mid-Plains
Community College - Building
Construction Technology, AAS,
Diploma, Certificate approved*

2019-2020 Existing Program Review

Commissioner Kelly stated the Committee recommendation is to continue the Building Construction Technology program at Mid-Plains Community College.

Commissioner Kelly, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to continue Mid-Plains Community College's - Building Construction Technology, AAS, Diploma, Certificate program. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.

2019-2020 Existing Program Review

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

Information Items:

Central Community College

- Agricultural Sciences (AAS, Diploma, Certificate)

Metropolitan Community College

- Manufacturing, Power & Process Operations Technology (AAS, Certificate)
- Workforce Innovation Prototype Design (AAS, Certificate)
- Horticulture & Land Systems Management (AAS, Certificate)

Northeast Community College

- Wind Energy (AAS, Diploma)
- Agriculture:
 - Agribusiness (AAS)
 - Agronomy (AAS)
 - Animal Science (AAS)
 - Dairy Certification (Diploma)
 - Diversified Agriculture (AAS)
 - Precision Agriculture (AAS)
 - Mechanized Agriculture (AAS)
 - Agriculture Transfer (AA, AAS)
- Horticulture Golf Course Management (AAS)
- Veterinary Technology (AAS)

Southeast Community College

- Energy Generation Operations (AAS)
- Agriculture Management & Production, Livestock & Precision Agriculture (AAS, Certificate)
- Horticulture & Turfgrass Management (AAS)

Chadron State College

- Rangeland Management, (BS)

Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture

- Agribusiness Management Systems (AAS, AS, Certificate)
- Agricultural Production Systems (AAS, AS)
 - Beef Production (Certificate)
 - Crop Production (Certificate)
 - Diversified Agriculture (Certificate)
 - Agricultural Chemical Application (Certificate)
 - Agricultural Welding (Certificate)
 - Irrigation Technology (Certificate)
 - Agriculture (Certificate)
 - Equine Training Management (Certificate)
- Veterinary Technology Systems (AAS)

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- Animal Science (BSAS, MS, PhD)
- Agricultural & Environmental Sciences Communication (BS)
- Veterinary Technology (BSVT)
- Veterinary Science (BSVS)
- Integrative Biomedical Sciences (PhD)

2019-2020 Existing Program Review - Program Requiring Additional Review - University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Veterinary Science, MS

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal, noting the University has a process in place to collect information from the department and develop a strategy with them. Then the Board of Regents decides either to continue or discontinue programs such as these that need additional review.

2019-2020 Existing Program Review -
Program Requiring Additional Review -
University of Nebraska-Lincoln -
Veterinary Science, MS

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal

Dr. David Jackson, University of
Nebraska

Commissioner Kelly amendment
approved

Dr. Jackson stated the Board of Regents will meet in June of 2022.

Commissioner Kelly made a motion to amend the Committee's recommendation for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's MS in Veterinary Science due to not meeting the minimum performance standard with an in-depth review due July 15, 2022. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion to amend. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

Commissioner Adam called for a break at 12:05 p.m. The meeting resumed at 12:14 p.m.

Commissioner Kelly withdrew the amended motion.

Commissioner Kelly withdrew previous
amended motion

Vote on 2019-2020 Existing Program
Review - Program Requiring Additional
Review - University of Nebraska-
Lincoln - Veterinary Science, MS, with
requested Board of Regents in-depth
report approved

Commissioner Kelly moved that the Commission declare the Master of Science in Veterinary Science at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln does not meet the Commission's minimum performance standard. Therefore, the Commission requests receipt of the required in-depth report conducted by the Board of Regents with the report due to the Commission July 15, 2022. Commissioner Lauritzen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. All seven

Annual Reports from Institutions Holding a Recurrent Authorization to Operate

Dr. Fimple reviewed the three institutions approved to operate

Reasonable and Moderate Extensions

Discontinued Program

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

Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee

Committee Chair Daniels spoke

Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship AY 2020-2021 Year-end Report

J. Ritchie Morrow, Financial Aid Officer, presented the report.

Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.

Annual Reports from Institutions Holding a Recurrent Authorization to Operate

Dr. Fimple reviewed the following institutions approved by the Commission to operate in Nebraska until a renewal of the authorization is required:

- CHI Health School of Radiologic Technology
- Crown College
- Andrews University

Report on Institutional Activities Related to Existing Programs

Reasonable and Moderate Extensions

- CSC - Healthcare Management, Graduate Certificate
- CSC - Digital Marketing, Graduate Certificate
- UNK - Spanish for the Helping Professions, Undergraduate Certificate

Discontinued Program

- MCC - Dental Assisting, Certificate of Achievement

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

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

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

BUDGET, CONSTRUCTION, AND FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE

Commissioner Daniels, Committee Chair, opened the Committee report, noting the Budget Committee met recently to review the following three reports.

Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship AY 2020-2021 Year-end Report

Mr. Morrow presented the 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 2020-2021, the ACE program was funded with \$1.1 million dollars appropriated by the Legislature. There were 2,433 students from 231 high schools that received 4,518 scholarships. The average award per scholarship was \$218.97. Mr. Morrow reviewed graphs on scholarships awarded, credit hours taken, eligibility, and gender and race/ethnicity 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.

Commissioner Daniels stated the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee recommends approval of the 2020-2021 Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship Year-end Report.

BCF Committee recommendation

Commissioner Daniels, on behalf of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee, moved to approve the Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship AY 2020-2021 Year-End Report. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.

Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship AY 2020-2021 Year-end Report, approved

Nebraska Opportunity Grant (NOG) AY 2020-2021 Year-end Report

Mr. Morrow presented the report, commenting that every year the CCPE is appropriated general 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 34th in the country for need-based undergraduate grant dollars per undergraduate enrollment. For the 2020-2021 award year, \$21,087,141 was awarded to 13,109 students with the average award being \$1,608.60. 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 2010-2011 through 2020-2021.

Nebraska Opportunity Grant (NOG) AY 2020-2021 Year-end Report

Mr. Morrow presented the report

Community College Gap Assistance Program 2020-2021 Annual 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 the programs of study at each of the community colleges.

Community College Gap Assistance Program 2020-2021 Annual Report

Gary Timm, Chief Finance and Administrative Officer, presented the report

Public Hearing on Planning and Consumer Information Committee Items

Planning and Consumer Information Committee

Commissioner Lauritzen chaired the committee

2021 Measuring Accomplishments, companion piece to Chapter One of the Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education

Jill Heese, Research Director, presented the report

Chair Aspen comments

Commissioner Adam comments

Commissioner Lauritzen comments

Next Commission meeting is January 20, 2022

Meeting adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING ON PLANNING AND CONSUMER INFORMATION COMMITTEE ITEMS

There was no testimony on Planning and Consumer Information Items.

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

PLANNING AND CONSUMER INFORMATION COMMITTEE

In Commissioner Garman's absence, Commissioner Lauritzen chaired the Planning Committee. She introduced Jill Heese, Research Director, to present her report.

2021 Measuring Accomplishments, companion piece to Chapter One of the Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education

Ms. Heese gave a PowerPoint presentation on the 2021 Measuring Accomplishments Report, noting that this is the sixth 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. Ms. Heese stated the goal is to be in the ten best states for the national comparisons and the top five institutions for their respective 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.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Chair Aspen read and presented Commissioner Adam with Resolution 21-1, thanking her for more than 17 years of service on the Commission. Commissioner Adam expressed her gratitude, not only to the Commissioners, but to the staff, stating it had been an honor and pleasure to work with everyone on the Commission. Commissioner Lauritzen presented each Commissioner with a Declaration of Independence and Constitution booklet in honor of Commissioner Adam's departure.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Commission meeting will be a virtual meeting via Zoom on Thursday, January 20, 2022, 8:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Aspen adjourned the meeting at 1:27 p.m.

Quarterly Report as of December 31, 2021

Administrative Funds (Program 640)

