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# MINUTES

## COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

March 14, 2013

Metropolitan Community College – Fort Omaha Campus  
MCC (Mule Barn) Instructional Facility – 32<sup>nd</sup> & Sorensen Parkway  
Omaha, Nebraska

*Public notice of meeting*

Public notice of time and place of regular meeting was given to Commission members, institutional representatives, news media, the Legislative Fiscal Office and the Department of Administrative Services.

### NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION WILL HOLD A MEETING ON MARCH 14, 2013. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 8:30 A.M. AND ADJOURN AT APPROXIMATELY 3:00 P.M.

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

DR. RON HUNTER, CHAIR

*Meeting called to order at 8:35 a.m.*

### CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Ron Hunter called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. and asked for introductions.

#### Commissioners Present

Colleen Adam	Eric Seacrest
Clark Anderson	Dr. Joyce Simmons
Riko Bishop	W. Scott Wilson
Dr. Deborah Frison	John Winkleblack
Dr. Ron Hunter	Carol Zink
Mary Lauritzen	

#### Commission Staff Present

Ben Civic	Ritchie Morrow
Dr. Kathleen Fimple	Dr. Carna Pfeil
Dr. Marshall Hill	Helen Pope
Jason Keese	Mike Wemhoff
Dr. Barbara McCuen	

*Dr. Randy Schmailzl, President of MCC*

### GREETING BY DR. RANDY SCHMAILZL, PRESIDENT OF METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Dr. Randy Schmailzl, President of Metropolitan Community College welcomed the Commissioners, staff and guests. He stated that the Fort Omaha Campus was purchased from the federal government in the late

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1970's for \$1. Metropolitan is one of six state community colleges and serves four counties: Douglas, Sarpy, Dodge and Washington. Dr. Schmailzl noted that with 800,000 people in these four counties, recruiting outside of those counties is not necessary. The culinary institute is nationally renowned, with close to 1,100 students currently in that program. He introduced Stan Horrell, Director of Campus Planning and Sustainability, to speak on current projects.

*Stan Horrell, from MCC*

Mr. Horrell briefed the Commissioners on current master planning efforts and progress that has been made in the past two years. Metro has been concentrating on creating areas of specialization similar to the Culinary Arts Building. Two projects in the works are the Creative Arts Center at Elkhorn, and the Construction Education Center at the Fort Omaha Campus. The Creative Arts Center will have an arts education focus, including community performance space, labs and studios for all of the arts disciplines, and classrooms for general education. The Construction Education Center at the Fort Omaha Campus will be a new center for advanced and emerging technologies. In working with local industries MCC has found there is a need for technicians who operate businesses around the clock, including hospitals, manufacturing plants and data centers. The skill set that is required is more specialized than in the past, so MCC wants to give students the hands-on training needed to qualify for the jobs in those areas.

*Minutes of January 24, 2013  
Commission meeting approved*

**MINUTES OF JANUARY 24, 2013 COMMISSION MEETING**

**Commissioner Wilson moved that the January 24, 2013 minutes be approved. Commissioner Bishop seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioners Adam, Anderson, Lauritzen, Simmons, and Winkleblack abstained, with all other Commissioners present voting yes.**

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Wednesday evening, March 13, 2013, a dinner meeting was held at CRAVE restaurant in Omaha. The meeting was attended by Commissioners, Marshall Hill, Executive Director, and Dennis Jones, President of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems.

*Chair Hunter announced 2013  
committee assignments*

Chair Hunter announced the committee assignments for 2013.

**Executive Committee**

Dr. Ron Hunter (Chair)  
Riko Bishop (Vice Chair)  
Dr. Joyce Simmons  
Mary Lauritzen

**Academic Programs Committee**

Mary Lauritzen  
Carol Zink

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Committee assignments  
continued

Scott Wilson  
Eric Seacrest  
Dr. Deborah Frison

**Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee**

Riko Bishop  
Dr. Joyce Simmons  
John Winkleblack  
Eric Seacrest  
Clark Anderson

**Planning and Consumer Information Committee**

Dr. Deborah Frison  
Mary Lauritzen  
Colleen Adam  
Dr. Ron Hunter  
Scott Wilson

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

*Dr. Hill speaks about out-of-  
service area authorizations*

Dr. Marshall Hill, Executive Director, reported that the following out-of-service area applications have been authorized:

1. Offered by Northeast Community College  
Interactive two-way video originated from West Point Beemer High School in West Point, NE  
Delivered to Howells Dodge High School in Howells, NE
  - SPCH 1110 Public Speaking (3 cr.)  
-January 3, 2013 – May 17, 2013
  
2. Offered by Northeast Community College  
Interactive two-way video originated from West Point Beemer High School in West Point, NE  
Delivered to Howells Dodge High School in Howells, NE
  - ENGL 2100 Introduction to Literature (3 cr.)  
-January 3, 2013 – May 17, 2013
  
3. Offered by Northeast Community College  
Interactive two-way video originated from Bancroft-Rosalie High School in Bancroft, NE  
Delivered to Arcadia High School in Arcadia, NE
  - ENGL 2200 Survey of English Literature (3 cr.)  
-January 3, 2013 – May 23, 2013
  
4. Offered by Wayne State College  
Traditional Delivery at St. Patrick's Catholic Elementary School in Elkhorn, NE
  - EDU 568-93 A-Z Phonics (3 cr.)  
-July 8, 2013 – July 12, 2013

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5. Offered by Wayne State College  
Traditional Delivery at St. Patrick's Catholic Elementary School in Elkhorn, NE

- EDU 568-94 A-Z Writing and Comprehension (3 cr.)  
-July 15, 2013 – July 19, 2013

6. Offered by Northeast Community College  
Interactive two-way video originated from Wayne High School in Wayne, NE

Delivered to Logan View High School in Hooper, NE

- PSYC 1810 Introduction to Psychology (3 cr.)  
-January 4, 2013 – May 23, 2013

*Jason Keese reports on current legislative bills of interest*

Jason Keese, Public Information and Special Projects Coordinator, briefed the Commissioners on current legislative bills of interest. A summary sheet was distributed to the Commissioners outlining the information discussed. He stated the Commission has offered testimony on most of these bills, with public hearings scheduled for three more bills next week. They have met with seven of the eight education committee members, five of the appropriation committee members, Speaker Adams, and several other senators regarding these bills.

*Dr. Hill notes Roger Breed retirement*

Dr. Hill noted that Nebraska Commissioner of Education Roger Breed announced he will retire June 30. During his time in this job Mr. Breed oversaw the implementation of the state's new standardized testing system that measures students' academic proficiency. Members of the State Board of Education will immediately begin the process of selecting his replacement.

*Ben Civic update on CACG and Western Rural Initiative programs*

Ben Civic, College Access Challenge Grant Program Director, gave a brief update on the College Access Challenge Grant and Western Rural Initiative programs. He noted that two evaluators from UNL will be working with him and Dr. Pfeil to review the proposals for the Western Rural Initiative.

*Mr. Civic discusses MCC CACG sub-grantee*

Mr. Civic stated that Metropolitan Community College is one of our current College Access Challenge Grant sub-grantees, noting that the STEM Academy, Men of Distinction Conference, and Young Gifted Black Girls Conference have been some of their very successful programs. Mr. Civic showed a news clip that KETV recently aired featuring MCC's successful nine-month Parent Involvement Program (PIP) that also is funded by CACG grant dollars.

*Dr. Cynthia Gooch from MCC*

Dr. Cynthia Gooch, Associate Vice President for Equity and Diversity at Metropolitan Community College, spoke on the Parent Involvement Program, STEM Academy, and answered questions from the Commissioners.

*Mr. Elmer Crumbly, PIP coordinator*

Mr. Elmer Crumbly, a former public school principal and current PIP coordinator, spoke briefly about his dedication and participation in the Parent Involvement Program.

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*Dr. Pfeil talks on CACG funds affected by federal sequester*

Dr. Carna Pfeil reported that the College Access Challenge Grant program funds will be affected by the federal sequester, with a decrease of funds for the 2013-2014 year.

~~Meeting adjourned for break~~ **Chair Hunter called for a break at 10:10 a.m.**  
*Meeting resumed at 10:20 a.m.*

*Commissioner Frison did not return to the meeting after break.*

*Public Comment on Matters of General Concern*

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS OF GENERAL CONCERN**

There was no testimony regarding Matters of General Concern.

**Chair Hunter closed the public hearing on Matters of General Concern.**

*Public Hearing on Academic Programs Committee*

*David Ho from MCC*

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE ITEMS**

David Ho, Vice President of Academic Affairs at Metropolitan Community College, introduced himself and offered to answer any questions the Commissioners may have regarding the Critical Facilities Operation Program.

*Dr. Hesham H. Ali from the University of Nebraska at Omaha*

Dr. Hesham H. Ali, Professor of Computer Science, College of Information Science and Technology from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, stated he was present to speak for the proposed Joint MS/PhD in Biomedical Informatics.

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

**ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

*MCC – Critical Facilities Operation (AAS)*

*Dr. Fimple presents the application*

**Metropolitan Community College – Proposal for New Instructional Program: Critical Facilities Operation (AAS)**

Dr. Kathleen Fimple, Academic Programs Officer, presented the proposal to Commissioners, noting the demand for this program came from local businesses. No new facilities or equipment would be required and, since all courses are currently in place, no new information resources would be needed.

*Thomas Pensabene from MCC*

Thomas Pensabene, Dean of Information Technology and E-Learning, spoke briefly about the high demand for the proposed program. He indicated that the four-county area that Metropolitan Community College serves is very strong in data centers and especially strong in information technology.

*MCC's Critical Facilities Operations approved*

**Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve Metropolitan Community College's new instructional program Critical Facilities Operations (AAS). A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.**

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*UNO and UNMC – Biomedical Informatics (Joint MS/PhD)*

*Dr. Fimple discusses the proposal*

*UNO and UNMC Biomedical Informatics (Joint MS/PhD) approved*

*UNL – Center for Brain, Biology, and Behavior (CB<sup>3</sup>)*

*Dr. Fimple presents the proposal*

*Dr. Dennis Molfese from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln*

*Dr. Susan Fritz from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln*

*UNL – Center for Brain, Biology, and Behavior (CB<sup>3</sup>) approved*

**UNO and UNMC – Proposal for New Instructional Program: Biomedical Informatics (Joint MS/PhD)**

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal, noting that State Statute (§ 85-945) specifies that the University of Nebraska at Omaha may only offer doctoral programs subject to the approval of the Board of Regents, which has already occurred, and then, upon demonstration of compelling need in disciplines in which it has demonstrated capacity as authorized and approved by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. This isn't just approving a degree, Dr. Fimple stated, there is a special consideration in state statutes requiring this additional consideration.

**Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and University of Nebraska Medical Center (joint program) Biomedical Informatics MS/PhD. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.**

*Dr. Frison rejoined the meeting at 10:51 a.m.*

**University of Nebraska – Lincoln – Proposal for New Organizational Unit: Center for Brain, Biology, and Behavior (CB<sup>3</sup>)**

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal, noting that this proposal came from five diverse departments, with a goal to deepen understanding of the interactions among social, biological and neurological factors that have an impact on individual and group behaviors - essentially research into the biological bases for social behavior.

