
MINUTES

COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION October 14, 2014 Nebraska State Capitol, Room 1524 Lincoln, 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 OCTOBER 14, 2014. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 9:00 A.M. AND ADJOURN AT APPROXIMATELY 12:00 P.M.

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

COLLEEN ADAM, CHAIR

Meeting called to order at 8:58 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Colleen Adam called the meeting to order at 8:58 a.m. and asked for introductions.

Commissioners Present

Colleen Adam	Dwayne Probyn
Dr. John Bernthal	Eric Seacrest
Dr. Deborah Frison	Dr. Joyce Simmons
Dr. Ron Hunter	W. Scott Wilson
Mary Lauritzen	Carol Zink

Commissioners Absent

Lori Warner

Commission Staff Present

Dr. Michael Baumgartner	Kadi Lukesh
Benjamin Civic	Helen Pope
Dr. Kathleen Fimple	Gary Timm
Jason Keese	Mike Wemhoff

COMMISSIONERS OATH OF OFFICE

The Secretary of State's office requires all Commissioners to take and sign an oath of office. Dr. John Bernthal, of Lincoln, was sworn in as a Commissioner by Benjamin Civic, College Access Challenge Grant

Commissioner Bernthal takes Oath of Office

Program Director. Chair Adam noted Dr. Bernthal's appointment is pending Legislature approval.

*Minutes of September 16, 2014
Commission meeting approved*

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2014 COMMISSION MEETING
Commissioner Hunter moved that the September 16, 2014 minutes be approved. Commissioner Zink seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioner Bernthal abstained. All other Commissioners present voted yes.

Chair Adam welcomes Dr. Bernthal

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Adam welcomed new Commissioner Dr. John Bernthal, noting that he is a professor emeritus at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln, and retired chair of the Department of Special Education and Communication Disorders.

Chair Adam mentions Dr. Pfeil's retirement dinner

Chair Adam thanked the staff for arranging a lovely retirement dinner for Dr. Carna Pfeil the previous evening.

State Auditor's report

Chair Adam noted that each Commissioner should have received an emailed copy of the final attestation review report by the State Auditor.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kadi Lukesh presents first quarter Budget Report

Dr. Michael Baumgartner, Executive Director, called on Kadi Lukesh, Office Manager/Bookkeeper, to give the first-quarter budget report. Ms. Lukesh stated the first quarter report expenses look high due to payment of MHEC and SHEEO dues, and workers compensation charges, along with the payout of unused vacation and sick leave for retired Interim Executive Director Dr. Pfeil. Ms. Lukesh noted supplies and printing must be purchased through State-contracted vendors or various State divisions.

Combined Charities recognition

On September 19, several staff members participated in the Combined Charities Annual Recognition Picnic at the Governor's mansion. The Commission had 100 percent staff participation for the 10th consecutive year. Kadi Lukesh received a special award for leadership giving.

Ritchie Morrow 20 years of service

On October 21, Ritchie Morrow, CCPE Financial Aid Officer, will receive recognition for 20 years of service as a State employee. Mr. Morrow has recently been traveling to campuses performing Access College Early (ACE) and Nebraska Opportunity Grant (NOG) audits.

Dr. Baumgartner comments on attending the Legislative Education Committee hearing

On Monday, October 6, Dr. Baumgartner attended the Legislative Education Committee hearing in Omaha to testify regarding goals and objectives for education in Nebraska - part of the Committee's "visioning process." Commissioners Wilson and Probyn also attended the hearing, along with Jason Keese, Public Information and Special Projects Coordinator, and Dr. Kathleen Fimple, Academic Programs Officer. Dr. Baumgartner emphasized during his testimony affordability, completion and timely completion, and adult education. Early childhood was strongly

represented by those testifying, along with distance education opportunities for K-12. Others testifying included representatives from Metropolitan Community College, Creighton University, and the University of Nebraska. Two other hearings will be held this week at the Lifelong Learning Center at Northeast Community College in Norfolk, and the Broken Bow High School auditorium. The Legislative Education Committee will be holding a hearing on November 19 at the State Capitol on LB497, regarding the use of lottery funds.

Dr. Baumgartner speaks on the MHEC grant from the Lumina Foundation

Dr. Baumgartner reported that since Nebraska signed on to the Midwest Higher Education Compact's (MHEC) multi-state collaborative on military credit, Dr. Fimple has been leading the work on this project. This week MHEC announced it has received a \$900,000 dollar grant from the Lumina Foundation to continue its work. MHEC is continuing to seek additional funds as well.

