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# MINUTES

## COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION April 27, 2017 Fremont Area Center Fremont, Nebraska

Public notice of this meeting was given by posting notice on the Commission's website; posting notice on the State of Nebraska's online public meeting calendar; e-mailing news media; and keeping a current copy of the agenda in the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education's office, listing the date, time, and location of the meeting.

*Public notice of meeting*

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NOTICE OF MEETING</b></p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION WILL HOLD A MEETING ON APRIL 27, 2017. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 8:30 A.M. AND ADJOURN AT APPROXIMATELY 12:00 P.M.</p> <p>AN AGENDA IS MAINTAINED IN THE COMMISSION OFFICE, 140 N. 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET, SUITE 300, LINCOLN, NEBRASKA.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CAROL ZINK, CHAIR</p>
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*Meeting called to order at 8:34 a.m.*

### **CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Carol Zink called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. and asked for introductions.

#### **Commissioners Present**

Colleen Adam	Dwayne Probyn
Gwenn Aspen	W. Scott Wilson
Dr. John Bernthal	Carol Zink
Mary Lauritzen	

#### **Commissioners Absent**

Dr. Deborah Frison	Dr. Joyce Simmons
Dr. Ron Hunter	

#### **Commission Staff Present**

Dr. Michael Baumgartner	J. Ritchie Morrow
Dr. Kathleen Fimple	Helen Pope
Jason Keese	Gary Timm

### **WELCOME**

Randy Schmailzl, President of Metropolitan Community College, welcomed Commissioners, staff, and guests to the Fremont Area Center. The Fremont Area Center building is the former junior high school that Metropolitan

*Randy Schmailzl, Metropolitan  
Community College*

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Community College purchased and remodeled. It is currently being utilized for career academies in IT as a data training center for IBM. There is also a health career academy, and MCC offers welding classes at the Fremont high school. Later this year a diesel mechanics academy will begin with assistance from local industries. He noted the community has been very responsive, and the center meets the demands of the community and region. Commissioner Wilson inquired as to progress of the MCC Fort Omaha campus construction project. Mr. Schmailzl commented that the three buildings -- careers and academic skills building, construction education building, and center for applied and emerging technology -- are ahead of schedule and under budget.

*Todd Hansen, MCC Fremont Area Center*

Todd Hansen, a Fremont native and Executive Director of the Fremont Area Center, in response to a question from Commissioner Adam, stated there are 200-300 credit and non-credit students at the Fremont Area Center. The center offers EMT/paramedic classes and academies so students can start in Fremont and finish their training in Omaha.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

*David Ludwig, Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council*

David Ludwig, Executive Director, Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council (ESUCC), gave an overview of the ESUCC and his role. The Nebraska Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council was created in statute to coordinate the activities of Nebraska's 17 Educational Service Units. The ESUCC was created by LB 603 in 2007 and officially came into existence on July 1, 2008. Through strategic planning with the Nebraska Department of Education and school districts, they are preparing for the future. They provide statewide strategic planning for efficiencies, cost-effectiveness, and equitable delivery of services across the state to 245 school districts, 22,000 teachers, and 307,000 students. The Coordinating Council meets on a monthly basis, and within the ESUCC there are several sub-groups that have their own vision and tasks: Staff Development (SDA); Teaching and Learning with Technology (TLT); ESPD, which is for special populations, and Network Operations (NOC). They work together to provide more efficiency with available resources at all levels of education, including postsecondary education. Mr. Ludwig answered Commissioners' questions.

*Beth Kabes, Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council*

Beth Kabes, BlendED/Distance Education Director for ESUCC, gave a presentation via Zoom software on how blended learning combines face-to-face/distance classroom methods with online participation and delivery. Students or parents can search a clearinghouse for programs and courses as well as participate in virtual fieldtrips. The BlendED initiative is supported by the Educational Service Units, Nebraska Department of Education, and school administrators. Ms. Kabes answered questions from the Commissioners.