Dr. Dennis L. Molfese, Director, Center for Brain, Biology, and Behavior at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln briefed the Commissioners on the proposal, noting this center is considered a statewide facility, as 33 departments have expressed interest in being directly involved. The center will be an academic and athletic collaboration designed so all 46 research rooms will be open for everyone to utilize.

Dr. Susan Fritz, Interim Provost & Executive Vice President, University of Nebraska – Lincoln, commented that this is an excellent example of what strategic investments can do over time. The campus and the system had made a commitment several years ago to move in this direction, so collaborating on investments for equipment, facilities, faculty, even training, will come to a crescendo resulting in the center being launched.

Dr. Molfese and Dr. Fritz answered questions from the Commissioners.

**Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska – Lincoln's Center for Brain, Biology, and Behavior (CB<sup>3</sup>). A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.**

Commissioner Zink congratulated Dr. Fritz on her recent appointment as a Commissioner for the Midwest Higher Education Compact (MHEC).

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Dr. Fimple discusses  
authorization to operate

**Information Item: Annual Report for Institutions Holding a Recurrent Authorization to Operate In Nebraska**

Dr. Fimple explained that “recurrent authorization to operate” means approval by the Commission to operate a postsecondary institution in Nebraska until a renewal of the authorization is required. Under legislation passed in 2011, institutions were required to seek a recurrent authorization by December 31, 2011. The documents were reviewed by the Commission during the last part of 2011 and the first few months of 2012. Most authorizations were approved for a five-year period with an annual reporting requirement. Dr. Fimple presented a summary table of the annual reports submitted through January 2013. Reports received after January will be summarized at a later Commission meeting. No action is required.

Information Items

**Information Items: Report on name changes, deletions, reasonable and moderate extensions, and other institutional activities relating to existing programs**

Discontinued Programs

**Discontinued Programs**

1. UNO – Elementary Education (MA)\*
2. UNO – Secondary Education (MA)\*
3. UNO – Speech-Language Pathology (MA)\*
4. UNK – French (MA)
5. UNK – German (MA)

\*UNO is retaining the MS in these areas

Reasonable and moderate  
Extension

**Reasonable and Moderate Extension**

1. UNO – Psychology (Graduate Certificate)

Program Renaming

**Renaming of Program**

1. UNK – Bachelor of Arts in Music Education K-12 to  
*Bachelor of Music in Music Education K-12*

Dr. Valerie Cisler from UNK

Dr. Valerie Cisler, chair and professor, UNK Department of Music & Performing Arts, briefed the Commissioners on the renaming of the Bachelor of Music in Music Education K-12 program.

Program Consolidation

**Program Consolidation**

1. UNL – Master’s programs in Engineering Mechanics and Mechanical Engineering to  
*Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics*

Renaming of Organizational Unit

**Renaming of Organizational Unit**

1. UNO – Department of Finance, Banking and Law to  
*Department of Finance, Banking and Real Estate*

Jim Vokal from the Platte  
Institute

**NATIONAL CENTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**

Dr. Hill introduced Jim Vokal, Executive Director of the Platte Institute for Economic Research. Mr. Vokal stated that the Platte Institute is a non-

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*Jim Vokal from the Platte  
Institute continued*

partisan, free-market think tank. One of the pillars of the Institute is research on education issues. The needs of the state are growing and the population is not. The challenge is using data to take the necessary steps to improve the output of diplomas and educated individuals in our state. Another item of great importance to the Platte Institute is resource allocation policy, specifically tying that to goals. Mr. Vokal noted the importance of having commissioned tax payer funds tied to achievement. The Platte Institute Policy Study, *"Getting it Right: Public Policy & Nebraska Higher Education"*, which was distributed to Commissioners. The entire study is on the Institute's website, [www.platteinstitute.org](http://www.platteinstitute.org). Copies have been distributed to the governor, all state senators, and the legislative policy office. The governor has asked Mr. Vokal to meet with University of Nebraska President J.B. Milliken to discuss the report. Dr. Hill asked that presidents of all Nebraska public institutions receive a copy of the study.

*Presentation by Dennis Jones,  
President NCHEMS*

Dennis Jones, President of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, is the author of the report. He provided a PowerPoint presentation that accompanied his handout, *"Needed in Nebraska, A New Approach to Higher Education Policymaking at the State Level"*. Mr. Jones noted that this is his report, supported and commissioned by the Platte Institute. He emphasized that the Platte Institute did not try to influence what he included in the report.

Historically there has been a view of the relationship between state and higher education focusing on building institutional capacity and being about money - an institution-driven agenda. In the absence of goals the big issues do not get on the table to create conversations about resource allocation and accountability. Nebraska lags behind most other states in having that perspective and conversation. Putting data on the table is useful for creating concrete goals. Mr. Jones noted there is nothing in this report about any single Nebraska institution, rather it is about the state, its citizens, and the sectors of higher education.

It is not just about the relationship between educational attainment and personal income, it is also about health and other social issues. The better educated a population, the healthier the population. There is a huge social benefit to being educated. Nebraska is well above the national average in the percentage of its population that has some form of college degree. The state has a long history of supporting and putting value on education.

Mr. Jones stated that looking forward, however, several things need to be done at the policy level. Goals must be developed. Existing policies should be reviewed, including regulations and procedures and eliminating those that block goal progression. Financial mechanisms should be developed that link allocation of funds to goals. An annual report must be created. Focused analyses for sustaining the agenda, and meetings held that place emphasis on strategies and progress. Lastly, the state needs to invest in data and analytic capacity.

*Commissioner Lauritzen speaks  
on Native American challenges*

Commissioner Lauritzen stated she lives in northeast Nebraska, where Native Americans are a small population with a big challenge to get kids to

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go on to higher education. Mr. Jones replied that these policies are devices to shine a light on a problem. When people acknowledge there is a problem, they will find ways to create solutions.

*Earl Smith from THG Benefits*

Earl (John) Smith, founder and Vice President of THG Benefits, offered to address Commission Lauritzen's comment on Native American challenges. A solution to the Indian nations issue is to create environments where there is a safe harbor for those students who excel and not be brought back down by the norm. These students need to feel safe about their excellence and differences.

Dennis Jones answered questions from Commissioners and in conclusion stated that without education there is not much life chance.

*Certificate of Appreciation presented to Dennis Jones*

Dr. Hill presented Dennis Jones with a certificate of appreciation for coming to speak to the Commissioners. He also thanked the people from the Platte Institute for commissioning the report, as it is performing a needed service to the state of Nebraska. The Commission is going to do what it can to be involved and carry this forward.

~~Meeting adjourned for lunch~~ **The meeting broke for lunch** at 12:22 p.m. Following lunch and a tour of the Culinary Arts Building, the meeting resumed at 1:40 p.m.

*Commissioner Seacrest did not return to the meeting following lunch.*

*Public Hearing on Planning and Consumer Information Committee Items*

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

There was no testimony regarding Planning and Consumer Information Committee items.

**Chair Hunter closed the Public Hearing on Planning and Consumer Information items.**

*Dr. McCuen presents 2013 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report*

**2013 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report**

Dr. Barbara McCuen, Research Coordinator, presented the *2013 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report*, and answered questions from the Commissioners.

*2013 Nebraska Higher Education Report approved*

**Commissioner Lauritzen, on behalf of the Planning and Consumer Information Committee, moved to approve the report and its distribution. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.**

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

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

There was no testimony regarding Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee items.

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Chair Hunter closed the public hearing on Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee items.

**BUDGET, CONSTRUCTION AND FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE**

*Mr. Morrow presents the 2011-2012 Nebraska Opportunity Grant Year-End Report*

**Information Item: 2011-2012 Nebraska Opportunity Grant Year-End Report**

Ritchie Morrow, Financial Aid Coordinator, presented the 2011-2012 Nebraska Opportunity Grant Year-End Report.

Dr. Hill noted that Mr. Morrow is the current President of the National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs. He also took this opportunity to thank the entire CCPE staff for the enormous amount of work done recently.

**FUTURE MEETINGS**

*Next Commission Meeting April 25, 2013*

The next Commission meeting will be held Thursday, April 25, 2013 at Southeast Community College, Lincoln, NE.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.*

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

## Coordinating Commission General Fund

First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2012-2013	2012-2013 General Fund Budget	2012-2013 Current Expenditures	% of Budget Expended Time Elapsed 75.07%
<b>PERSONAL SERVICES</b>			
Permanent Salaries	\$772,000	\$569,967	73.8%
Temporary Salaries			
Overtime			
Subtotal	\$772,000	\$569,967	73.8%
PSL	\$827,400	\$569,967	68.9%
Benefits	\$208,000	\$139,302	67.0%
Subtotal	\$980,000	\$709,269	72.4%
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
Postage	\$3,480	\$1,463	42.0%
Communication	\$15,000	\$9,334	62.2%
Freight	\$125	\$121	96.8%
Data Processing	\$3,000	\$1,753	58.4%
Publication & Printing	\$10,000	\$5,817	58.2%
Awards Expense	\$400	\$203	50.8%
Dues & Subscriptions	\$18,000	\$15,205	84.5%
Conference Registration Fees	\$5,000	\$3,539	70.8%
Electricity	\$3,000	\$1,639	54.6%
Rent Expense	\$41,000	\$28,803	70.3%
Repair & Maintenance	\$100	\$0	0.0%
Office Supplies	\$2,000	\$1,339	67.0%
Food Expenses	\$1,200	\$1,099	91.6%
Education Supplies	\$500	\$312	62.4%
Account & Auditing Services	\$7,000	\$6,944	99.2%
Other Cont. Srvs & Travel Exp.	\$37,000	\$27,882	75.4%
Other	\$1,500	\$1,358	90.5%
Subtotal	\$148,305	\$106,811	72.0%
<b>STAFF TRAVEL</b>			
Board & Lodging	\$5,841	\$4,700	80.5%
Commercial Transportation	\$3,000	\$2,521	84.0%
State-Owned Transportation	\$1,250	\$958	76.6%
Mileage	\$1,350	\$1,043	77.3%
Other	\$500	\$168	33.6%
Subtotal	\$11,941	\$9,390	78.6%
<b>COMMISSIONER TRAVEL</b>			
Board & Lodging	\$2,000	\$1,212	60.6%
Commercial Transportation		\$0	0.0%
Mileage	\$10,000	\$6,995	70.0%
Other	\$25	\$0	0.0%
Subtotal	\$12,025	\$8,207	68.2%
<b>CAPITAL OUTLAY</b>			
Office Equipment	\$3,300		0.0%
Hardware	\$9,000	\$1,275	14.2%
Software	\$1,000	\$0	0.0%
Subtotal	\$13,300	\$1,275	9.6%
<b>MHEC Dues</b>	\$95,000	\$95,000	100.0%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>			
	\$1,260,571	\$929,952	73.8%
General Fund	\$1,244,689	\$1,244,689	
Cash Fund	\$15,882	\$15,882	
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>			
	\$1,260,571	\$1,260,571	
<b>Remaining Balance</b>	\$0	\$330,619	26.2%

**Diesel Technology-AAS, Diploma  
Metropolitan Community College  
Follow-up Report**

***Background:***

- In **2009** the Commission reviewed the diesel technology program as part of its regular program review process. The five year average for SCH/FTE was 456 and the average number of graduates was .4 (Commission thresholds are 275 and 10.0, respectively).
- MCC reported that the program was new in 2004-05 and had recently moved from rented space off-campus to the new Applied Technology Center. Students, however, were generally seeking specialized skills rather than a degree.
- The Commission **continued the program with a report** on enrollments and graduation rates.