Dr. Fimple comments on reverse transfer issues

A large portion of 2014's \$500,000 Community College Student Performance and Occupation Education Grant went to reverse transfer issues. Dr. Baumgartner asked Dr. Fimple to comment on how that is coming along. Dr. Fimple attended a meeting about the reverse transfer process. The University and State Colleges are on the same student information system. They use this system to identify students who have transferred to one of the University campuses or state colleges from a Nebraska Community College. The list of students is compiled and sent to the appropriate Community College with the hope that those students having accumulated a certain number of credit hours could use those hours and apply them to an associate degree. This first step has helped the Community Colleges identify the students. Dr. Fimple noted the Community Colleges had received two sets of lists by the time of the meeting, and at that time, 94 degrees had already been awarded. Commissioner Simmons commented that this will give a more accurate picture of graduation rates from the Community Colleges.

Dr. Baumgartner notes upcoming meetings and visits

Dr. Baumgartner noted several meetings and visits he has coming up, including a visit to Peru State College, and a meeting with Commissioner Probyn to discuss Nebraska's advanced manufacturing issues and how the Commission can work with the "Dream It Do It" campaign. Also, visits to UNO, Chadron State College, and the State Colleges Board of Trustees meeting are planned.

TAACCCT Grants

TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND CAREER TRAINING (TAACCCT) GRANTS

Metropolitan Community College and Central Community College are recipients of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) grant. The grant is part of a total of \$450 million in community college and career training grants announced last week by the U.S. Department of Labor and Department of Education. The TAACCCT grant is connected to the President's goal of leading the world in postsecondary attainment by 2020, and getting displaced workers in occupations as soon as possible.

*Dr. Nathan Allen, Central
Community College*

Dr. Nathan Allen, Dean of Business and Skilled and Technical Sciences at Central Community College in Hastings, reported that CCC received just under \$2.5 million from the TAACCCT grant. CCC will use the grant to develop the Nebraska Precision Agriculture Center of Excellence (NPACE), to continue working with Southeast Community College relating to agriculture in Nebraska, and to assist displaced workers. CCC plans to incorporate military transfer into this project. Dr. Allen answered questions from the Commissioners.

*Dr. Tom Pensabene, Metropolitan
Community College*

Dr. Tom Pensabene, Executive Director of the Workforce Innovation Division and Dean of IT, spoke on Metropolitan Community College's receipt of the TAACCCT grant. He noted Metro will use its three-year, \$2.5 million award to launch Project PROTO, which stands for Providing Realistic On-ramps to Technology Occupations. He provided a handout on PROTO and discussed the key elements of the project. There is a significant need in Omaha for IT workers at all levels of training. The college will also use the grant to expand its Fabrication Laboratory, where students work with 3-D printers and other digital tools, and create new academic programs in prototype design and production. Plans for a future Advanced Technology Campus are underway. Dr. Pensabene answered questions from the Commissioners.

*Public Comment on Matters of
General Concern*

Tip O'Neill, AICUN

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS OF GENERAL CONCERN

Tip O'Neill, President of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Nebraska, came forward to comment on an article that was recently in the Chronicle of Higher Education. The article talked about the difficulty that both independent and public institutions have in meeting their enrollment and budget goals for the fall semester. Mr. O'Neill noted that although this is not a surprise, he read Tom Mortensen's comments to this article noting median family income for dependent 18-24 year-old high school graduates has declined. The share of K-12 students approved for subsidized school lunch rose from 31 percent in 1989 to 53 percent in 2012. These students will be at zero EFCs when they reach college age. Mr. O'Neill stated that without more need-based student aid, Nebraska won't be able to serve poorer students effectively.

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

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

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

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

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

Chair Adam discusses letter from Dr. Linder, UNL

Mr. Timm presents the 2015-2017 Biennial Public Postsecondary Education Operating Budget Recommendations

2015-2017 Biennial Public Postsecondary Education Operating Budget Recommendations approved

Mr. Wemhoff presents the 2015-2017 Biennial Public Postsecondary Education Capital Construction Budget Recommendations and Prioritization

2015-2017 Biennial Public Postsecondary Education Capital Construction Budget Recommendations and Prioritization approved

BUDGET, CONSTRUCTION, AND FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE

Chair Adam noted that the Commission has received a letter from Dr. James Linder, Interim President at the University of Nebraska. Dr. Linder is acknowledging the Commission's operating budget recommendations and thanking the Commission for the time put in to the recommendations.