	2021-2022 Appropriations	2021-2022 Current Expenditures	Balance Remaining	% of Budget Expended Time Elapsed 50.00%
PERSONAL SERVICES				
PSL	\$971,032			
Permanent Salaries	\$875,432	\$444,328	\$431,104	50.8%
Benefits	\$243,531	\$109,419	\$134,112	44.9%
Subtotal	\$1,118,963	\$553,747	\$565,216	49.5%
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Postage	\$2,005	\$956	\$1,049	47.7%
Communication	\$12,656	\$3,293	\$9,363	26.0%
Data Processing	\$64,267	\$21,705	\$42,562	33.8%
Publication & Printing	\$10,953	\$1,802	\$9,151	16.5%
Awards Expense	\$1,000	\$573	\$427	57.3%
Dues & Subscriptions	\$4,332	\$4,392	-\$60	101.4%
MHEC Dues	\$115,000	\$115,000	\$0	100.0%
Conference Registration Fees	\$2,500	\$36	\$2,464.0	1.4%
Electricity	\$2,720	\$1,126	\$1,594	41.4%
Rent Expense	\$53,100	\$25,515	\$27,585	48.1%
Office Supplies	\$1,571	\$347	\$1,224	22.1%
Rep. & Maint. Office Equipment	\$500	\$487	\$13	97.4%
Food Expenses	\$1,500	\$1,395	\$105	93.0%
Education Supplies	\$1,000	\$413	\$587	41.3%
Account & Auditing Services	\$5,705	\$5,705	\$0	100.0%
Purchasing Assessment	\$186	\$172	\$14	92.5%
Insurance Expense	\$200	\$74	\$126	37.0%
Other	\$899	\$281	\$618	31.3%
Subtotal	\$280,094	\$183,272	\$96,822	65.4%
STAFF TRAVEL				
Board & Lodging	\$5,500	\$2,528	\$2,972	46.0%
Commercial Transportation	\$2,000	\$294	\$1,706	14.7%
State-Owned Transportation	\$2,139	\$1,020	\$1,119	47.7%
Mileage	\$1,000	\$661	\$339	66.1%
Other	\$500	\$40	\$460	8.0%
Subtotal	\$11,139	\$4,543	\$6,596	40.8%
COMMISSIONER TRAVEL				
Board & Lodging	\$4,500	\$1,556	\$2,944	34.6%
Commercial Transportation	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Mileage	\$6,500	\$2,155	\$4,345	33.2%
Other	\$500	\$16	\$484	3.2%
Subtotal	\$11,500	\$3,727	\$7,773	32.4%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,421,696	\$745,289	\$676,407	52.4%
General Fund	\$1,386,696	\$730,631	\$656,065	
Cash Fund	\$35,000	\$14,658	\$20,342	
Total	\$1,421,696	\$745,289	\$676,407	52.4%

**Note: The percentage of budget spent without including the MHEC dues is 48.2%.
The MHEC dues are paid in full (\$115,000) during the first month of the fiscal year.**

Quarterly Report as of December 31, 2021

Nebraska Opportunity Grant Program (NOG)

	<i>2021-2022 Appropriations</i>	<i>2021-2022 Current Expenditures</i>	<i>Balance Remaining</i>	<i>% of Budget Expended Time Elapsed 50.00%</i>
GOVERNMENT AID				
Other Government Aid	\$22,948,302	\$11,022,848	\$11,925,454	48.0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$22,948,302	\$11,022,848	\$11,925,454	48.0%
General Fund	\$7,593,430	\$1,113,058	\$6,480,372	
Cash Fund	\$15,354,872	\$9,909,790	\$5,445,082	
Total	\$22,948,302	\$11,022,848	\$11,925,454	48.0%

Community College Gap Assistance Program

	<i>2021-2022 Appropriations</i>	<i>2021-2022 Current Expenditures</i>	<i>Balance Remaining</i>	<i>% of Budget Expended Time Elapsed 50.00%</i>
PERSONAL SERVICES				
PSL	\$28,118			
Permanent Salaries	\$24,997	\$3,371	\$21,626	13.5%
Benefits	\$15,054	\$508	\$14,546	3.4%
Subtotal	\$40,051	\$3,879	\$36,172	9.7%
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%
Other Contractual Services	\$43,218	\$0	\$43,218	0.0%
Subtotal	\$44,518	\$0	\$44,518	0.0%
STAFF TRAVEL				
Personal Vehicle Mileage	\$200	\$0	\$200	0.0%
Subtotal	\$200	\$0	\$200	
GOVERNMENT AID				
Other Government Aid	\$2,067,304	\$562,517	\$1,504,787	27.2%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$2,152,073	\$566,396	\$1,585,677	26.3%
Cash Fund	\$2,152,073	\$566,396	\$1,585,677	
Total	\$2,152,073	\$566,396	\$1,585,677	26.3%

Quarterly Report as of December 31, 2021

Access College Early Scholarship (ACE)

	<i>2021-2022 Appropriations</i>	<i>2021-2022 Current Expenditures</i>	<i>Balance Remaining</i>	<i>% of Budget Expended Time Elapsed 50.00%</i>
GOVERNMENT AID				
Other Government Aid	\$1,254,465	\$328,600	\$925,865	26.2%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,254,465	\$328,600	\$925,865	26.2%
General Fund	\$1,254,465	\$328,600	\$925,865	
Total	\$1,254,465	\$328,600	\$925,865	26.2%



