
MINUTES

**COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
140 North 8th Street, Suite 300
Lincoln, Nebraska
Meeting held virtually via Zoom
Thursday, March 10, 2022, 8:30 a.m. (Central)**

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 10, 2022. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 8:30 A.M. AND ADJOURN AT APPROXIMATELY 12:00 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 8:32 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

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

Commissioners Present

Gwenn Aspen	Mary Lauritzen
Tim Daniels	Molly O'Holleran
Dr. Deborah Frison	Dr. Paul Von Behren
Dr. Dennis Headrick	W. Scott Wilson

Commissioners Absent

Charles Garman

Commission Staff Present

Dr. Michael Baumgartner	Helen Pope
Jeremy Chancellor	J. Ritchie Morrow
Dr. Kathleen Fimple	Gary Timm
Jill Heese	Joe Velasquez (Zoom Administrator)

Jona Van Deun, Nebraska Tech Collaborative

PRESENTATION

Jona Van Deun, President of the Nebraska Tech Collaborative, gave a presentation noting that they are an Aksarben initiative that is assembling

and partnering with leaders from not-for-profits, businesses, government, and educational organizations together with the goal of attracting and retaining tech talent in Nebraska. Working together, these organizations and industries can accomplish their goals of establishing new tech companies, growing tech talent workers, improving diversity, and creating more tech startups. Ms. Van Deun noted Executive Director Baumgartner is on the education committee of the collaborative.

Minutes of January 20, 2022, approved

MINUTES OF JANUARY 20, 2022, COMMISSION MEETING

Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve the January 20, 2022, minutes as written. Commissioner Frison seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Aspen, Daniels, Frison, Headrick, Lauritzen, O'Holleran, Von Behren, and Wilson. Motion carried.

Commissioner Headrick Oath of Office

COMMISSIONER OATH OF OFFICE

The Secretary of State's office requires newly appointed Commissioners to take and sign an oath of office. Dr. Dennis Headrick of Lincoln was welcomed and sworn in as a new Commissioner by Chair Aspen.

Chair's Report

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Aspen appointed Commissioner O'Holleran to chair the Nominating Committee, along with Commissioners Daniels, Wilson and Lauritzen. The Nominating Committee will present a slate of officers to be voted upon at the May Commission meeting.

Executive Director's Report

Legislative update

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Baumgartner provided a Legislative update, focusing on bills of interest to the Commission. He commented that CCPE has submitted written comments on three bills and testified on one.

Dr. Baumgartner reported on recent meetings and activities he has been involved in

Dr. Baumgartner stated that on February 14, he and Dr. Kathleen Fimple, Academic Programs Officer, joined NSCS Chancellor Paul Turman, University of Nebraska President Ted Carter, NDE Commissioner Matt Blomstedt, and NCCA Executive Director Courtney Wittstruck, along with several of their staff members, in a meeting with the Education Committee to present the attainment goal to them. Dr. Baumgartner noted the resolution to establish a state attainment goal should be released by the Education Committee soon.

On February 3, Gary Timm, Finance Officer, and Dr. Baumgartner met with several of the community college presidents and Courtney Wittstruck, Executive Director of the Nebraska Community College Association, to discuss how the Commission will administer the \$90 million ARPA appropriation to the community colleges currently included in LB 1014.

Several of the CCPE staff members, Dr. Frison, who is a MHEC commissioner, and Dr. Baumgartner will be meeting with the Midwestern Higher Education Compact when they visit Nebraska next week.

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

Dr. David Jackson, University of Nebraska

PUBLIC HEARING ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE ITEMS

Dr. David Jackson, Vice Provost at the University of Nebraska, came forward to state that the University originally had concerns about the proposal from Mid-Plains for an AAS in Agriculture, but after reading the AP Committee summary, the University supports the program proposal. He also discussed the several University programs listed in the Information Items appendix.

Dr. Jody Tomanek, Mid-Plains Community College

Dr. Jody Tomanek, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Mid-Plains Community College testified in support of the AAS in Agriculture program on the agenda. She, along with President Ryan Purdy and Paul Knopick, Director of Early Entry and Program Development, were available to answer questions.