***Summary of Institution's Report:***

- Average SCH/FTE was 424 and average number of graduates was 2.0. Total SCH produced was 2,088 (five year average).
- The diesel technology program is home to the CDL truck driving program that generates and supports the majority of the credit hour production.
- The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that jobs for heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers will increase by 21% between 2010 and 2020. In 2011 Bloomberg reported that the current shortfall of drivers would double in a year to about 300,000 positions or 10% of the workforce nationally.
- The high demand for qualified truck drivers has enabled MCC to meet the Commission's threshold for SCH/FTE, but also contributes to a lower number of graduates. Many students complete the courses needed to acquire their CDL license and then get full-time jobs.
- From 2005 through June 2011, 438 students enrolled in the program. Of these, 322 completed the CDL Class A program (73.5%) and 268 became employed (83.2%).
- MCC believes that an average of 10 graduates per year is attainable and will work with incoming students to develop individualized plans of study that will point them to graduation.

***Committee Comment:***

Students taking only enough classes to obtain employment is a chronic condition in high-demand technology fields at community colleges. The large number of SCH reported is evidence of this situation. Although the program falls far short of the Commission threshold for number of graduates, it has experienced an increase. From 2002 through 2007 there were only two awards conferred. From 2007 through 2012 there were ten. The number of students completing the CDL portion of the program supports the need for the program in the community.

***Committee Recommendation:***

Continue the program. The next regular program review is due June 30, 2015.

**Welding Technology-AAS, Certificate  
Metropolitan Community College  
Follow-up Report**

***Background:***

- In January **2002** the Commission reviewed the welding program as part of its regular program review process. The five year average for SCH/FTE was 349 and the average number of graduates was 2.0 (Commission thresholds are 275 and 10.0, respectively). The Commission **continued the program with a report** on number of graduates and conclusions from a scheduled internal review.
- In fall **2002** MCC reported that employers contacted did not necessarily want employees with a degree. MCC made changes to courses and formats. The Commission **continued** the program.
- In **2008** the Commission again reviewed the welding program as part of its regular program review process. The five year average for SCH/FTE was 449 and the average number of graduates was 2.4. The Commission **continued the program with a report** on enrollments and graduation rates.

***Summary of Institution's Report:***

- Average SCH/FTE was 551 and average number of graduates was 3.6. Total SCH produced was 2,485 (five year average).
- In 2010-11 there were four AAS degrees awarded and in 2011-12 there were 9 awards made—eight of them AAS degrees.
- Workers with welding skills are vital to the recovery of the U.S. economy. Employers have contacted MCC as has the Mayor's office inquiring about possible increased activity at MCC to meet local needs.
- The strong local demand has boosted credit hour production but also contributes to a lower number of graduates. Students can take a single welding class and be hired in a good paying entry-level position.
- Industry partners who serve on MCC's advisory committee report that they are starting to require potential employees to have taken more than one welding class and are encouraging those hired to continue their education by providing tuition assistance.

***Committee Comment:***

Students taking only enough classes to obtain employment is a chronic condition in high-demand technology fields at community colleges. The large number of SCH reported is evidence of this situation. The increase in awards in the last two years is encouraging, as is the support from the industry partners, especially in providing tuition assistance.

***Committee Recommendation:***

Continue the program. The next regular program review is due June 30, 2015.

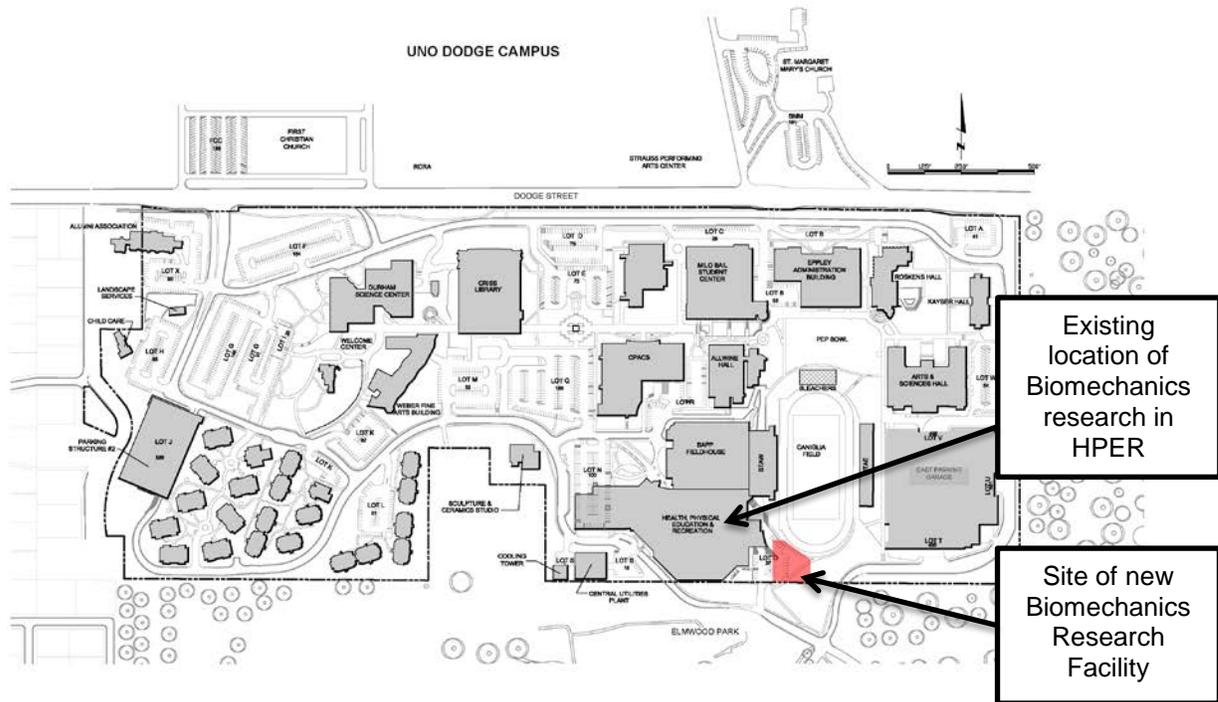
**Institution/Campus:** University of Nebraska at Omaha / Dodge Campus  
**Project Name:** Biomechanics Research Facility O&M  
**Date of Governing Board Approval:** January 27, 2012  
**Date Complete Proposal Received:** March 13, 2013  
**Date of Commission Evaluation:** April 25, 2013

**University of Nebraska at Omaha  
 Total Fall Semester Administrative Site Headcount Enrollment\***

Fall 2008	Fall 2009	Fall 2010	Fall 2011	Fall 2012
14,213	14,620	14,665	14,712	14,786

\* Source: Board of Regents agendas as reported by the UNO Office of Institutional Research. Includes full and part-time undergraduate and graduate students.

**Project Description:** The University of Nebraska at Omaha is in the process of constructing a 22,250 gross square feet (gsf) Biomechanics research facility, located on the Dodge Campus (see site plan below). The project is being constructed with private donations and the university is requesting state appropriations to operate and maintain (O&M) the facility. Commission approval is being requested for use of an incremental increase in appropriation or expenditure of state tax funds for facility O&M costs.



The Nebraska Biomechanics Core Facility (NBCF) is currently housed in 5,457 square feet of space primarily in the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building. The NBCF serves as a biomedical interdisciplinary research facility for engineers, scientists, and clinicians to gain insights on healthy and abnormal human movement patterns. NBCF personnel use state-of-the-art biomedical research technologies such as multi-camera motion analysis systems, partial body weight support systems, portable force platforms, and virtual reality workstations. Research includes the study of postural control in normally developing infants and infants with cerebral palsy; multiple studies of the physiology of gait in patients suffering from PAD, MS, stroke and traumatic brain injury; and development of a virtual reality training package for learning robotic laparoscopic surgery techniques. Space allocation in the new facility includes the following:

- Research laboratory space (6 laboratories) 5,762 sq. ft.
  - Research lab support space 499 sq. ft.
  - Faculty/staff (15) undergrad./grad. (27) office space 3,739 sq. ft.
  - Collaboration/conference room space (4) 1,115 sq. ft.
  - Library/support/shop/storage space 1,710 sq. ft.
  - Building structure & support (circ./restrooms/mech.) 9,425 sq. ft.
- Total – estimated building area* 22,250 sq. ft.

The estimated total project cost of \$6.253 million (\$281.03/gsf) will be financed with private donations. Increased facility operating and maintenance (O&M) costs for the new facility are estimated to be \$195,071/year (\$8.77/gsf/year). The increased facility O&M costs are included in the University of Nebraska's 2013-2015 biennial operating budget request for additional state appropriations.

1. **The proposed project demonstrates compliance and consistency with the *Comprehensive Statewide Plan*, including the institutional role and mission assignment.**

Yes

No

*Comments:* Page 3-5 of the Commission's *Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education* outlines the following major statewide goal regarding research and technology transfer: "Institutions will contribute to the health and prosperity of the people and to the vitality of the state through research and development efforts, technology transfer and technical assistance, and by attracting external funds to support these activities." The university believes that this proposal would assist in attracting additional external research funding.

Page 7-25 of the *Plan* related to the University of Nebraska’s role and mission states: “The State of Nebraska relies on the University of Nebraska institutions as a source of research that advances knowledge and technology, serves the state's economic development goals, and enriches Nebraskans' quality of life.” This proposal is consistent with this role and mission of providing research in biomechanics.

Page 7-36 of the *Plan* related to the University of Nebraska at Omaha’s role and mission states: “UNO's faculty has produced much valuable research and scholarship in a wide variety of disciplines, as is appropriate for faculty at a senior institution where research is integral to graduate-level programs. UNO serves as a source of urban, economic and business-related research that will serve its geographic and programmatic service areas and support its instructional programs. UNO's research mission does not overshadow UNO's primary role of instruction. When possible, research ideally would support and enhance teaching and benefit students. UNO engages in collaborative research with business, government, organizations, and other institutions on issues of significance to the metropolitan area and in those fields in which UNO has statewide responsibilities.” This proposal supports UNO’s collaborative research role as Nebraska Biomechanics Core Facility (NBCF) staff have projects with several collaborators that include UNMC, UNL, Creighton University, Omaha Veterans Affairs Hospital, and Boys Town National Research Hospital, along with other universities throughout the U.S. and world.

2. **The proposed project demonstrates compliance and consistency with the *Statewide Facilities Plan*.**

Yes

No

*Comments:* This proposal largely demonstrates compliance and consistency with Commission's *Statewide Facilities Plan* as outlined in the following criteria as applicable.

**2.A The proposed project includes only new or existing academic programs approved by the Commission.**

Yes

No

*Comments:* Not applicable to this proposal as the project does not involve new or existing academic programs. However, UNO does offer several biomechanics courses.

**2.B Degree that the project demonstrates compliance with the governing-board-approved institutional comprehensive facilities plan.**

High . . . . . Low

*Comments:* The Board of Regents approved the *UNO Facilities Development Plan 2006-2015* on June 15, 2006. The *Plan* does not specifically address this project.

Page 33 of the *Plan* states: "Additional research laboratory needs are estimated at 38,616 nsf, 92 percent greater than present" The shortfall in research space was based on University space guidelines and planning assumptions.