*Minutes of March 16, 2017,  
Commission Meeting approved with  
suggested comment*

### **MINUTES OF MARCH 16, 2017, COMMISSION MEETING**

**Commissioner Bernthal proposed an additional comment be added to the March 16, 2017, minutes. On page 5 in discussion of National American University adding programs in order to take students from**

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**the closed Wright Career College, it should state that Wright Career College students were in danger of losing credits from their entire semester due to the school closing near the end of the semester. Commissioner Wilson moved that the March 16, 2017, minutes be approved with Commissioner Bernthal's suggested addition. Commissioner Aspen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioner Lauritzen abstained. The remaining six Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

*Chair Zink mentioned absent Commissioners*

Chair Zink noted that Commissioners Hunter, Frison, and Simmons were not able to attend the meeting.

*Chair Zink appointed nominating committee*

Chair Zink appointed Commissioners Lauritzen, Adam, and Bernthal to the nominating committee, with Commissioner Lauritzen acting as chair. The nominating committee is responsible for submitting a slate of nominations at the June 15 Commission meeting for chair, vice chair, and two additional members making up the Executive Committee. Commission officers will serve July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2017,

*Commissioner Lauritzen will act as interim chair of APC in Commissioner Frison's absence*

Chair Zink stated that in Commissioner Frison's absence, Commissioner Lauritzen will act as interim chair of the Academic Programs Committee.

Chair Zink commented that Todd Hansen will provide a tour of the facility following the Commission meeting.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

*Gary Timm presented the third quarter budget report*

Dr. Michael Baumgartner, Executive Director, introduced Gary Timm, Chief Finance & Administrative Officer, who presented the third quarter budget report. Mr. Timm gave a brief overview of Administrative Funds indicating adjustments that were made due to recent changes to State appropriations. The main area of adjustment was not filling the data analyst position. Expenditures have been made through June 30 with no further reductions needed at this time. Mr. Timm reported that the payout of \$4 million each has been made to UNMC Dental College and Creighton University Dental College for the Oral Health Training and Services Fund. The Nebraska Opportunity Grant (NOG) balance has been obligated to the institutions and upon submission of request for reimbursement will be disbursed. The Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship funds are ready to be paid, pending institutions identifying students passing their courses. Mr. Timm noted this is the last year for the federal Improving Teacher Quality (ITQ) Grant, with remaining funds being spent throughout the next fiscal year. Three distributions have been made to community colleges from the Community College Gap Assistance Program, with the fourth distribution in June. Based on the Nebraska Lottery funding received to date approximately \$200,000 will be collected above the current spending authority limit.

*Jason Keese reviewed Legislative bills of interest*

Jason Keese, Public Information & Special Projects Coordinator, presented the Commissioners with a 2017 Legislative directory. Mr. Keese gave a brief

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update on LB 512 and LB 242. LB 512, which is nearing passage, establishes a fund that would be used to reimburse students attending a for-profit institution that goes out of business. LB 242, which appropriates \$400,000 each year of the biennium for the University of Nebraska to partner with the Department of Corrections to offer behavioral health students clinical rotations at correctional facilities, has been incorporated into LB 327, the budget bill. Mr. Keese answered the Commissioners' questions.

*J. Ritchie Morrow provided FAFSA update*

Dr. Baumgartner asked J. Ritchie Morrow, Financial Aid Officer, to give an update on FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and the FAFSA Completion Initiative. Mr. Morrow presented a handout and gave a brief history of the FAFSA Completion Initiative. Mr. Morrow stated that he works with high school counselors and has been able to track the use of FAFSA for three years. Turning to federal news affecting FAFSA completion, in order to eliminate errors, a process called data retrieval has been in place in which parents and students could access tax information through the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and have it transferred directly into the FAFSA application. Recently the Department of Education and the IRS stopped access to data retrieval due to a breach in the system. They are in the process of strengthening security and the hope is to have data retrieval fixed by October 2017 when applications for the 2018-2019 school year can be submitted.

*Dr. Baumgartner discussed budget*

Dr. Baumgartner reported the Appropriations Committee's amendment to the initial budget added back some funding for the Commission that was originally removed. He gave an update on the current revenue forecast, and thanked Commissioners Aspen and Zink for meeting with Senators.

*Dr. Baumgartner reported attending Chancellor Green's installation*

Chair Zink and Dr. Baumgartner attended UNL Chancellor Ronnie Green's installation on April 6.

*Dr. Baumgartner speaks about tour and meeting at Metropolitan Community College*

On April 19, Dr. Baumgartner met with Mr. Schmailzl and toured the Fort Omaha Campus at Metropolitan Community College. He commented that the three new buildings are an impressive addition to the campus.