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

Commissioner Lauritzen left the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

Academic Programs Committee

Commissioner O'Holleran

Ratification of Executive Committee Action to Recommend to the Legislature that the Role and Mission Statute of Peru State College be Amended

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Commissioner O'Holleran, Committee Chair, acknowledged committee members who recently met to discuss the academic items on the agenda.

Ratification of Executive Committee Action to Recommend to the Legislature that the Role and Mission Statute of Peru State College be Amended

Commissioner O'Holleran presented the action item asking that the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education ratify the Executive Committee's action to recommend to the Legislature that the role and mission statute of Peru State College be amended as indicated below. Dr. Jodi Kupper, Vice Chancellor for Academic Planning & Partnerships at the Nebraska State College System, stated that when reviewing the statutes it became apparent that the role and mission of Peru State College language wasn't consistent with the other state colleges and did not identify CCPE as an approving body.

Dr. Jodi Kupper, Nebraska State College System

LB 887 Proposed Change

LB 887 Proposed Change

85-957. Peru State College may maintain its existing baccalaureate general academic, baccalaureate occupational, and baccalaureate professional degree programs and shall limit new baccalaureate degree

LB 887 Proposed Change continued

programs to the needs of its unique service area generally defined as the state's southeast region. Subject to approval by the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges, Peru State College may offer other master's degree programs upon demonstration of a compelling need in disciplines in which it has a demonstrated capacity as authorized and approved by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education pursuant to sections 85-1413 and 85-1414. ~~Peru's cooperative master's degree program in education with the university may be maintained. Subject to approval by the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges, Peru State College may offer a Master of Science degree in organizational management with a focus in entrepreneurial and economic development.~~

Ratification of Executive Committee Action to Recommend to the Legislature that the Role and Mission Statute of Peru State College be Amended approved

Commissioner O'Holleran, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve Ratification of Executive Committee Action to Recommend to the Legislature that the Role and Mission Statute of Peru State College be Amended. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Aspen, Daniels, Frison, Headrick, O'Holleran, Von Behren, and Wilson. Motion carried.

Mid-Plains Community College - Proposal for a New Instructional Program - Agriculture, AAS

Mid-Plains Community College - Proposal for a New Instructional Program - Agriculture, AAS

Commissioner O'Holleran and Dr. Fimple presented the proposal

Commissioner O'Holleran presented the proposal commenting that when meeting with Dr. Tomanek and Mr. Purdy from MPCC, it was clear that this program is important to all the MPCC locations, expanding opportunities, and employability. Dr. Fimple added that there was extensive discussion about duplication with NCTA and concluded that MPCC would be serving students in locations NCTA does not serve. She noted that no changes to the budget, current equipment, and existing space were needed to initiate the program.

APC recommendation

Commissioner O'Holleran stated the recommendation is to approve the AAS Program in Agriculture at Mid-Plains Community College with a report on enrollments and number of graduates due September 15, 2025.

Mid-Plains Community College - Proposal for a New Instructional Program - Agriculture, AAS approved

Commissioner O'Holleran, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve Mid-Plains Community College's Proposal for a New Instructional Program - Agriculture, AAS, with a report on enrollments and number of graduates due September 15, 2025. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Aspen, Daniels, Frison, Headrick, O'Holleran, Von Behren, and Wilson. Motion carried.

2020-2021 Existing Program Review

2020-2021 Existing Program Review

Commissioner O'Holleran stated that the following programs were approved by the Executive Director for continuation:
Information Items:

Chadron State College

- Biology (BS, BSE)

- Health Sciences (BS)
- Communication (BA)

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- Biological Sciences (BA, BS, MS, PhD)

University of Nebraska at Kearney

- Biology (BS, BSE, BS-Molecular, MS)
- International Studies (BA)

University of Nebraska at Omaha

- Biology (BA/BS, MS)
 - Environmental Sciences (BS)
 - Biotechnology (BS)
 - Biomedical Science (Graduate Certificate)
- Medical Humanities (BS/BA)
- Creative & Critical Thinking (MA)
- International Studies (BA)

University of Nebraska Medical Center

- Physician Assistant (MPAS)

Peru State College

- Natural Science (BS)
- Liberal Arts (BA)

Wayne State College

- Life Sciences (BA, BS)
- Communication Studies (BA, BS)

*University of Nebraska at Omaha -
Existing Program Review -
Latino/Latin American Studies, BA*

*Commissioner O'Holleran presented
the proposal*

*Dr. David Jackson, University of
Nebraska*

*University of Nebraska at Omaha -
Existing Program Review -
Latino/Latin American Studies, BA
approved*

**University of Nebraska at Omaha - Existing Program Review -
Latino/Latin American Studies (BA)**

Commissioner O'Holleran stated the Committee recommendation is that the Commission continue the Latino/Latin American program pending a report on the required in-depth review to be conducted by the Board of Regents, due September 15, 2022. Dr. Jackson made comments in reference to the continuation of the program.