**2.C Degree that the project addresses existing facility rehabilitation needs as represented in a facilities audit report or program statement.**

High . . . . . Low

*Comments:* Not applicable to this proposal, as this project is primarily intended to address a lack of existing research space. The one current laboratory that is available is located in the recently renovated Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building (HPER).

**2.D Degree that project justification is due to inadequate quality of the existing facility because of functional deficiencies and is supported through externally documented reports (accreditation reports, program statements, etc.).**

High . . . . . Low

*Comments:* The program statement outlines the following functional deficiencies with current NBCF space: Offices for the researchers, graduate students, and undergraduate students are not located in the same building, which reduces productivity and collaboration.

Clinical space is not adjacent to the research lab, which does not create a professional environment for patient studies. There is currently minimal client parking and restricted access to the HPER building. The current space lacks security for equipment, data and intellectual property.

**2.E Degree that the amount of space required to meet programmatic needs is justified by application of space/land guidelines and utilization reports.**

High . . . . . Low

*Comments:* Square footage/planning parameters were based upon University space guidelines augmented with comparisons of similar institutions.

The university states that the one existing biomechanics research laboratory is fully utilized beyond capacity.

**2.F Degree that the amount of space required to meet specialized programmatic needs is justified by professional planners and/or externally documented reports.**

High . . . . . Low

*Comments:* The university proposal states that detailed interviews with staff and measurement of existing space and equipment were also used to compare with the space guidelines. The individual room areas were reduced, enlarged or maintained as the function dictated.

**2.G Ability of the project to fulfill currently established needs and projected enrollment and/or program growth requirements.**

High . . . . . Low

*Comments:* The new facility would allow for long-term expansion of research activities in the biomechanics field as grant activity increases.

**2.H The need for future projects and/or operating and maintenance costs are within the State's ability to fund them, or evidence is presented that the institution has a sound plan to address these needs and/or costs.**

High . . . . . Low

*Comments:* This project would not create the need for a future construction project. UNO is requesting additional state appropriations for ongoing facility operating and maintenance (O&M) costs associated with this project. If an increase in state appropriations for O&M is not provided, Facilities & Administrative (F&A) cost funds from increased research grant activities could potentially be used.

**2.I Evidence is provided that this project is the best of all known and reasonable alternatives.**

High . . . . . Low

*Comments:* Construction of a new state-of-the-art research space would appear to be the most reasonable solution to expand UNO's biomechanics research capabilities. The university stated that existing space that met the design needs for biomechanics research was not available on campus.

**2.J Degree that the project would enhance institutional effectiveness/efficiencies with respect to programs and/or costs.**

High . . . . . Low

*Comments:* No cost savings would be realized by this proposal. Construction of modern state-of-the-art research space would assist in the continued growth of biomechanics research at UNO.

**2.K Degree that the amount of requested funds is justified for the project and does not represent an insufficient or extraordinary expenditure of resources.**

High . . . . . Low

*Comments: Operating and Maintenance Costs* - The university is estimating an incremental increase in facility operating and maintenance (O&M) costs for the new research facility of \$195,071/year (\$8.77/gsf/year). Commission staff's estimate to provide facility O&M for the new research laboratory space is \$190,500 per year (\$8.56/gsf/year). The university's estimate is \$4,611/year (2.4%) more than Commission staff's estimate. The primary difference between these estimates is in building maintenance costs.

**2.L Source(s) of funds requested are appropriate for the project.**

High . . . . . Low

*Comments:* Page 6-8 of the Commission's *Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education* states: "In Nebraska, as in other states, funding for research space at public institutions has traditionally come from a variety of sources, including federal, state, and private sources. Opportunities to advance economic development, improve public health or safety, match external funds, renew existing space, or support key institutional missions are circumstances that institutions should consider in asking for (and the Legislature in determining) the provision of state funds for the construction and O&M of research space."

Prior to the 2007-2009 biennium, state general fund appropriations were historically used to finance ongoing facility operating and maintenance (O&M) costs for new research space at Nebraska public postsecondary educational institutions. The State has been partially reimbursed for these research facility appropriations through an annual lump-sum reimbursement from Facilities & Administrative (F&A) cost funds, which come from a percentage of institutional research grant revenues. UNO's reimbursement share to the state is \$120,000 per year. The Governor and Legislature have

allowed remaining institutional F&A cost funds to remain with the campus. UNO grossed \$1.92 million in F&A cost funds in FY 2012. Some of these funds have been used to further enhance institutional research capabilities.

3. **The proposed project demonstrates that it is not an unnecessary duplication of facilities.**

Yes

No

*Comments:* This project will not unnecessarily duplicate other research space on the UNO campus.

3.A **Degree that the project increases access and/or serves valid needs considering the existence of other available and suitable facilities.**

High . . . . . Low

*Comments:* The primary purpose of this project is to expand UNO's biomechanics research capabilities. Existing research space is limited in this area, along with a lack of dedicated collaboration, conference and graduate student work space. This would be the only known dedicated biomechanical research facility in the state.

**COMMISSION ACTION AND COMMENTS:**

Approve

Disapprove

*Action:* Pursuant to the Nebraska Revised Statutes (2008), Section 85-1414, the **Budget, Construction and Financial Aid Committee** of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education recommends approval of University of Nebraska at Omaha's operating and maintenance request as outlined in the Biomechanics research facility program statement and operating budget request.

*Comments:* The Commission appreciates the \$6 million in private donations supporting this project, and is encouraged by the university's continued pursuit of alternative funding to expand its research capabilities.

Historically, state appropriations have funded increased facilities operating and maintenance (O&M) costs for public

postsecondary education research space in Nebraska prior to the 2007-2009 biennium. However, state appropriations for increased facilities' O&M have not been provided for the last three biennia.

This has forced institutions to look at reallocations or alternative funding to replace funds needed to operate and maintain new space. Facilities & Administrative (F&A) cost funds are one option that institutions can consider to replace a lack of facility O&M appropriations. F&A cost funds are a portion of a research grant award intended to reimburse an institution for use of facilities, support services, and administrative overhead functions associated with a research grant. F&A cost funds generally range between 10 and 50 percent of each grant award. UNO generated \$1.92 million in gross F&A cost funds in FY 2012. In not funding new operating and maintenance requests for the past three biennia, the state appears to have created a new expectation that institutions use F&A cost funds to operate and maintain new research space.

The Commission finds that it is reasonable to expect institutional use of F&A cost funds, in addition to state tax funds, for use in operating and maintaining new research space.

*Background:* In 1978, LB 958 established a base amount of about \$1.2 million for all University of Nebraska campuses combined that would reimburse the State for overhead costs associated with research. UNO's portion of the base amount was \$120,000 per year. The flat rates established for the campuses were intended to provide a partial reimbursement of state appropriations for actual state expenses related to research grant activities (e.g., utilities, custodial, maintenance, payroll, accounting, etc.). Allowing institutions to retain a substantial amount of these F&A cost funds has provided an important opportunity to leverage these funds to further increase research grant activity. These F&A cost funds have been used for such items as reimbursement of indirect costs, seed grant programs, start-up funding, investigator recruitment, bridge funding to fill gaps between grant funding cycles for productive investigators, and renovation of existing research laboratories.



# APPLICATION FOR A RECURRENT AUTHORIZATION TO OPERATE A POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION IN NEBRASKA

**Institution:** University of South Dakota (USD)

**Legal Status:** Non-profit; public institution state chartered in 1862

**Proposed Nebraska Location:**

- **Speech-language pathology: Gordon-Rushville High School, Wakefield Schools (Pender and Wayne), and Clarkson Public Schools in Stanton**
- **Reading Recovery®: Lincoln Public Schools offices**
- **Science, Culture and History of the Missouri River: Missouri National Recreational River Resource and Educational Center, Ponca State Park (Ponca)**

**Programs/Courses:**

- **Master of Arts in speech-language pathology (MA)**
- **Reading Recovery® (three graduate courses)**
- **Science, Culture and History of the Missouri River (course)**

**Institution's Existing Degree in Same or Similar Discipline:**

- **The MA in speech-language pathology is offered on the home campus**
- **USD is a Reading Recovery® training center for teacher leaders**
- **The Missouri River Institute is housed at USD, offering a variety of educational experiences related to the river**

**Proposed Start Date:** Summer 2013

## Introduction

The University of South Dakota's main campus is located in Vermillion, South Dakota, in the southern part of the state near the Missouri River. Vermillion has recently been connected directly to Nebraska by a bridge over the river, providing much easier and quicker travel between the campus and northern Nebraska. The speech-language pathology program would be offered at four

web conferencing sites in northeast and northwest Nebraska. Although distance education courses often do not require Commission approval, web conferencing necessitates the meeting of students at a specific time and place for instruction, which meets the Commission’s standard for physical presence, hence requiring approval. The Science, Culture and History of the Missouri River course would be offered on-site in northeastern Nebraska. Reading Recovery®, a national program, would be provided on-site in Lincoln.

**REVIEW CRITERIA**

**A. The financial soundness of the institution and its capability to fulfill its proposed commitments and sustain its operations (and the tuition refund policy for an institution that does not participate in federal financial aid programs described in Title IV of the federal Higher Education Act of 1965...as such act existed on January 1, 2011)**

High-----Low
√

The University of South Dakota provided the audited financial statements for 2010-2011 (the most recent available). The university’s net assets increased by 16.6% from fiscal year 2009-10 through 2010-2011. Cash and cash equivalents decreased by 53.2%, much of which was a result of building and land acquisition. Operating revenues increased about 1.8% while expenses increased 1.6%. The state of South Dakota’s appropriation to the university increased about 17.2% in 2011, a significant increase over the previous year. In summary, Commission staff found no financial issues of concern.

The tuition and fees for the 2012-13 academic year for off-campus and distance learning are \$289 per credit hour for undergraduate courses and \$383 per hour for graduate courses (there is no distinction between in-state and out-of-state students). For comparison, UNO charges \$282 per credit hour for Nebraska residents (\$373 per credit hour for non-residents) for an online bachelor’s in library science. UNL charges \$361.85 per credit hour for Nebraska residents (\$543.35 per credit hour for non-residents) for an online master’s in education. (Tuition in NU online courses varies by program. There were no identical online programs at NU available for comparison.) This makes South Dakota tuition for Nebraska residents comparable to what they would pay for a course from a Nebraska institution.

The University of South Dakota participates in the federal Title IV financial aid program. The application included a copy of their Program Participation agreement with the U.S. Department of Education. It also contained information on financial aid and links to the federal return policy for Title IV funds, college withdrawal policy, and college refund procedures.

**B. The quality of the programs offered, including courses, programs of instruction, degrees, any necessary clinical placements, and the institution’s ability to generate and sustain enrollment**

High-----Low
√

**Curriculum-**

The Master of Arts in speech-language pathology is a three-year (10 semesters) program in which students move through the program as a cohort. The program requires 62 semester credit hours comprised of 36 credit hours of coursework, 6 hours of clinicals and 20 hours of internship. The required 36 hours of coursework is typical of a master’s program. The additional hours for the internship reflect the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) requirements of 400 supervised clock hours, including 25

hours of supervised observation and 375 supervised client hours. The hours must be obtained across the life-span, across the range of disorders, and across at least three physical settings.