*Dr. Baumgartner discussed several organizations he has met with*

Dr. Baumgartner stated he has been meeting with a number of organizations in the Omaha area that relate closely to the work of the CCPE. Avenue Scholars works with low-income high school students who are preparing for further education at Metropolitan Community College in technical careers. College Possible contacted the CCPE after an article about the Progress Report was published in the Omaha World-Herald. They help students visit colleges, complete the FAFSA, and stay enrolled in college. The Latino Center of the Midlands has a new Executive Director and works with adult English language learners, students who are pursuing GED, and students with attendance issues.

*Dr. Baumgartner announced Ben Civics' departure*

Dr. Baumgartner announced that Ben Civic, Occupational Education Specialist, is leaving the Commission to pursue a position with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Mr. Civic has done an outstanding job for the Commission and will be missed. Chair Zink added that the

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Commissioners would like to thank Mr. Civic for his service to the Commission.

*Public Comment on Matters of General Concern*

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS OF GENERAL CONCERN**

There was no testimony on Matters of General Concern.

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

Chair Zink called for a break at 9:46 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:00 a.m.

*Public Hearing on Academic Programs Committee Items*

*Dr. Tom McDonnell and Dr. Chuck Chevalier, Metropolitan Community College*

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE ITEMS**

Dr. Tom McDonnell, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Dr. Chuck Chevalier, Dean of English at Metropolitan Community College, came forward to support the Creative Writing Associate of Arts degree program proposal and to answer any questions.

*Dr. Jody Kupper, Nebraska State College System*

*Dr. Steven Elliott, Wayne State College*

Dr. Jody Kupper, Vice Chancellor, Academic Planning & Partnerships, Nebraska State College System, came forward in support of and to discuss the proposed Wayne State College Special Education (MSEd) program. She noted that Dr. Steven Elliott, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Wayne State College, was also available to answer questions the Commissioners may have.

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

*Commissioner Lauritzen acknowledged APC committee*

**ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Lauritzen, interim Academic Programs Committee chair, introduced Dr. Kathleen Fimple, Academic Programs Officer, to present the proposals.

*Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University*

*Dr. Fimple presented the proposal*

**Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University – Application to Renew a Recurrent Authorization to Operate**

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal, noting that the majority of students at Embry-Riddle’s Nebraska location are military. An aeronautics institution, they have adequate faculty and are in good financial shape. There were no concerns about the proposal from the committee.

Commissioner Lauritzen read the committee recommendation.

*APC Committee recommendation*

**Committee Recommendation: Approve the renewal of the authorization to operate.**

Institution:

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Owner:

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Board of Directors

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Level of authorization: Authorized to offer one or more complete degree programs at the associate, baccalaureate, and master's levels, limited to associate and baccalaureate programs in aviation maintenance, aeronautics, and technical management, and to the Master of Aeronautical Science.

Length of authorization: Five years (valid through May 31, 2022)

**Reporting requirements:** Annual reports are required in a form provided by the Commission. The next report is due May 1, 2018.

*Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Application to Renew a Recurrent Authorization to Operate approved*

**Commissioner Lauritzen, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's proposal to Renew a Recurrent Authorization to Operate. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

*Omaha School of Massage & Healthcare of Herzing University*

*Commissioner Lauritzen and Dr. Fimple presented the proposal*

**Omaha School of Massage & Healthcare of Herzing University – Application to Renew a Recurrent Authorization to Operate**

Commissioner Lauritzen and Dr. Fimple presented the program proposal. Commissioner Lauritzen commented that there is a closing/teach-out policy statement included in the proposal regarding Herzing University closing its ground program offerings in Nebraska at the end of 2017. Dr. Fimple noted there are a significant number of students graduating from Herzing's massage program. Herzing has indicated that all continuing students scheduled to graduate in 2017 will complete their program of study. Dr. Fimple stated that just in case there were circumstances that caused students to not complete their programs, the Committee recommended authorization to operate for one year.

*Steve Carper, Omaha School of Massage & Healthcare of Herzing University*

Steve Carper, Omaha Campus President and Academic Dean at the Omaha School of Massage & Healthcare of Herzing University, stated there are two other massage schools in Omaha, and he is communicating with the Herzing University home office, but at this point there is no definite future plan for Omaha School of Massage.