Commissioner O'Holleran, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve continuation of the University of Nebraska at Omaha's Bachelor of Science Latino/Latin American Studies Program pending a report by the Board of Regents. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Aspen, Daniels, Frison, Headrick, O'Holleran, Von Behren, and Wilson. Motion carried.

Motion to rescind the September 23, 2021, Commission action to require an in-depth review of the University of Nebraska at Omaha Social Work (BS) program

Commissioner O'Holleran stated recommendation

Motion to rescind the September 23, 2021, Commission action to require an in-depth review of the University of Nebraska at Omaha Social Work (BS) program approved

Reasonable and Moderate Extension

Discontinued Program

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

Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee

Commissioner Daniels

Wayne State College - Athletic & Recreation Facilities Renovation

Jeremy Chancellor presented the proposal

Steve Hottovy, Nebraska State College System

Motion to rescind the September 23, 2021, Commission action to require an in-depth review of the University of Nebraska at Omaha Social Work (BS) program

Commissioner O'Holleran stated the recommendation is that the Commission rescind their motion from the September 23, 2021, Commission meeting calling for an in-depth review of the BS program in social work at UNO. Dr. Fimple and Dr. Jackson provided additional information regarding the program in question.

Commissioner O'Holleran, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to rescind the motion from the September 23, 2021, Commission meeting calling for an in-depth review of the BS program in social work at UNO. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Aspen, Daniels, Frison, Headrick, O'Holleran, Von Behren, and Wilson. Motion carried.

Report on Institutional Activities Related to Existing Programs

Reasonable and Moderate Extensions

- MCC - MOPAR - Career Automotive Program (CAP), AAS
- NECC - Academic Transfer - Music Theatre, AA
- UNMC - Applied Health Informatics, Graduate Certificate
- UNMC - Healthcare Quality Improvement, Graduate Certificate
- UNO - Homeland Security Focused Business Analytics, Graduate Certificate

Discontinued Program

- UNK - Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy (minor will be continued)

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

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

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

BUDGET, CONSTRUCTION, AND FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE

Commissioner Daniels, Committee Chair, acknowledged committee members that recently met to discuss the two items on the agenda. He introduced Jeremy Chancellor, Facilities Officer, to present the proposal.

Wayne State College - Athletic & Recreation Facilities Renovation

Mr. Chancellor presented the proposal noting that Wayne State College is proposing a three-phase project to expand and renovate Rice Auditorium and add a recreational and athletic facility. Steve Hottovy, Vice Chancellor for Facilities & Information Technology from the

Dr. Paul Turman, Nebraska State
College System

Nebraska State College System, provided information on the proposal and discussed the benefits of the renovation project. Dr. Paul Turman, Chancellor at the Nebraska State College System, commented on the impact to student wellness this project would have.

BCFC recommendation

Commissioner Daniels stated that pursuant to the Nebr. Rev. Stat. § 85-1414, the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee recommends approval of Wayne State College's proposal to utilize State appropriations to construct The Link, Dome, Wildcat Alley, Rice Auditorium, the Recreation Center, and Gardner IAC, including providing additional operating and maintenance funding for the new facility, as outlined in the governing board approved program statement of January 2022.

Wayne State College - Athletic &
Recreation Facilities Renovation
approved

Commissioner Daniels, on behalf of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee, moved to approve the Wayne State College Athletic & Recreation Facilities Renovation. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Aspen, Daniels, Frison, Headrick, O'Holleran, Von Behren, and Wilson. Motion carried.