The students would likely be currently employed in a setting where they could obtain some of the required observation and client hours. However, USD did not describe how students would have access to sites that would provide the diverse experiences required by the ASHA.

USD states that they are committed to completing the first cohort (three years) and would continue the program if there is demand.

Reading Recovery®—“*Reading Recovery is a short-term intervention for first graders having extreme difficulty with early reading and writing. Specially trained teachers work individually with students in daily 30-minute lessons lasting 12 to 20 weeks. After a full series of lessons, about 75% of these formerly lowest students reach grade-level standard.*”

(<http://readingrecovery.org/reading-recovery>) The program is used in school districts across North America and requires teachers to be trained in the program after their school district has formally adopted Reading Recovery®.

Science, Culture and History of the Missouri River would be offered as part of USD’s Missouri River Institute. The institute was established in 1999 to develop and promote scholarly research, education, and public awareness related to the natural and cultural resources of the Missouri River basin. The course is interdisciplinary and focuses on important topics related to the river, including ecosystem restoration; impacts of dams, channelization, and flow modification; natural and cultural history; and impact of policy decisions. The class would mix lecture and field trips and consist of 45 contact hours for three semester credits. Material would be provided for K-12 teachers, but the course would be open to any student. Because of the applied nature of the course, it is not offered on the USD campus.

**Enrollment** - The university projects an enrollment of 5 students in the MA program based on a current program cohort size and seven to ten students in reading recovery based on enrollments in previous offerings and the size of the district. USD anticipates 10 to 15 students in the Science, Culture and History of the Missouri River course.

UNK, UNL, and UNO all offer master’s degrees in speech/language pathology, but none are authorized for distance delivery by the ASHA. There are only three Reading Recovery® teacher leaders in the state of Nebraska—all in the southeast. One would teach the proposed courses. Given that the opportunities for these programs are limited for the target audiences, the projected enrollments are reasonable.

The Nebraska Department of Labor reports that the average salary for a speech pathologist in Nebraska is \$25.69 per hour (\$53,435 per year). It is likely, however, that the students enrolling in the master’s program are already employed in the local school district and will not be working full time as a speech-language pathologist.

**Credit** - The awarding of credit is based on the following: a contact hour is 50 minutes of instruction time and 15 contact hours earns one semester credit hour. One semester credit hour may be awarded for instruction spanning at least three calendar days.

**C. The quality and adequacy of teaching faculty, library services, and support services**

High-----Low
√

**Faculty** – USD provided information for five faculty members. The speech-language pathology professor is based on the USD campus and has earned a PhD with an EdD in progress. Although he is the faculty member teaching the speech-language pathology course currently being offered, there are 12 other faculty in the communication sciences and disorders department, six of whom hold doctorates. Two of the twelve typically teach in the speech-language pathology distance program along with the current faculty member.

The Reading Recovery® instructor is based in Lincoln and holds a master’s of education with a reading endorsement and Reading Recovery® teacher leader certification. The Missouri River course would be taught by three instructors. One holds a master of natural science degree and two hold PhDs, one in geology and one in zoology.

**Library** - The university provides numerous methods for online students to access library resources. Available resources include databases, online journals, full-text resources, document delivery services (for hard copy requests), and reserve materials. USD also provides information literacy instructions, reference and research assistance daily, evenings, and weekends, and a distance learning librarian. The university is part of the South Dakota Library Network and subscribes to the MINITEX Library Information Network, a publicly supported information and resources sharing program for academic, government, and public and specialized libraries in the Dakotas and Minnesota.

**Support Services** – Student services for distance learners are Web-based and include recruitment services, applications for admission, acceptance notification, registration, financial aid, bill payment, advising, and library services.

All USD students have access 24/7 to My Campus portal. The portal provides a single point of entry for students to access email, library services, student services, and other electronic resources (see Section D.).

**D. The specific locations where programs will be offered or planned locations and a demonstration that facilities are adequate at the locations for the programs to be offered**

The MA program would be delivered via web conferencing sites in four locations. Desire2Learn is the learning management system adopted by USD. Elluminate is the technology that allows faculty members to host real-time chats in which faculty and class members can be seen and heard. Elluminate also provides for video streaming of lectures that are archived for repeated student viewing. Both Desire2Learn and Elluminate are frequently used and well respected programs.

Reading Recovery® would be offered at the Lincoln Public Schools office at 5901 ‘O’ Street.

The Missouri River course would be offered at Ponca State Park in the Missouri National Recreational River Resource and Educational Center. The facility includes conference rooms and classrooms and access to the natural environment in and around the river. The application included a copy of the Memorandum of Agreement between USD and Nebraska Game and Parks Commission for use of the facility.

**E. Whether such institution and, when appropriate, the programs, are fully accredited, or seeking accreditation, by an accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education**

The University of South Dakota is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools through 2020-21. The speech-language pathology program is accredited by the Council of Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) through 2018. USD was authorized by ASHA to offer distance education in 2007. The person who would provide the Reading Recovery® courses is a registered Reading Recovery Teacher Leader and USD is in compliance with the requirements for training and implementation of the program.

**F. Assurances regarding transfer of credits earned in the program to the main campus of such institution [if applicable] and clear and accurate representations about the transferability of credits to other institutions located in Nebraska and elsewhere**

Since USD is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, students would likely be able to readily transfer credits to other regionally accredited institutions. Acceptance of transfer credits is always determined by the receiving institution.

**G. The institution's policies and procedures related to students, including, but not limited to, recruiting and admissions practices**

The admission standards for both undergraduate and graduate students were provided. USD reports that they employ an admissions regional director based in Omaha. Online classes are marketed through geo-targeted online advertising and print materials. Reading Recovery® courses are marketed to Reading Recovery® teachers in Nebraska through summer teacher workshop brochures.

**Additional Comments:** All concerned public and private institutions were notified of the application three weeks prior to the Commission meeting. Interested parties were encouraged to provide written comment two weeks prior to the meeting so that the Academic Programs Committee could consider any input. Comment can also be made during the designated time for public comment on academic program items during the April 25, 2013 Commission meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska.

On April 15, the Commission received a letter from the deans of the colleges of education at UNO, UNK, and UNL (included, following p. 6). The letter stated that the three university campuses each offer accredited speech-language pathology programs and that the deans “do not believe there is a need for another institution to provide this program in the state.” The letter also expressed a concern over the ability of USD to provide sufficient clinical experiences and the possibility that the program might displace opportunities for existing Nebraska programs and students. Lastly, the letter reported that the institutions are constantly monitoring the needs in Nebraska and that each institution has recently increased, or is planning to increase, its number of graduates. The letter did not explain how the university would reach place-bound students in the north and northeast part of the state. The Academic Programs Committee’s decision to forward the speech-language pathology program to the full Commission without a recommendation (see below) is based, in part, on this letter.

Following the committee meeting, the Commission received additional information from USD regarding clinical placements. The university acknowledged that students might be required to travel to complete some of their hours, but that many could be completed in or near their current location. USD listed 12 locations near the proposed web-conferencing sites that have hosted students in the past or are preparing to do so: ESU 1 (Wakefield), ESU 7 (Columbus), ESU 8 (Neligh), Rushville, Gordon, Chadron, Sioux City, Wayne, Pender, Norfolk, Columbus, and West Point. In addition, USD reports that there are several hundred locations across the country where students have participated in clinicals. The clinical placement varies with each semester, depending on the availability of any given facility and staff.

**Committee Comment:** The opportunities offered by USD do not appear to be readily available to the target audiences in any other format. Offering speech-language pathology via web conferencing is an excellent method for reaching isolated or place-bound individuals. Reading Recovery® can only be provided by trained personnel and the number of such people in Nebraska is very small. The Missouri National Recreational River Resource and Educational Center is the only one of its kind in either Nebraska or South Dakota, making it the ideal location for hands-on courses related to the river.

**Committee Recommendation:** Approve the recurrent authorization to operate.

**Institution:** University of South Dakota  
**Owner:** State of South Dakota (Public Institution)  
**Level of authorization:** Authorized to offer less than a complete degree program, limited to Reading Recovery® and courses associated with the Missouri River Institute  
**Length of authorization:** Five years (valid through May 1, 2018)

**No recommendation** for the application to offer a complete degree program at the masters level, limited to the Master of Arts in speech-language pathology at Gordon-Rushville High School, Wakefield Schools (Pender and Wayne), and Clarkson Public Schools in Stanton.

**Reporting requirements:** Annual reporting is required, with the first report due May 1, 2014. Forms are available on the Commission's Web site.

April 12, 2013

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
Office of the Dean

Dr. Marshall Hill  
Executive Director  
Coordinating Commission for  
Postsecondary Education  
P.O. Box 95005  
Lincoln, NE 68509-5005

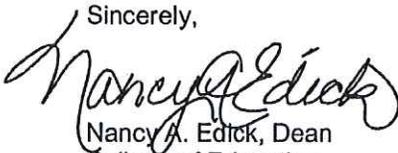
Dear Dr. Hill:

This letter is in response to the University of South Dakota's application to have a speech-language pathology program in Nebraska. The state of Nebraska has three high-quality, accredited speech-language pathology programs delivered at the University of Nebraska Omaha, University of Nebraska Kearney and University of Nebraska Lincoln. We do not believe there is a need for another institution to provide this program in the state.

We are concerned about the ability of a program from South Dakota to provide sufficient clinical experiences in Nebraska, which must be obtained in different work settings, with different populations and with the appropriate equipment and resources. Given the rural demographics of Northeast Nebraska, this may be difficult. Even in the metropolitan area, there can be challenges at times meeting the population demands. The manner and amount of direct supervision necessary for clinical experiences in both medical and educational settings can be a challenge for any training program. Supervisors must hold a current ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence and supervision must be in real time. There is 25% supervision standard that is a minimum requirement, but students who are experiencing difficulty require a higher level of supervision which may be difficult to provide given the possible distance and availability of the qualified professionals. The three NU programs are committed to growing the number of students/graduates consistent with the availability of quality clinical experiences. We work closely together to address needs and our current enrollments are partly based on the capacity of the state resources to support clinical experiences. USD's program may actually displace opportunities for existing Nebraska programs and students enrolled in Nebraska institutions.

The institutions are continually monitoring the needs in Nebraska in the area of speech-language pathology. During the last 3 years, an average of 22 students have earned Master's degrees in speech-language pathology from the University of Nebraska Omaha, which is an increase from 5 years ago when 10 students graduated with a Master's degree in speech-language pathology. The University of Nebraska Kearney also reports steady increases in students receiving Master's degrees in speech-language pathology as follows: 2009 = 11 graduates; 2010 = 12 graduates; 2011 = 14 graduates; 2012 = 17 graduates. The increases in graduation rates coincide with UNK's increases in graduate student admissions from 13 in the fall of 2009 to 19 in fall of 2012, with 25 new graduate students anticipated for fall of 2013. At the University of Nebraska Lincoln, an average of 26 students graduates each year with a master's degree. The program at UNL is planning to grow to 40 masters' students per year.