**Committee Recommendation: Approve the renewal of the authorization to operate.**

*APC Committee recommendation*

Institution: Omaha School of Massage and Healthcare of Herzing University  
Owner: Herzing University, Ltd.  
Level of authorization: Authorized to offer one or more complete programs at a level less than associate, and at the associate and baccalaureate degree levels, limited to the diploma in medical office administration; diplomas and AS degrees in therapeutic massage, chiropractic technician, personal fitness and training, and medical billing and insurance coding; the AS in

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information technology; and BS degrees in health information management, healthcare management, and health and wellness.

Length of authorization: One year (valid through April 30, 2018)

**Reporting requirements:** A notification at the time of the institution's closure of the ground operations in Nebraska is required, including the status of any students who did not complete their programs during the teach-out.

*Omaha School of Massage & Healthcare of Herzing University  
Proposal to Renew a Recurrent  
Authorization to Operate approved*

**Commissioner Lauritzen, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve Omaha School of Massage & Healthcare of Herzing University's proposal to Renew a Recurrent Authorization to Operate. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

*2016-2017 Summary of Institutions  
Reauthorized or Seeking  
Reauthorization*

**2016-2017 Summary of Institutions Reauthorized or Seeking Reauthorization**

*Dr. Fimple discussed the summary*

Dr. Fimple provided a summary of institutions reauthorized or seeking reauthorization in 2016-2017, including institutions with a temporary extension and those who chose not to seek reauthorization.

*Wayne State College*

**Wayne State College – Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Special Education (MSEd)**

*Dr. Fimple presented the proposal*

Dr. Fimple presented the program proposal, stating there is a need in the state for more teachers with special education endorsements. Contributing factors in determining need include teacher burn-out, unwillingness to teach in rural and isolated areas of the state, not remaining in the state after completing a degree, and schools requiring more than one special education teacher. Wayne State College has proposed an online program for those seeking an advanced degree in special education to help alleviate the unfilled/unendorsed shortage in the state. Dr. Fimple commented one concern of the Academic Programs Committee was that while this would be the only academic program at the Nebraska State Colleges, there are online degrees in special education available at other Nebraska institutions.

Commissioner comments and discussion included recognizing that offering another online program does not necessarily mean the unfilled need will be met, other institutions offering special education degrees, looking at education holistically due to limited state funding, and duplication of online programs.

*Dr. Elliott and Dr. Kupper*

Dr. Elliott and Dr. Kupper answered Commissioners' questions.

Commissioner Lauritzen read the committee's comments, which indicate why the committee decided not to make a recommendation without the full Commission's review and consideration.

*APC Committee comment and  
recommendation*

**Committee Comment:** There is an information gap that makes determination of need as well as unnecessary duplication difficult. There is a substantial number of special education endorsements added to teaching

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certificates each year. Yet superintendents and other administrators consistently report a lack of special education teachers, and the Teacher Vacancy Survey Report substantiates those statements. For whatever reason, there are positions unfilled or filled by teachers not endorsed in special education and that clearly reflects a need for teachers in some schools.

The cost to initiate the program is relatively small and it could result in a significant benefit to the state. It is expected to be self-supporting at a minimum and would likely yield increased revenue from out-of-state students. However, there are other online master's degrees in special education offered by public institutions in Nebraska.

**Committee Recommendation: Forward to the full Commission for consideration and review without a recommendation.**

**First Program Review Date: Due June 30, 2022.**

*Wayne State College proposal for a New Instructional Program – Special Education (MSEd) approved unless another action takes place within 90 days*

**Commissioner Lauritzen moved to approve Wayne State College's proposal for a New Instructional Program – Special Education (MSEd). Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Five Commissioners voted yes, two Commissioners voted no. The motion needed the concurrence of a majority of the members, not simply a majority of the quorum. (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1409(2)). With only five favorable votes the motion did not carry, but by statute the program will stand approved unless another action, such as a special meeting, takes place within 90 days of the submission of the program to the Commission, which was February 21, 2017. This program will stand approved ninety days from the date of the program's submission, which is May 22, 2017, unless the Commission holds a special meeting to disapprove the program prior to that date.**

*Dr. Baumgartner read the statute to clarify when a majority of members, not quorum is required when voting*

Dr. Baumgartner read the statute to clarify there are three ways to move forward. One is to make a motion to disapprove the program, one is to let the motion stay at the vote of 5 to 2, and the other would be for the Chair or three Commissioners to call a meeting within 90 days of the program's submission for a vote to approve or disapprove the program.