NEW INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM PROPOSAL

Institution: University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Program: Educational Neuroscience

Award: Graduate Certificate

Mode of Delivery: Face-to-face, Lincoln

Institution's Existing Degree(s) in Same or Similar Discipline: Educational Psychology MA, EdS; Special Education and Communication Disorders, EdS

Proposal Received by Commission: December 6, 2021

Proposed Start Date: When approved by the Coordinating Commission

Description

Educational neuroscience is a field that focuses on the neurological processes underlying learning and education in typically and atypically developing populations. It brings together researchers in basic neuroscience, applied neuroscience in education, and child psychology. The proposed program would focus on emotional and cognitive development and on the neural foundations of speech and language development and literacy.

The 12-credit hour curriculum would consist of two required courses (six credit hours) and two (six credit hours) elective courses. The required courses are Psychology 865: Behavioral Neuroscience, and Educational Psychology 922: Mind, Brain, and Education. The elective courses would be selected from a list of five—one in Educational Psychology, two in Speech/Language Pathology, and two in Neuroscience (offered by UNMC). The elective courses would allow students to tailor the certificate to either cognitive or language development. No new courses would be needed, and all courses would apply to a master's degree in Special Education and Communication Disorders or Educational Psychology.

Consistent with Institutional Role and Mission? YES NO

Consistent with Statewide Comprehensive Plan? YES NO

REVIEW CRITERIA

A. Need for the Program

High	-----	Low
	√	

The proposal states that educational neuroscience is a rapidly emerging field and is one of the fastest growing research areas in the U.S. and

internationally. School districts increasingly consume educational neuroscience research and apply it to classroom and extracurricular settings.

Letters of support were provided by the Department of Special Education and Communication Disorders, the Department of Psychology, and the College of Arts and Sciences.

Additional information on the use of educational neuroscience research by K-12 school districts would enhance the proposal.

B. Demand for the Program

High-----Low
√

UNL reports that Special Education and Communication Disorders faculty and Educational Psychology faculty consistently receive inquiries from prospective graduate students about the availability of an educational neuroscience program. In addition, the Department of Psychology recently developed a neuroscience option for undergraduate psychology majors in response to high levels of student interest in the field. In a letter of support, the Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences states that the proposed program has the potential to appeal to students in several of the college’s programs, especially psychology and biological sciences.

UNL estimates that in the first year of the program the enrollment would be approximately four students. Those students would complete the program in the second year with four new students matriculating. That would result in a steady enrollment of eight students every year.

Although specific numbers evidencing student interest weren’t provided, the projected enrollments appear reasonable.

C. Avoidance of Unnecessary Duplication

High-----Low
√

There are no graduate certificate programs in educational neuroscience in Nebraska. UNL reports that as of March 2019 there appeared to be less than 10 in the United States. Commission staff also identified a small number of programs, including the University of Pennsylvania, Butler University, Drexel University, and Bridgewater State University. Some are online and some have a focus significantly different from that of the proposed program. For example, Butler University’s program emphasizes adversity/trauma and the brain.

D. Resources: Faculty/Staff

High-----Low
√

The Department of Special Education and Communication Disorders would serve as the administrative home for the program. UNL states that since all courses are in place and taught by tenure-track faculty, no new faculty would be required. One letter of support notes that the Neuroscience and Behavior Ph.D. program is the second largest in the Department of Psychology and has 11 core faculty. The same letter states that there are five resident faculty at UNL’s Center for Brain, Biology, and Behavior (an interdisciplinary center that brings together faculty in the social, biological, and behavioral sciences and engineering).

Several new courses have been proposed that may be added in the future, but no new resources are needed to initiate the program.

E. Resources: Physical Facilities/Equipment; Library/Information Access

Acceptable			
yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	no

UNL reports that no new resources would be needed. Since all courses are currently offered, the available resources should be sufficient.

F. Budget

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

PROJECTED COSTS		ANTICIPATED REVENUES	
Faculty and Staff		Reallocated Funds	
General Operating		New State Funds	
Equipment		New Local Funds	
Faculty Start-up		Tuition and Fees *	\$73,656
Five-Year TOTAL		Five-Year TOTAL	\$73,656

*Based on four resident students in year one and eight students each subsequent year, taking six credit hours each year (\$341 per credit hour)

Committee Recommendation: Approve the graduate certificate in Educational Neuroscience at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln

First Program Review Date: Due June 30, 2022, to provide any available initial data.
Next complete review would be due June 30, 2029.