Sincerely,

  
Nancy A. Edick, Dean  
College of Education  
University of Nebraska at Omaha

  
Marjorie Kostelnik, Dean  
College of Education and  
Human Sciences  
University of Nebraska Lincoln

  
Ed Scantling, Dean  
College of Education  
University of Nebraska Kearney



## Application to Modify a Recurrent Authorization to Operate

**Institution:** Bryan College of Health Sciences

**Program:** Nursing

**Degree:** Doctor of Education (EdD)

**Program:** Health Professions-Healthcare Studies

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science (BS)

**Institution's Existing Degree(s) in  
Same or Similar Discipline:**

Bachelor of Science in Nursing  
Master of Science in Nursing, nurse educator  
Bachelor of Science in Health Professions-  
completion

**Proposal Received by Commission:** February 15, 2013

**Proposed Start Date:** Fall 2013

### Background

For many years Bryan Hospital in Lincoln offered a training program for nurses. In 2001 the Commission approved an application from BryanLGH College of Health Sciences (now Bryan College of Health Sciences) to become a four-year institution offering a bachelor of science in nursing.

Bryan currently holds a recurrent authorization to operate offering a bachelor of science in nursing, a bachelor of science in health professions completion, a bachelor of science in medical science, several associate degrees in allied health fields, a master of science in nurse anesthesia, a master of science in nursing-nurse educator, and a Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice. The two programs in the application are outside the scope of the recurrent authorization to operate, and so require Commission approval.

### Description

The proposed doctoral program would prepare students for teaching and leadership roles in nursing and healthcare education. As the demand for nurses increases, so does the demand for nursing instructors. Currently, doctorally prepared nursing instructors most often hold a PhD in nursing. Some hold an MSN with an EdD in curriculum and instruction. The proposed program would help meet the growing need for nurse educators. It would be open to nurses holding a master's degree in nursing and an RN license.

The baccalaureate program is designed to prepare students for many types of positions in healthcare including those in hospitals, long term facilities, physician practices, and public health management, as well as entry into graduate school. The existing baccalaureate programs at Bryan are limited in scope. The proposed program would provide an additional opportunity for students, particularly those enrolled in current programs who decide a different field of study would better suit them.

**REVIEW CRITERIA**

**A. The financial soundness of the institution and its capability to fulfill its proposed commitments and sustain its operations**

High-----Low
√

Bryan College of Health Sciences provided the audited financial statements for the years ending May 31, 2012 and 2011 for Bryan Health System, Inc. and Subsidiaries. Commission staff reviewed the

documents and found no financial issues of concern. In fact, the college continues to improve its financial picture. Cash and cash equivalents increased over 30% during the 2011-12 fiscal year. The most recent composite financial score available from the U.S. Department of Education is for 2009-10. The college’s score at that time was 2.9, falling within the Department’s acceptable ratings of 1.5 to 3.0. (The scale is based on financial soundness, operating funds, and debt. The range is -1.0 to 3.0; the higher the score, the better the institution’s financial status.) The college also provided financial projections for both programs for the first five years. The BS program showed a gross profit in each year while the EdD was projected to show a profit in year 3.

The audit did note that the college was not in compliance with U.S. Department of Education’s policy for federal financial aid and as a result, two students were over-awarded. There is no indication of any sanctions taken by the Department and Bryan reports that the issue has been corrected.

Current tuition for graduate courses is \$475 per credit hour with a \$39 per credit hour fee. The undergraduate tuition is \$447 per credit hour with a \$24 per credit hour fee. Current undergraduate tuition at UNMC is \$277.20 per credit hour with varying fees. Graduate tuition varies with programs; graduate nursing tuition is \$439.50 per credit hour.

**B. The quality of the programs offered, including courses, programs of instruction, degrees, any necessary clinical placements, and the institution’s ability to generate and sustain enrollment**

High-----Low
√

**Curriculum** - The proposed EdD in nursing education program would consist of 90 semester credit hours divided into two phases. The first phase is a master of science in nursing education awarded from Bryan or any institution with a nursing education program. The master’s degree accounts for 36 hours of the program. The remaining 54 hours would consist of a variety of courses in educational administration, healthcare administration, and leadership; a required teaching practicum for students who do not have teaching experience; 12 hours of research methods; and 12 hours of dissertation. The program would be offered in a face-to-face format supplemented with independent and online learning. This format allows flexibility for working nurses.

The BS in health professions-healthcare studies program would require 120 semester credit hours including a 59 hour general education core. While this is a larger than usual number of general education credits, it includes courses not typically counted as general education, such as medical terminology and anatomy and physiology.

The remaining 61 hours would include a required senior internship/practicum, a capstone course, and a course in “preparation for professional practice”. Each student would also select an area of concentration (essentially a major area of study) requiring 43 to 45 credit hours. The concentrations combine two of the following fields into nine different areas of concentration. The fields are public health, biomedical science, social science, healthcare management, and gerontology.

**Enrollment - EdD in nursing education:** Bryan reports that many institutions offering MSN programs are seeking to meet accreditation requirements by upgrading their faculty to the doctoral level. Bryan has a list of master’s prepared students waiting for the EdD program to be approved. They estimate that 8 students would enroll in the first year, 10 in the second, and 12 in each of the following years. The proposal cites several studies that address the need for nurse educators. A 2010 Nurse Educator Shortage Fact Sheet from the National League for Nursing identified 1,900 unfilled full-time nurse faculty positions. The fact sheet also identified faculty age as a factor in the shortage, with 48% of nursing faculty age 55 and over.

A second study was conducted by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. In 2010-11 there were 65,563 qualified applicants turned away from baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs. In two-thirds of the cases, faculty shortage was listed as a factor.

Lastly, the proposal cites the Institute of Medicine Future of Nursing Report. It calls for 80% of nurses to be educated at the baccalaureate level and doubling of the number of doctoral prepared faculty by 2020.

There are no EdD programs in nursing education in Nebraska, nor are there many in the United States. Creighton University offers a Doctor of Nurse Practice (DNP) and UNMC has both a DNP and PhD in nursing. The proposal states that the Nebraska State Board of Nursing annual report lists 14 graduates from these three programs combined in 2011. In addition to Creighton and UNMC, College of St. Mary, Clarkson College, and Nebraska Methodist College offer MSN programs that would likely be seeking doctorally prepared instructors. While 14 doctoral graduates were produced, not all will go into education.

**BS in health professions-healthcare studies:** Enrollment for the BS program is projected to be 3 students in the first year, 8 in the second, 15 in the third, and 25 in the fourth and fifth. The lower initial numbers are reasonable since part of the target audience is students currently enrolled at Bryan who decide to change fields.

In 2010 the College and Bryan Medical Center joined forces to review Nebraska healthcare workforce data from the Nebraska Department of Labor and the Nebraska Health Workforce Planning Project. The team also conducted a survey of hospitals, long-term care facilities, and home healthcare agencies regarding the need for various types of healthcare professionals. The results show that there is a need for professionals with graduate degrees. The proposed BS program would provide a base from which students could continue their education in a health field. Bryan also notes that the medical center and Heartland Health Alliance have long recognized the dearth of adequately educated management professionals in the region, often having to recruit candidates from out of state. The BS program would provide a local pool of potential employees.

**Clinical Placements** – There would be no clinicals required for either program. EdD students who do not have teaching experience would be required to take a teaching practicum. The

application states that placements for EdD students with Bryan faculty and nurse educators within the city of Lincoln are readily available, although the needs assessment indicates that most of the students would already be employed as nurse educators.

BS students would have a required internship/practicum. The program allows students to select from a variety of specialized areas. Bryan reports that the college currently has over 150 contracts with agencies for healthcare experiences. These will form the base for internship placements.

**Credit** – A semester credit hour will consist of 15 clock hours of face-to-face instruction. A clock hour is 50 minutes in length. Students would also spend time outside class preparing for a learning experience.

**C. The quality and adequacy of teaching faculty, library services, and support services**

High-----Low
√

**Faculty – EdD in nursing education:** Bryan states that the faculty teaching in the MSN program will be the foundation for the EdD program. There is one full-time professor who also serves as program director, three full-time faculty, one adjunct faculty, and one administrator. One of the faculty members was specifically hired as the college planned for the implementation of the EdD. One faculty member is completing a doctorate; all others hold doctorates. Additional doctorally prepared adjuncts would be hired to teach selected courses.

**BS in health professions-healthcare studies:** The proposal states that there are three full-time faculty with PhDs who teach in the natural sciences as well as two long-term adjunct science faculty. There is also a program director who teaches half-time.

**Library** - The college library includes the print and electronic holdings of the college as well as the Bryan Medical Center. The collection contains approximately 150 professional journals, 4,000 monographs, 200 multimedia materials and medical and general education bibliographic databases. The Library utilizes an integrated library system (ILS)—a web based, hosted system containing the online catalog so students and faculty can search the collection from anywhere they can access the internet. A 26-station computer laboratory is also housed within the library with three computers in the student lounge for use outside library hours.

The college reports that in preparation for and support of the doctoral program, the library has added subscriptions to RefWorks (an online research management, writing and collaboration tool) and ProQuest Dissertations & Theses (a comprehensive collection of 2.3 million worldwide dissertations and theses). A reference librarian holding an MLS and AHIP certification provides instruction to improve information literacy and to support students and faculty in the utilization of the library resources

**Support Services** - Comprehensive student support services are already in place at Bryan College of Health Sciences, including academic counseling, short-term counseling for non-academic issues, health and wellness activities, and financial aid assistance.

***D. The specific locations where programs will be offered or planned locations and a demonstration that facilities are adequate at the locations for the programs to be offered***

Classes would be held in the College of Health Sciences adjoining the Bryan Medical Center East (5035 Everett Street, Lincoln). The educational complex includes classrooms, conference rooms, a skills laboratory, library facilities, computer laboratory, and offices for faculty, administrative personnel, and support staff. A graduate student study center adjacent to the library, completed in 2012, offers tables and chairs for group work, additional comfortable seating, charging areas for electronics, and a wall-mounted flat screen for projecting group work from laptops.

The college also utilizes space at Bryan Medical Center's West campus, located three miles west of the college. This location is home to the College's Natural Science Laboratory, faculty offices, classrooms for natural science instruction, small group work, and the Center for Excellence in Clinical Simulation. The Natural Science Laboratory is the permanent home to plastinated human body specimens and the Center for Excellence in Clinical Simulation includes state-of-the-art, high-fidelity adult, birthing, and pediatric patient simulators as well as an 11-bed patient care unit that replicates the hospital environment.

***E. Assurances regarding transfer of credits earned in the program to the main campus of such institution [if applicable] and clear and accurate representations about the transferability of credits to other institutions located in Nebraska and elsewhere***

Since Bryan College of Health Sciences is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, students should be able to transfer credits in the same manner as they transfer credits earned at any other regionally accredited institution. Acceptance of transfer credits from any institution is at the discretion of the receiving institution. The proposal states that the curriculum for the BS is similar enough to the curricula of other programs in the region that courses taken at Bryan should be accepted for credit should a student decide to transfer to a related program at another institution.

***F. Whether such institution and, when appropriate, the programs, are fully accredited, or seeking accreditation, by an accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education***

Bryan College of Health Sciences is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Because the college is in the initial years of accreditation, all new programs must be approved by the HLC. If the programs are approved by the Coordinating Commission, the college will seek approval from the HLC to award the EdD degree and the BS in health professions-healthcare studies.

The MSN degree that comprised the first phase of the EdD has achieved candidate status with the National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission (NLNAC). NLNAC does not accredit doctoral programs that do not lead to licensure.