*Commissioner Probyn made a motion to disapprove the Wayne State College proposal. No second, the motion died*

**Commissioner Probyn made a motion to disapprove Wayne State College's proposal for a New Instructional Program – Special Education (MSEd). The motion died for lack of a second.**

*Dr. Baumgartner will send Commissioners a summary of the Wayne State College proposal discussion via email following meeting*

Chair Zink stated that for the benefit of the Commissioners not present today, Dr. Baumgartner will send an email to all Commissioners stating a summary of the discussion, the options that are available if a special meeting would be called, and the 90-day date at which the WSC program would be approved if no other action is taken. Chair Zink noted this is an important issue and for the sake of full disclosure it is important all Commissioners be aware of the options.

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*Metropolitan Community College*

*Commissioner Lauritzen and Dr. Fimple presented the proposal*

*Dr. Tom McDonnell comments*

*Commissioner Bernthal made a motion to amend the proposal*

*Discussion regarding conditions on the approval of a program*

*Commissioner Bernthal withdrew his motion*

*Commissioner Bernthal made a new motion to amend the proposal by adding comment. The motion carried*

*Metropolitan Community College Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Creative Writing (AA) approved as amended*

### **Metropolitan Community College – Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Creative Writing (AA)**

Commissioner Lauritzen and Dr. Fimple presented the program proposal. The program would prepare students for work as a creative writer having been trained in poetry, fiction, and creative non-fiction. Dr. Fimple noted two surveys done indicated a positive response and demand for the program. Dr. McDonnell added that students obtaining the AA in Creative Writing and transferring to a four-year institution will be filling workplace positions not only in editorial fields, but in fields such as marketing and public relations. He noted that transfer agreements with four-year institutions in the Omaha area have been initiated and once finalized will be expanded to other areas of the state.

**Commissioner Bernthal made a motion to amend the proposal with a condition that one college or university have an articulation agreement in place with Metropolitan Community College prior to initiation of the creative writing program. Commissioner Probyn seconded the motion.**

Discussion followed the motion questioning if the Commission can place conditions on the approval of a program. Commissioner Adam commented that the Commission should not govern a community college's program by adding conditions on to it. The Commission can either approve or disapprove a program. Placing a condition onto the proposal is beyond the scope of coordinating boundaries. Commissioner Aspen added there is a great need for creative writing in the Omaha area, and she would like to see the program approved or disapproved on its face value. Commissioner Bernthal commented that the success of this program may be determined by the possibility of a cooperative arrangement with a four-year college or university.

**Commissioner Bernthal withdrew his motion, noting he would strongly encourage an articulation agreement be in place for the creative writing program. Commissioner Probyn withdrew his second to the motion.**

**Commissioner Bernthal made a motion to amend the proposal by adding a comment to the initial recommendation that states the Commission strongly recommends Metropolitan Community College develop an articulation agreement with at least one in-state four-year institution for the New Instructional Program – Creative Writing (AA). Commissioner Probyn seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioners Adam and Wilson voted no. The remaining five Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.**

**Commissioner Lauritzen, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve Metropolitan Community College's proposal for a New Instructional Program – Creative Writing (AA) as amended. A roll call vote was taken. All Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

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National American University

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal

Cathie Ogdie and Michael Trump,  
National American University

APC committee recommendation

National American University  
application to Modify a Recurrent  
Authorization to Operate – Medical  
Assisting (diploma) approved

2015-2016 Existing Program Review

**National American University - Application to Modify a Recurrent Authorization to Operate – Medical Assisting (diploma)**

Dr. Fimple presented the program proposal, indicating this is an application to modify a recurrent authorization to operate, as the renewal for the institution to continue to operate in the state for five years was approved at the March 2017 Commission meeting. Although NAU noted there was sufficient funding for operations and capital expenditures for the near future, the past six month loss, decline in enrollment, and decrease in the composite score suggest there should be concern over its financial stability. By offering a diploma in medical assisting, students could enter the field in less time with less cost. With the earlier exit point, the goal is to increase the number of graduates and get them into the workforce. Cathie Ogdie, Associate Dean, College of Health and Sciences, and Michael Trump, Associate General Counsel from National American University, answered Commissioners' questions.