Statewide Funding Priorities for use by
the Commission in developing the
2023-2025 Biennial Public
Postsecondary Operating Budget
Recommendations

Statewide Funding Priorities for use by the Commission in developing the 2023-2025 Biennial Public Postsecondary Operating Budget Recommendations

Gary Timm presented the priorities

Gary Timm, Finance Officer, presented the four statewide budget priorities identified for the upcoming biennium: initiatives that respond to identified educational and workforce development needs in Nebraska, initiatives that increase college enrollment, initiatives that make postsecondary education more affordable, and initiatives that increase the postsecondary retention and graduation rates. Mr. Timm's report included background information on the budget process and listed the Commission's Statewide Budget Priorities History from 1995-1997 through 2021-2023. If approved, these issues and initiatives will be communicated to the public institutions through the operating and state aid budget request outline procedures.

BCFC recommendation

Commissioner Daniels stated the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee recommends approval of the *Statewide Funding Priorities for the 2023-2025 Biennial Budget Process*.

Statewide Funding Priorities for use by
the Commission in developing the
2023-2025 Biennial Public
Postsecondary Operating Budget
Recommendations approved

Commissioner Daniels, on behalf of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee, moved to approve the Statewide Funding Priorities for use by the Commission in developing the 2023-2025 Biennial Public Postsecondary Operating Budget Recommendations. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Aspen, Daniels, Frison, Headrick, O'Holleran, Von Behren, and Wilson. Motion carried.

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

Planning and Consumer Information Committee

Commissioner Wilson spoke

PLANNING AND CONSUMER INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Commissioner Wilson opened the committee report in Commissioner Garman's absence. He acknowledged Committee members present on the recent conference call. He introduced Jill Heese, Research Director, to present the *2022 Higher Education Progress Report*.

2022 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report

Jill Heese presented the report

2022 Nebraska Higher Education Progress 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.

Dr. Baumgartner spoke

Ms. Heese noted what is new in the 2022 report and provided details on the three priorities. 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, and the media, and is available on the Commission website at ccpe.nebraska.gov/reports.

Planning and Consumer Information Committee recommendation

2022 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report approved

Commissioner Wilson stated the Committee recommendation is to approve the *2022 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report*.

Commissioner Wilson, on behalf of the Planning and Consumer Information Committee, moved to approve the *2022 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report*. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Aspen, Daniels, Frison, Headrick, O'Holleran, Von Behren, and Wilson. Motion carried.

Executive Committee

Notice of Proposed Amendments to the Commission's Bylaws

Chair Aspen spoke

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Notice of Proposed Amendments to the Commission's Bylaws

Chair Aspen stated that the Executive Committee met February 23, 2022. At the meeting the committee approved proposed changes to the Commission's bylaws as the first step in amending the bylaws. Article VII of the bylaws states that "These bylaws may be amended by a vote of the Commission, provided that written notice of the full text of the proposed action is provided to all Commission members at the meeting

prior to the meeting at which the action is to be considered. A two-thirds majority vote of all Commission members shall be required for such action.” Chair Aspen asked Commissioner Von Behren to give notice of the Executive Committee’s recommendation to amend the bylaws

Commissioner Von Behren spoke

Commissioner Von Behren gave notice that at the next meeting he will move to amend the Commission bylaws as follows: Article II, Section 2A concerning the appointing powers of the chair; Article III, Section 1 concerning the composition and selection of the Executive Committee; Article III, Section 2 concerning standing and special committees; Article III, Section 3 concerning filling committee vacancies; and Article VI, Section 2 to align reimbursement of Commission member expenses to recent changes in state statute. He noted that written notice of the full text of the proposed action has been provided to all Commission members.

Chair Aspen spoke

Chair Aspen stated that notice has been given that at the next meeting Commissioner Von Behren will move to amend Commission bylaws as follows: Article II, Section 2A concerning the appointing powers of the chair; Article III, Section 1 concerning the composition and selection of the Executive Committee; Article III, Section 2 concerning standing and special committees; Article III, Section 3 concerning filling committee vacancies; and Article VI, Section 2 to align reimbursement of Commission member expenses to recent changes in state statute.

Next meeting is May 19, 2022

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Commission meeting will be Thursday, May 19, 2022, 8:30 a.m. at Wayne State College, Wayne, Nebraska.

Meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Aspen adjourned the meeting at 12:08 p.m.