**G. *The institution's policies and procedures related to students, including but not limited to, recruiting and admissions practices***

The college's policies and admission standards are included in the college catalog (both undergraduate and graduate catalogs were provided) and pertinent sections were attached to the application. Requirements specific to the EdD were listed in the application.

The college reported that they will recruit students primarily through their Web site, Admissions Department Recruiter contact, or personal contact from the program director.

**Additional Comments:** All concerned public and private institutions were notified of the application three weeks prior to the Commission meeting. Interested parties were encouraged to provide written comment two weeks prior to the meeting so that the Academic Programs Committee could consider any input. Comment can also be made during the designated time for public comment on academic program items during the April 25, 2013 Commission meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska.

**Committee Recommendation:** **Approve the Modification to Recurrent Authorization to Operate to include the EdD and BS in health professions-healthcare studies.**

**Reporting Requirements:** Bryan College of Health Sciences has an annual reporting requirement in place. These programs would be included in that report which is due January 19, 2014.

## Annual Report for Institutions Holding a Recurrent Authorization to Operate in Nebraska Reports Received between February 2013 and April 2013

Recurrent authorization to operate means approval by the Commission to operate a postsecondary institution in Nebraska until a renewal of the authorization is required. Under legislation passed in 2011, institutions were required to seek a recurrent authorization by December 31, 2011. The documents were reviewed by the Commission during the last part of 2011 and the first few months of 2012. Most authorizations were approved for a five year period with an annual reporting requirement. The following table is a summary of the annual reports submitted February 2013 through April 2013. No action is required.

Institution	Program name	Degree/ Award	# Currently Enrolled*	# Graduated/ Completed**	Total Campus Enrollment*	Recent Accreditation Activity
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University <i>(Original approval prior to 1992)</i>	Aeronautics	BAS	150	10	159	SACS reaffirmed accreditation through 2022.
	Technical Management	BAS	4	2		
	Aeronautical Science	MAS	158	26		
Gallup University <i>(Original approval 4/16/2009)</i>	None	NA	0	0		Not seeking accreditation.
ITT Technical Institute <i>(Original approval 5/13/2003)</i>	Business Management	AAS	0	0***		New program start dates extended by ACICS (not applicable to any Nebraska programs).
	Computer Drafting and Design	AAS	10	26		
	Computer & Electronics Engineering Technology	AAS	24	31		
	Criminology & Forensic Technology	AAS	43	0***		
	Criminal Justice	AAS	10	32		
	Drafting & Design Technology	AAS	26	0***		
	Electrical Engineering Technology	AAS	60	0***		
	Graphic Communications & Design	AAS	19	0***		
	Computer Network Systems	AAS	15	53		
	Network Systems Administration	AAS	82	0***		
	Nursing	AAS	98	35		
	Paralegal Studies	AAS	1	5		
	Visual Communications	AAS	4	24		
	Construction Management	BS	14	6		
	Digital Engineering & Game Design	BS	29	11		
	Electronics and Communication Engineering Technology	BS	2	14		
Information Systems Security	BS	4	3			
Electrical Engineering & Communications Technology	BS	8	0***			

Institution	Program name	Degree/ Award	# Currently Enrolled*	# Graduated/ Completed**	Total Campus Enrollment*	Recent Accreditation Activity
	Information Systems & Cybersecurity	BS	17	0***	478	
	Project Management	BS	3	2		
	Project Management Administration with options	BS	0	0***		
Kansas State University (Original approval 4/12/2012)	Veterinary Medicine	Doctorate		41	N/A – veterinary student rotations only	HLC continued accreditation through 2022.
Lesley University (Original approval 12/16/1983)	Technology in Education	Med	0	10		
Morningside College (Original approval 12/6/2007)	None	MHR	0	8	N/A – courses only	
National American University (Original approval 1/20/2011)	Business Administration	AAS	31		232	HLC approved 9 new campuses, relocation of 2 campuses, the MS in management, a doctoral certificate, and a change in mission statement.
	Business Administration	BS	13			
	Criminal Justice	AAS	7			
	Criminal Justice	BS	3			
	Information Technology	AAS	12			
	Information Technology	BS	1			
	Healthcare Management	BS	3			
	Applied Information Technology	AAS	2			
Medical Assisting	AAS	24				
Omaha School of Massage and Healthcare of Herzing University (Original approval 1/22/2009)	Insurance Billing & Coding	AS	2	2	112	
	Insurance Billing & Coding	Diploma	6	2		
	Therapeutic Massage	AS	14	15		
	Therapeutic Massage	Diploma	87	63		
	Business Management	BS	1	0		
	Criminal Justice	BS	1	0		
	Bookkeeping & Payroll Accounting	Diploma	1	0		
Medical Assisting	Diploma	0	6			
Sioux Falls Seminary (Original approval 7/21/2011)	Master of Divinity	MDiv	12	0	12	ATS reaffirmed accreditation for seven years (spring 2019) with monitoring reports; HLC extended accreditation for six years (2017-18).

Institution	Program name	Degree/ Award	# Currently Enrolled*	# Graduated/ Completed**	Total Campus Enrollment*	Recent Accreditation Activity
University of Missouri (Original approval 9/19/2001)	Information Science & Learning Technologies, Library Science Emphasis	MA	46	20	46	COA changed status to conditional accreditation in 2012 & accepted a plan to remove conditional status in 2013.

\*on date of report

\*\*for most recent year

\*\*\*these programs have not had a  
first graduating class

HLC = Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools

ACICS = Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

SACS = Southern Association of Colleges & Schools

COA = American Library Association's Committee on Accreditation

ATS = Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools



## NEW INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM PROPOSAL

<b>Institution:</b>	<b>University of Nebraska Medical Center</b>
<b>Program:</b>	<b>Radiation Science Technology: Cardiovascular Interventional Technology Computed Tomography (CT) Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Diagnostic Medical Sonography Nuclear Medicine Technology Radiation Therapy</b>
<b>Award:</b>	<b>Post-baccalaureate Certificate</b>
<b>Institution's Existing Degree(s) in Same or Similar Discipline:</b>	<b>BS in radiation science technology</b>
<b>Proposal Received by Commission:</b>	<b>January 28, 2013</b>
<b>Proposed Start Date:</b>	<b>When approved by the Coordinating Commission</b>

### Description

The curricula for the six proposed certificates are already in place and available to students who have completed a radiography program at another institution, most often an undergraduate certificate or associate degree. If accepted into the program at UNMC, students can take the courses and earn a BS degree in radiography. But for students who have already completed a BS degree, many of whom are UNMC graduates, taking the courses results in additional training for them, but not an academic award. They are also ineligible for financial aid since they have a degree but are not enrolled in a graduate program. UNMC proposes to create six stand-alone graduate certificates in these specialty areas of radiation science technology. UNMC is in the process of reviewing and revising the course curricula so that the courses may be offered for graduate credit. In addition to face-to-face delivery on the UNMC campus, the programs would be delivered at distance to UNMC locations in Grand Island, Columbus, and Scottsbluff, and in the future, in Kearney.

The requirements for the certificates vary, reflecting recent advances in technology, professional credentialing requirements, and requirements of specialized accrediting bodies.

Cardiovascular Interventional Technology:	32 semester credit hours
Computed Tomography (CT):	26 semester credit hours
Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI):	28 semester credit hours
Diagnostic Medical Sonography:	40 semester credit hours*
Nuclear Medicine Technology:	46 semester credit hours**
Radiation Therapy:	41 semester credit hours***

\*Accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs upon recommendation of the Joint Review Committee for Diagnostic Medical Sonography requires 18 hours of clinical coursework to allow students to perform a sufficient number of procedures to develop proficiency.

\*\*The Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology made major changes in 2010 to program standards, resulting in increased breadth and depth in the curriculum.

\*\*\* Meets the requirements of the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology for classroom and clinical hours.

Consistent with Institutional Role and Mission?      √   YES               NO

Consistent with Statewide Comprehensive Plan?      √   YES               NO

**REVIEW CRITERIA**

**A. Need for the Program**

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

UNMC cites the U.S. Department of Labor’s projections of an increase in employment in radiation science of 14% to 40% through 2020. For the specialty areas, the percentages are: nuclear medicine, 14%; radiation therapy, 20%; radiologic technology (includes CT and MRI), 28%; cardiovascular interventional technology, 29%; and diagnostic medical sonography, 40%. Commission staff consulted the Nebraska Department of Labor’s web site. The estimated annual openings in the state were projected to increase by about 18% for radiologic technicians and nuclear medicine technologists and by over 30% for cardiovascular technologists and radiation therapists (all for persons holding an associate degree). The annual salary ranged from \$48,714 for radiologic technicians to \$68,890 for radiation therapists.

UNMC states that in the past five years, students completing the specialized curricula reported a 95%-100% job placement rate within six months of graduation. Graduates who earn a certificate in one or more specialty areas would be especially attractive to smaller communities in Nebraska where hospitals and clinics cannot afford to hire several people with different skills in order to provide specialized services. Since the programs would be available at distance, they should be attractive to radiologists employed in rural areas who wish to upgrade their skills.

**B. Demand for the Program**

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

In the past three years, UNMC reports that a total of 71 students have enrolled in the curricula for the proposed programs. The largest number was 23 in diagnostic medical sonography. These are significant numbers and with an academic award available at distance, the number enrolled should increase.

**C. Avoidance of Unnecessary Duplication**

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

There are no other programs of this type in the state of Nebraska. The programs in radiology at Nebraska Methodist College are associate degrees. Clarkson College offers a 12 hour certificate in imaging informatics. Bryan College of Health Sciences in Lincoln has baccalaureate degrees in vascular sonography and adult cardiac sonography, but does not offer graduate certificates in the field.

**D. Resources: Faculty/Staff**

High-----Low
No new resources

UNMC reports that no new faculty would be needed since the required courses are already in place.

**E. Resources: Physical Facilities/Equipment**

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

Faculty offices are located in the recently remodeled Bennett Hall. Classes are held in the new Michael Sorrell Center for Health Science Education where rooms are equipped with technology for synchronous and asynchronous distance education delivered to Grand Island, Columbus, and Scottsbluff. Many of the clinical experiences take place at the Nebraska Medical Center, a 689 bed tertiary care facility

with extensive radiation science services. UNMC also houses the Interventional Radiology Department, the largest in the state and one of the largest in the region. It provides a complete range of minimally invasive diagnostic and therapeutic procedures.

**F. Resources: Library/Information Access**

High-----Low	UNMC states that no additional resources would be needed since the program would utilize existing courses. The McGoogan Library of Medicine is available to students as well as online resources. Students outside Omaha have the same access to all electronic resources.
No new resources	

**G. Budget**

Since there are no additional courses and no changes to administration or other resources, UNMC deems the new graduate certificates to be “budget neutral.” After the initial administrative conversion to graduate certificates, there should be minimal additional resources required.

**Committee Comment:** The new certificates will benefit students by providing an academic award not previously available for specialized coursework and also making them eligible for financial aid. Additionally, there is minimal added cost for offering the certificates.

UNMC’s target for completing review and revision of the courses is June 15, 2013. The university states that no students will be allowed to matriculate in any of the certificate programs until that process is complete and has been approved by UNMC and NU Central Administration and entered into the student information system. UNMC would also seek approval from the Higher Learning Commission and from the U.S. Department of Education for financial aid purposes.