**Committee Recommendation: Approve the modification to the recurrent authorization to operate for National American University to include the diploma in medical assisting.**

**Reporting Requirements:** Commission rules require annual reporting. National American University's next annual report is due March 1, 2018.

**Commissioner Lauritzen, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve National American University's proposal to Modify a Recurrent Authorization to Operate – Medical Assisting (diploma). A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

**2015-2016 Existing Program Review**

Dr. Fimple discussed the existing program table and the Commission thresholds.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Electrical Engineering – BSEE, MS, PhD

Electronics Engineering (Omaha) – BS

Telecommunications Engineering (Omaha) – MS

Mechanical Engineering & Applied Mechanics – BSME, MS, PhD

Civil Engineering – BSCE (Lincoln), BSCE (Omaha), MS, PhD

Chemical Engineering – BSCH, MS

Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering – PhD

Construction Engineering Technology – BS

Construction Engineering – BS (Lincoln), BS (Omaha)

Construction Engineering & Management – MS

Architectural Engineering (Omaha) – BS, MS, MAE, PhD

Construction Management – BSCM (Lincoln), BSCM (Omaha)

Engineering – MEM, PhD

Environmental Engineering – MS

Agricultural Engineering – BSAE

Biological Engineering – PhD

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Biological Systems Engineering – BSBS  
Agricultural & Biological Systems Engineering – MS  
Mechanized Systems Management – BSMS, MS  
Fisheries and Wildlife – BSFW  
Water Science – BSW  
Natural Resource Sciences – MS, PhD  
Grazing Livestock Systems – BSGL

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

*Dr. Fimple presented the proposal*

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Grassland Ecology & Management – BSGE**

Dr. Fimple noted this is a program requiring additional review. She presented a document from Steven Waller, Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, indicating evidence of demand, need, and efficiency of the Grassland Ecology & Management Program. The information provided does not indicate student demand and that is why the recommendation includes a report. Commissioner Lauritzen stated the recommended action is to continue the program with a report on demand for the program due September 30, 2019.

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Grassland Ecology & Management  
– BSGE approved*

**Commissioner Lauritzen, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Grassland Ecology & Management – BSGE. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

*Reasonable and Moderate  
Extensions*

**Reasonable and Moderate Extensions and Name Changes**

A. Reasonable and Moderate Extension

1. UNO & UNMC – 4+1 Integrated Undergraduate/Professional BS in Biology and Master of Public Health with a concentration in Environmental and Occupational Health

*Name Changes*

B. Name Changes

1. UNK – Center for Rural Research and Development to *Center for Entrepreneurship and Rural Development*
2. UNL – College of Business Administration to *College of Business*
3. UNO – Bachelor of General Studies to *Bachelor of Multidisciplinary Studies*

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

*Approval of Staff Salary Ranges for  
the 2017-2019 Biennium*

**Approval of Staff Salary Ranges for the 2017-2019 Biennium**

Chair Zink stated the Executive Committee, consisting of Commissioners Probyn, Bernthal, Wilson, and herself, along with Dr. Baumgartner and Mr. Timm, met on April 17 to discuss salary ranges and to bring this motion forward. Dr. Baumgartner gave a recap of the salary ranges for the 2017-2019 biennium based on current funds available in the CCPE budget.

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*Approval of Staff Salary Ranges for the 2017-2019 Biennium approved*

**Chair Zink, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to approve the Staff Salary Ranges for the 2017-2019 Biennium. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

*Next Commission meeting is June 15, 2017*

**FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next Commission meeting will be Thursday, June 15, 2017, at the Apothecary Building, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor North Loft, Lincoln, Nebraska

*Commissioner Zink comments*

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Chair Zink presented a Friday April 21, 2017, Wall Street Journal article titled *State Funding for Higher Education Slipped in Fiscal 2016*. The article will be scanned and emailed to all Commissioners.

*Meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Zink adjourned the meeting at 11:58 a.m.