2020-2021 EXISTING PROGRAM REVIEW
(Item in bold is under Commission Minimum Performance Standard)

UNIVERSITY & STATE COLLEGE PROGRAMS APPROVED by the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR for Continuation											
Institution	Program	5 yr. Average (2015-2020)									
		SCH	SCH/ FTE*	Baccalaureate Degrees awarded		Masters Degrees awarded		Doctorate Degrees awarded		Justification if under standard	
CSC	History	1807	566	BA	4.8					R & M; Gen Ed	
UNK	History	4243	531	BSE	1.2						
	Social Science			BA	5.2	MA	38.8				
				BAE	4.4						
	Public History			BS	4.2	Grad Cert	0.0				New
UNL	History	13,592	1304	BAE	8.6						
				BA	45.2	MA	5.2				
				BS	1.2			PhD	3.2		
UNO	History	9988	551	BA/BS	25.0	MA	7.4				
WSC	History	2186	572	BA	0.4					R & M; Gen Ed	
				BS	3.0						
UNK	Sociology	2461	608	BA/BS	7.0						
				BSE	0.0						
UNL	Sociology	9444	1638	BA	36.6	MA	3.0			R & M	
				BS	0.6			PhD	4.2		
UNO	Sociology	9922	523	BA/BS	35.4	MA	5.0				
WSC	Sociology	2223	759	BA	0.2					R & M; Gen Ed	
				BS	5.6						

*For the University this is SCH/Instructional Faculty FTE

Commission Minimum Performance Standard

Number of Degrees/Awards in this Program (the mean of the prior 5 years)	Student Credit Hour Production by Department Per Full-Time Equivalent Faculty (the mean of the prior 5 years)	275
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	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)

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

Information Items

Reasonable and Moderate Extensions

- NECC - Health Information Management Systems, Diploma
- NECC - Health Information Management Systems, Certificate
- UNL - Bioanalytical Chemistry, Graduate Certificate
- UNL - Chromatography and Analytical Separations, Graduate Certificate
- UNL - Financial Analytics, Graduate Certificate
- UNL - Sales Excellence, Graduate Certificate
- UNL - Additive Manufacturing, Graduate Certificate

Discontinued Program

- UNL - MS, PhD, and Graduate Certificate in Survey Research and Methodology
- UNL - Bachelor of Science in Grassland Ecology and Management (will become an option within the Grassland Systems major)
- UNL - Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Communication

Renaming Program

- UNL - Financial and Housing Counseling, Graduate Certificate to *Financial Counseling Graduate Certificate*
- UNL - Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in Law and Business to *Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in Business and Law*
- UNL - Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education to *Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication*



Facility Operating and Maintenance Costs Inflationary Adjustment *January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023*

Background: The Commission reviews, approves or disapproves, and monitors capital construction projects submitted by public postsecondary education institutions. Included are new capital structures, or any proposed addition, renovation, or acquisition of a capital structure that would be financed with tax funds above a minimum threshold.

Legislation: LB 440, signed by the Governor on May 22, 2009, revised the minimum capital expenditure threshold as follows: 1) a total project cost for construction or acquisition with at least \$2,000,000 in tax funds, or 2) for facility operations and maintenance (O&M) costs, a project that is likely, as determined by the institution, to result in an incremental increase of at least \$85,000 in tax funds in any one fiscal year within a period of ten years from the date of substantial completion or acquisition of the project. The \$2,000,000 threshold for tax funds used for construction or acquisition costs does not include an inflationary adjustment. The facility O&M costs threshold requires the Commission to review and make adjustments for inflation biennially.

Statutory language: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1402 defines the threshold for facility operations and maintenance (O&M) costs as a base amount of eighty-five thousand dollars (\$85,000) for any one fiscal year. The base amount for the facility's operations and maintenance costs shall be subject to any inflationary or market adjustments made by the commission pursuant to this subdivision. The commission shall adjust the base amount on a biennial basis beginning January 1, 2010. The adjustments shall be based on percentage changes in a construction cost index and any other published index relevant to operations and utilities costs, both as selected by the commission in cooperation with the public institutions. The index or indices shall reflect inflationary or market trends for the applicable operations and maintenance or construction costs.