**Committee Recommendation:** **Approve, with the condition that UNMC receive approval from the Higher Learning Commission.**

**First Program Review Date: Due June 30, 2019**

## 2011-2012 EXISTING PROGRAM REVIEW

UNIVERSITY & STATE COLLEGE PROGRAMS APPROVED by the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR								
Institution	Program	5 yr Average (2006-2011)						
		SCH/FTE	Baccalaureate Degrees awarded		Masters Degrees awarded		Doctorate Degrees awarded	
UNK	Aviation Systems Management	442	BS	6.4				
UNO	Aviation Administration	281	BGS	5.8				
			BS	15.0				
	Healthcare Administration		BGS	7.4				
	Nonprofit Administration		BGS	7.2				
	Public Administration				MPA	53.4	PhD	1.8
	Public Management				Cert.	1.0		
UNO	Gerontology	550	Cert.	8.0	Cert.	4.8		
			BGS	2.6	MA	0.8		
UNK	Broadcasting	460	BS/BA	5.2				
	Journalism		BS/BA	24.6				
	Multimedia		BS/BA	3.8				
UNO	Theatre	338	BGS	0.2	MA	4.8		
			BA	9.0				
UNO	Creative Writing	268	BGS	1.4				
			BFA	9.0				
	Writing				MFA	6.6		
UNO	Art	410	BGS	4.8				
	Art History		BA	5.8				
	Studio Art		BFA	17.6				
			BA	34.2				
UNO	Music	459	BGS	2.8	MM	11.8		
			BM	23.0				
UNMC	Interdepartmental Medical Sciences Area	*			MS	5.0	PhD	3.0
UNMC	Nuclear Medicine	272	BS RST	4.8				
UNMC	Radiation Therapy	147	BS RST	7.4				
UNMC	Diagnostic Medical Sonography	291	BS RST	6.6				
UNMC	Radiography	652	BS RST	14.0				

\*Interdepartmental

UNIVERSITY & STATE COLLEGE PROGRAMS APPROVED by the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR							
Institution	Program	5 yr Average (2006-2011)					
		SCH/FTE	Baccalaureate Degrees awarded		Masters Degrees awarded		Doctorate Degrees awarded
UNK	Radiography	629	BS	10.0**			
	Respiratory Therapy		BS	2.4**			
	Medical Technology		BS	0.0**			
	Health Sciences		BS	4.6**			
UNO	Neuroscience	*	BS	1.0***			
UNMC	Medical Nutrition	86****			Cert.	5.8	

\*Interdepartmental

\*\*Students in these programs typically complete two or three years at UNK and then finish their program at a health science institution or professional school.

\*\*\*2 year average (program began in 2009)

\*\*\*\*Many UNMC programs draw upon faculty expertise that resides in multiple departments. UNMC relies heavily on team-taught courses spanning several departments. The coursework often becomes the foundation for clinical experiences that are supervised by multiple faculty who have appointments that combine teaching and/or research with clinical appointments. The result is a low SCH/FTE.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROGRAMS APPROVED by the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR						
Institution	Program	5 yr Average (2006-2011)				
		SCH/FTE	Associate		Diploma	Certificate
MPCC	Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic	260	AAS	6.0*	3.0*	9.0*
NECC	EMT / Paramedic	281	AAS	4.2		4.2
SCC	Emergency Medical Services / Paramedic	352**	AAS	0**		0.0

\*3 year average. Program was approved in 2008 with the first graduates in 2009.

\*\*2 year average (program started in 2009)

<b>PROGRAMS DISCONTINUED by the INSTITUTIONS</b>			
<b>Institution</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Degree(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
CSC	Library Information Management	BA/BSE	
SCC	Parts Marketing and Management	AAS	Low enrollment numbers
SCC	Intelligent Machine Integration	Certificate	Due to technology changes this will be incorporated into a new focus within the Machine Tool Technology Program.
CCC	Accounting Clerk	Certificate	
CCC	Business Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal Office specialization</li> <li>• Software Integration</li> </ul>	AAS	
CCC	Construction Electrician	Diploma	
CCC	Information Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Computer Programming</li> <li>• Database Support</li> <li>• Information Security Assurance</li> <li>• Technical Support</li> <li>• Web Developer</li> </ul>	Certificate and AAS	Replaced with new specializations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information Technology Developer (AAS)</li> <li>• Information Technology Support Specialist (AAS)</li> </ul>
SCC	Energy Generation Operations – Wind Energy focus	AAS	
SCC	Office Professional – Medical Transcription focus	Diploma	

## Commission Thresholds

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

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

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

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)	275
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## 2011-2012 Programs Requiring Additional Review

\*\* (Item in bold is under Commission Threshold)

			Five Year Average (2006-11)							
Institution	Program	Degree	Degrees Awarded	SCH	FTE	SCH/FTE	Need (selected summarized comments from institutional reviews)	Governing Board Action	Recommend CCPE Action	CCPE Comments
UNMC	Pre-Medical Science	Graduate Cert.	<b>2.25*</b>	N/A – Interdepartmental			This program was never intended to attract large numbers of students and focuses its efforts on students who have previously applied to medical school and come close to admission but were unsuccessful on that attempt.	Continue	Continue	
UNMC	Radiation Oncology Physics	Graduate Cert.	<b>0.3</b>	25.8	6	<b>4.3</b>	The program is accredited and is one of a limited number of training programs in the country that meets the new requirements for medical physicists certification by the American Board of Radiology. Because of the intensive, often “one-on-one” training of these students, it can accommodate only a very limited number each year (1-2). The program had some faculty turnover in 2007 and 2008, along with the loss of one of the physics residents, so UNMC had to wait until the next year to re-start the program. They now have two physics residents enrolled and are in the process of applying for re-accreditation. The program has had over 100 applicants each year for the past two years for one open position.	Continue	Continue	
UNMC	Health Promotion & Disease Prevention Research	PhD	<b>0.0</b>	73.7	10	<b>7.6**</b>	Program was initiated in 2009. Initial graduates should appear in the next two years.	Continue	Continue	
UNMC	Health Services Research Admin. & Policy	PhD	<b>0.0</b>	107	7.7	<b>14.8**</b>	Program was initiated in 2009. It is anticipated that one student will graduate in Spring, 2012.	Continue	Continue	

			Five Year Average (2006-11)							
Institution	Program	Degree	Degrees Awarded	SCH	FTE	SCH/FTE	Need (selected summarized comments from institutional reviews)	Governing Board Action	Recommend CCPE Action	CCPE Comments
UNO	Urban Studies	MS	3.6	5760	20.6	281	Approximately six years ago the program was converted to a totally on-line format. Unintended impacts of the conversion included a significant decrease in the diversity of the student population, sudden drop in international students, and weakened connections to local community-based development organizations and government agencies. A plan is being implemented to address some of these issues with the end result of increasing student enrollment and graduation rates and reestablishing the position of the program in the Omaha community.	Continue	Continue, with a report on enrollments and graduation rates due 9-30-15.	
WNCC	Emergency Medical Technician	AOS Cert.	0.4 0.0	708	3	246	For the past three years the program has averaged over 20 students per year enrolled in the program. Students can earn a Professional Skills Award (PSA) after completing the EMT-Basic courses, but due to an administrative issue this hasn't happened. Since 2005, 153 students have qualified for the PSA. In December 2012 WNCC submitted an application for national certification of the program.	Continue	Continue, with a report on graduation/completion rates and status of program accreditation due 6-30-14.	

\*4 year average (approved in August 2008)

\*\*Many UNMC programs draw upon faculty expertise that resides in multiple departments. UNMC relies heavily on team-taught courses spanning several departments. The coursework often becomes the foundation for clinical experiences that are supervised by multiple faculty who have appointments that combine teaching and/or research with clinical appointments. The result is a low SCH/FTE.

## INFORMATION ITEMS

### A. Program Name Changes

1. SCC – Chrysler College Automotive to  
*MOPAR-Chrysler/Dodge/RAM/Jeep College Automotive*
2. SCC – Machine Tool Technology to  
*Precision Machining and Automation Technology*
3. CCC – Business Technology (diploma) to  
*Administrative Assistant (diploma)*
4. CCC – Paralegal (diploma) to  
*Legal Office (diploma)*
5. CCC – Business Design Concepts (certificate) to  
*Business Imaging (certificate)*
6. SCC – Energy Generation Operations-Biofuels focus to  
*Energy Generation Operations-Process Operations-Biofuels focus*

### B. Program Deletions

1. SCC – Parts Marketing and Management (AAS, Diploma)
2. SCC – Intelligent Machine Integration (Certificate)
3. CSC – Library Information Management (BA/BSE)
4. CCC – Business Administration-Accounting Clerk (Certificate)
5. CCC – Business Technology
  - Legal Office Specialization (AAS)
  - Software Integration (Diploma)
6. CCC – Construction Technology-Construction Electrician (Diploma)
7. CCC – Information Technology
  - Computer Programming (AAS Specialization, Certificate)
  - Database Support (AAS Specialization, Certificate)
  - Information Security Assurance (AAS Specialization, Certificate)
  - Technical Support (AAS Specialization, Certificate)
  - Web Developer (AAS Specialization, Certificate)
8. SCC – Energy Generation Operations-Wind Energy focus
9. SCC – Office Professional-Medical Transcription focus

### C. Program Focus Change

1. SCC – Precision Machining and Automation Technology
  - a. Go from three focuses to two: a Tool Maker focus, and a CNC and Automation focus. (Old focuses were: Diemaker, Moldmaker, Tool & Diemaker)

### D. Reasonable and Moderate Extensions

1. WNCC – AS Emphasis Areas in Rangeland Management & Agricultural Science
2. WNCC – Emergency Medical Technician (AOS)
3. CCC – Automotive Technology
  - Engine Performance (Certificate)
  - Brakes/Steering/Suspension (Certificate)
  - Automotive Technology (Certificate)
  - Engine Repair (Certificate)

4. CCC – Criminal Justice
    - Police Field Services (Diploma)
    - Correctional Science (Certificate)
    - Police Science (Certificate)
    - Private Security (Certificate)
  5. CCC – Diesel Technology - Diesel Power Generation Specialization (AAS)
  6. CCC – Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (Certificate)
  7. CCC – Hospitality Management and Culinary Arts – Pastry Specialization (AAS)
  8. CCC – Information Technology
    - Information Technology Developer Specialization (AAS)
    - Information Technology Support Specialist Specialization (AAS)
  9. SCC – Energy Generation Operations-Military focus
- E. **Dual Degree Program**
1. UNO & UNMC – Master of Business Administration (MBA) and Master of Public Health (MPH)
- F. **Department Name Change**
1. UNO – Department of Educational Administration and Supervision to  
*Department of Educational Leadership*



# 2013 CCPE Meeting Calendar

(with tentative locations)

**January 24 - Thursday**

Video Conference

**March 14 - Thursday**

Metropolitan Community College - Omaha

**April 25 - Thursday**

Southeast Community College - Lincoln

**June 13 - Thursday**

Western Nebraska Community College - Scottsbluff

**August 1 - Thursday**

Central Community College - Grand Island

**September 19 - Thursday**

UNL – East Campus – Lincoln

Lunch with University of Nebraska Board of Regents

**October 31 - Thursday**

Lincoln (TBA)

**December 5 – Thursday**

Lincoln (TBA)

Lunch with Nebraska Board of Education