2015-2017 Biennial Public Postsecondary Education Operating Budget Recommendations

Commissioner Simmons stated every two years we present our operating and capital construction budget recommendations. In the report, pages six through 10 are the final requests and the final recommendations from the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee. The committee consists of Commissioners Adam, Wilson, Seacrest, Zink, and Chair Simmons. She introduced Gary Timm, Chief Finance and Administrative Officer, to discuss the budget recommendations.

Mr. Timm presented the report, focusing on sections that had been discussed and modified by the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee. After approval today by the Commissioners, the report is due to the Governor and Appropriations Committee by October 15.

Commissioner Simmons, on behalf of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee, moved to approve the 2015-2017 Biennial Public Postsecondary Education Operating Budget Recommendations. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

2015-2017 Biennial Public Postsecondary Education Capital Construction Budget Recommendations and Prioritization

Commissioner Simmons called on Mike Wemhoff, Facilities Officer, to provide the 2015-2017 Biennial Public Postsecondary Education Capital Construction Budget Recommendations and Prioritization report. Mr. Wemhoff presented the report, noting that these recommendations exclude the community colleges, who have their own funding source. The Commission's statewide facilities funding issue involves funding facility renewal and adaptation for funding recommendations are included to adequately address on-going routine maintenance, deferred repair, and renovation and remodeling needs. The report also provides specific recommendations and prioritization of governing board/Commission approved capital construction projects.

Commissioner Simmons, on behalf of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee, moved to approve the 2015-2017 Biennial Public Postsecondary Education Capital Construction Budget Recommendations and Prioritization. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

Public Hearing on Academic Programs Committee Items

Dr. Julie Masters, UNO

PUBLIC HEARING ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE ITEMS

Dr. Julie Masters, Chair of the Department of Gerontology at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, was present to support the UNO Bachelor of Science in Gerontology program. She noted that there are three key points for why the degree should be offered: aging baby boomers are needing care; no other program in the University System is offering an undergraduate degree in gerontology; and employers are seeing the value of hiring people with a background in gerontology. Dr. Masters offered to answer any questions the Commissioners may have on this program.

Dr. Ryan Spohn, UNO

Dr. Ryan Spohn, Director, Consortium for Crime and Justice Research at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, came forward with supporting materials for the Nebraska Center for Justice Research (NCJR). The Center's mission is to develop and sustain research capacity internal to the State of Nebraska to assist the Legislature in research, evaluation, and policymaking to reduce reoffending, promote the use of evidence-based practices in corrections, and improve public safety. Dr. Spohn offered to answer questions from the Commissioners on the research center.

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

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Commissioner Probyn, chair of the Academic Programs Committee, identified members of the committee; Commissioners Frison, Hunter, Lauritzen, and Seacrest.

University of Nebraska at Omaha – Gerontology (BS)

Commissioner Probyn and Dr. Fimple present the proposal

University of Nebraska at Omaha Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Gerontology (BS)

Commissioner Probyn presented the proposal, pointing out that the Department of Gerontology is part of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service (CPACS). Dr. Fimple added that the current program is a Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) and is only open to students over the age of 21. The new program will be offered on the Omaha and Lincoln campuses.

Commissioner Probyn inquired about the program's relationship with the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Dr. Masters stated that they have a good relationship with the Medical Center, working with staff in geriatrics, the nursing program, and research.

Dr. Deborah Smith-Howell, UNO

Dr. Deborah Smith-Howell, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean of Graduate Studies at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, came forward to clarify the difference between the Bachelor of Science (BS) and Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) degrees. She stated the proposed BS in Gerontology degree would be open to all ages, but the BGS is a degree that was established a long time ago solely for students over 21. Therefore, the proposed degree would open the program to students of all ages.

University of Nebraska at Omaha – Gerontology (BS) proposal for a New Instructional Program approved

Commissioner Probyn, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska at Omaha’s proposal for a New Instructional Program – Gerontology (BS). A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

University of Nebraska at Kearney – Special Education K-12 Teaching (BAE)

University of Nebraska at Kearney Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Special Education K-12 Teaching (BAE)

Commissioner Probyn introduced the proposal and asked Dr. Fimple to discuss particulars of the proposal. Dr. Fimple noted the program’s purpose is to provide students an opportunity to earn a field endorsement in K-12 special education. A field endorsement is two or more subjects which, considered as a single area of study, represent a broader scope than that of a subject endorsement. A subject endorsement is a narrow range of courses or specific course. Dr. Fimple noted that this will open up opportunities for teachers in smaller communities and rural areas, as there is a shortage of special education teachers in the state.