Methodology: LB 440's \$85,000 facility O&M costs threshold took effect in August 2009. The Commission has used the Commonfund Institute's annual *Higher Education Price Index* (HEPI) to measure facility O&M costs inflation. Sub-indices within HEPI that are relevant to facility O&M costs include: personnel compensation, supplies & materials costs, and utilities costs. The 2009 HEPI data has served as the starting point to measure inflationary increases for purposes of LB 440. Over the past 12 years the weighted facilities O&M cost index increased 12.84% to \$95,915 (see attached table).

Review Process: Commission staff submitted its methodology and recommendation to representatives of the University of Nebraska, Nebraska State Colleges, and Nebraska Community Colleges on December 16, 2021, requesting comments or recommended modifications. Institutions have not indicated any objections or suggested revisions to the Commission's methodology or recommendation to date. *Committee Recommendation:* It is recommended that the facility O&M costs threshold for review remain an incremental increase in tax funds of \$95,000/year for the biennial period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023.

***Committee Recommendation:* It is recommended that the facility O&M costs threshold for review remain an incremental increase in tax funds of \$95,000/year for the biennial period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023.**

Biennial Revision to "Minimum Capital Expenditure"
Facility Operating and Maintenance Costs Inflationary Adjustment
January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023



Reporting Period	Sub-Indices of the Higher Education Price Index									
	Personnel Cost Index ¹		Supplies & Mtl. Cost Index ²		Utilities Cost Index ³		Facility O&M Cost Index ⁴		Higher Educ. Price Index ⁵	
July 2021	379.7	1.96%	195.4	3.50%	167.0	14.93%	277.6	4.61%	362.3	2.72%
July 2020	372.4	2.89%	188.8	-3.48%	145.3	-15.67%	265.4	-1.93%	352.7	1.94%
July 2019	362.0	2.37%	195.6	4.10%	172.3	0.94%	270.6	2.23%	346.0	2.95%
July 2018	353.6	2.99%	187.9	4.33%	170.7	1.73%	264.7	2.84%	336.1	2.66%
July 2017	343.3	2.94%	180.1	0.33%	167.8	14.54%	257.4	5.08%	327.4	3.05%
July 2016	333.5	2.97%	179.5	-5.87%	146.5	-20.16%	245.0	-3.85%	317.7	1.53%
July 2015	323.9	2.53%	190.7	-4.75%	183.5	-13.20%	254.8	-2.74%	312.9	2.02%
July 2014	315.9	2.47%	200.2	11.22%	211.4	8.08%	262.0	4.96%	306.7	2.99%
July 2013	308.3	1.92%	180.0	-11.72%	195.6	2.03%	249.6	0.27%	297.8	1.57%
July 2012	302.4	1.73%	203.9	5.16%	191.7	-4.86%	248.9	0.26%	293.2	1.66%
July 2011	297.3	1.83%	193.9	8.14%	201.5	4.08%	248.3	3.17%	288.4	2.34%
July 2010	292.0	1.40%	179.3	-1.27%	193.6	-9.45%	240.6	-2.20%	281.8	0.90%
July 2009	287.9	3.32%	181.6	0.89%	213.8	-15.16%	246.0	-3.34%	279.3	2.23%
<i>Total Change Since 2009</i>		<i>31.89%</i>		<i>7.60%</i>		<i>-21.89%</i>		<i>12.84%</i>		<i>29.72%</i>
<i>Avg. Annual Change</i>		<i>2.33%</i>		<i>0.81%</i>		<i>-1.42%</i>		<i>1.06%</i>		<i>2.19%</i>

**2009 Facility O&M Base Amount per
 LB 440, 101st Legislature**

Incremental increase of \$85,000/year in facility O&M

**2022 Facility O&M Base Amount
 Inflated by HEPI Sub-Indices**

\$95,915

**Proposed Facility O&M Base for
 January 1, 2022 thru Dec. 31, 2023**

Incremental increase of \$95,000/year in facility O&M

¹ Weighted Total Personnel Compensation Index per Commonfund Institute - *Higher Education Price Index: 2021 Update*, page 4.

² Supplies & Materials Cost Index per *Commonfund Institute - Higher Education Price Index: 2021 Update*, page 4.

³ Utilities Cost Index per *Commonfund Institute - Higher Education Price Index: 2021 Update*, page 4.

⁴ Weighting for Combined Facility O&M Cost Index = 50% of Personnel Index + 15% of Supplies & Materials Index + 35% of Utilities Index.

⁵ Most recent *Commonfund Institute - Higher Education Price Index: 2021 Update*, page 3.