Commissioner Probyn and Dr. Fimple present the proposal

Dr. Ken Anderson, UNK

Dr. Ken Anderson, Chair of the Department of Teacher Education at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, spoke briefly and answered Commissioners’ questions regarding specialized math methods for special education students and placement of students in classrooms. From the third week of the first course, UNK students are out in the schools actually observing and applying what they have learned in their classes, giving them sufficient field time. Dr. Anderson noted the goal of the program is to make students more employable and meet the needs of the community at the same time.

University of Nebraska at Kearney – Special Education K-12 Teaching (BAE) proposal for a New Instructional Program approved

Commissioner Probyn, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska at Kearney’s proposal for a New Instructional Program – Special Education K-12 Teaching (BAE). A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

University of Nebraska at Kearney – Early Childhood and Family Advocacy (BS)

University of Nebraska at Kearney Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Early Childhood and Family Advocacy (BS)

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal, commenting that early childhood family advocates work with parents and children from 0 to 5 years of age to help create a healthy home environment, appropriate parenting, and school readiness. There was some concern about student demand for the proposed program, so the APC committee added a recommendation that when the regular program review takes place in June of 2018, the review should include enrollments and number of majors. That is information normally not on a program review. No other Nebraska school offers a BS in Early Childhood and Family Advocacy. The course is offered online, giving working students and those not close to UNK the opportunity to take the program.

Dr. Fimple presents the proposal

Dr. Sylvia Asay, UNK

Dr. Sylvia Asay, Department Chair of Family Studies at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, came forward to comment that there is a certificate

program in the works, which would give a person wanting to work in this field the opportunity to go on for a bachelor's degree.

*University of Nebraska at Kearney –
Early Childhood and Family
Advocacy (BS) proposal for a New
Instructional Program approved*

Commissioner Probyn, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska at Kearney's proposal for a New Instructional Program – Early Childhood and Family Advocacy (BS), with the program review due June 30, 2018, to include enrollments and number of majors. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

*University of Nebraska at Omaha –
Nebraska Center for Justice
Research*

University of Nebraska at Omaha Proposal for a New Organizational Unit – Nebraska Center for Justice Research

Dr. Fimple presents the proposal

Dr. Fimple presented the program, noting the State's correctional system is at 152% capacity. The need for quality policy guidance, research, and evaluation has never been greater. The variety of fields represented by faculty affiliates is important, as this unit is not the "traditional" criminal justice program, but covers many fields, including social work, political science, black studies, gerontology, and public information. The justice system is moving away from a pure deterrence/incapacitation model toward one of risk assessment and service provision. There is no comparable unit at any other public institution in Nebraska. This unit would have potential for research and policy formation.

*University of Nebraska at Omaha –
Nebraska Center for Justice
Research proposal for a New
Organizational Unit approved*

Commissioner Probyn, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska at Omaha's proposal for a New Organizational Unit – Nebraska Center for Justice Research. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

Existing Program Review

Information Item: Existing Program Review

Commissioner Probyn presented the existing Program Review approved by the Executive Director. Dr. Fimple added that these programs can be approved if they meet the Commission's productivity threshold, but also if there is justification for being below threshold.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Sociology – BA, BS, BJ, MA, PhD

University of Nebraska at Kearney
Social Work – BS
Sociology – BA, BS, BSE

University of Nebraska at Omaha
Social Work – BSW, MSW
Sociology – BA, BS, BGS, MA

Chadron State College
Social Work – BA

Wayne State College
Sociology – BA, BS

SARA applications approved by the Executive Director

SARA Institutional Applications Approved by the Executive Director

Dr. Fimple noted Bryan College of Health Sciences – Lincoln, and Peru State College have been approved for participation in SARA.

Discontinuation of a Major and Center Renaming

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

Discontinuation of a Major

UNO – Community Health concentration of Public Health

Renaming of a Center

UNO – The Center for Faculty Development to
The Center for Faculty Excellence

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2015 Commission Meeting Dates

2015 Commission Meeting Dates

Chair Adam clarified that today's vote will be to approve the tentative 2015 Commission meeting dates.

2015 Commission Meeting Dates approved

Chair Adam, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to approve the proposed tentative 2015 Commission meeting dates. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

*Next Commission Meeting:
December 4, 2014*

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, December 4, 2014 at the Nebraska State Capitol, Room 1113, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Commissioner Probyn comments

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Probyn commented that the Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center in Omaha would be a spectacular place to hold a future Commission meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m.