
MINUTES

COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

July 21, 2011

St. Gregory the Great Seminary
Seward, 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 JULY 21, 2011. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 8:30 AM. AND ADJOURN AT APPROXIMATELY 11:30 A.M.

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

DR. JOYCE D. SIMMONS, CHAIR

Meeting called to order at 8:38 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Joyce Simmons called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m. and asked for introductions.

Commissioners Present

Colleen Adam
Riko Bishop
Dr. Ron Hunter
Eric Seacrest
W. Scott Wilson

Clark Anderson
Dr. Dick Davis
Mary Lauritzen
Dr. Joyce Simmons
Carol Zink

Commissioners Absent

John Winkleblack

Commission Staff Present

Miste Adamson-DaMoude
Katherine Green
Jason Keese
Dr. Barbara McCuen

Dr. Kathleen Fimple
Dr. Marshall Hill
Kadi Lukesh
Mike Wernhoff

Rev. Msgr. John Folda greets Commissioners

GREETINGS BY REVEREND MONSIGNOR JOHN FOLDA, RECTOR AT ST. GREGORY THE GREAT SEMINARY

The seminary has just completed its 13th year in operation as an undergraduate seminary to the Catholic Diocese of Lincoln.

Dr. Kathleen Fimple congratulated Rev. Msgr. Folda on the seminary's recent accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission.

*Minutes of May 19, 2011
Commission meeting approved*

Dr. Waller reported on the success of the veterinary program and other unique programs within the School of Natural Resources

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

MINUTES OF MAY 19, 2011 COMMISSION MEETING

Commissioner Anderson moved that the May 19, 2011 minutes be approved. Commissioner Lauritzen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, Commissioner Zink abstained with all other Commissioners present voting yes.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Simmons had nothing to report for this meeting.

UNL COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND NATURAL RESOURCES UPDATE

Dr. Steven Waller, Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, reported some of the recent highlights of the Veterinary program. The partnership program with Iowa State University received full accreditation last fall. This May was the first graduating class; three of the top four graduates at Iowa State were from the Nebraska program. The intent of this program was to develop practitioners and bring them back to Nebraska. To date, nine students from the Iowa State program have signed contracts to return to Nebraska. This is a significant improvement from the one or two students that historically returned from the Kansas State program.

The PGA Golf Management program is having great success with 157 current students. The Forensic Science program has 107 students. Both programs are quite rare, but able to maintain a high student base.

Commissioner Adam asked whether moving the veterinary program from Kansas State to Iowa State has affected recruiting. Dr. Waller stated that the success of the program has taken away any skepticism from area veterinarians, and a robust scholarship program supported by the Nebraska Veterinary Association proves that.

Dr. Waller explained that the Great Plains Veterinary Education Center is a facility located in Clay Center that was designed for hands-on practitioner work with access to thousands of animals. It is a learning laboratory alternative to building a veterinary college in the state.

Commissioner Seacrest asked whether Jim Goeke's position with the School of Natural Resources-Survey Division is going to be replaced since professor Goeke's retirement. Dr. Waller stated that the position will now be affiliated with the Water for Food Institute focusing on water, as a complement to professor Goeke's old position. The Conservation Survey Division is hiring more positions that will serve the data base and interpretation of the water data.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Marshall Hill pointed out the numerous out-of-service area authorizations granted to various colleges and noted each authorization is a potential source of internal squabbles between institutions. Commission staff have been very successful with keeping these to a minimum and/or resolving issues quickly.

Kadi Lukesh speaks about 4th quarter budget report

Ms. Kadi Lukesh, Budget Coordinator, briefed Commissioners on the Commissions fourth quarter/final budget report for fiscal year 2010-11. Ms. Lukesh reported that the Commission will carryover a balance of \$6,736.34 to the new fiscal year. A portion of these funds will be used to encumber June expenses that are billed in July. The total remaining funds are higher than originally estimated due to a \$1,500 rebate from DAS-Materiel for copy machine charges, and vacancy savings due to the early departure of Angela Dibbert.

Dr. Hill speaks about upcoming Commission tasks and committee appointments

Dr. Hill listed many of the Commission staff's upcoming tasks to be completed this year. Several of these tasks are very time consuming, and will be even more challenging because of recent staffing reductions.

Dr. Hill shared insights and information gained during the SHEEO Annual Meeting and Policy Seminar. There have been many significant changes in several states around the country.

Nebraska is a small state, but, we are receiving a great deal of attention. Gov. Heineman was elected Chair, National Governor's Association; Lt. Gov. Sheehy, Chair, Lt. Governor's Association; Kathleen Fimple, panelist at SHEEO Higher Ed Policy Conference; Ritchie Morrow, Chair-elect, National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs; and Marshall Hill, Chair-elect for SHEEO.

Dr. Hill speaks about AG opinion letter

Dr. Hill discussed the attorney general's opinion letter that was just received regarding capital construction funding by community colleges. Current statutes allow the University of Nebraska and state colleges to comingle funds from tuition and fees, but community colleges do not have that option.

Dr. Hill encourages use of consent agenda in the future

Dr. Hill encouraged Commissioners to consider using a Consent Agenda to expedite non controversial issues and keep future meetings shorter.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS OF GENERAL CONCERN

Tip O'Neill speaks about federal budget concerns

Tip O'Neill, President, Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Nebraska, spoke about federal budget issues that have significant ability to impact colleges of all sectors. There is a bill for students who are too poor to even make it with a Pell grant. This will have a significant impact on recruiting of the poorest students. Another issue of interest is the elimination of the in-school interest subsidy. This would ultimately cause student debt to increase by the time students graduate from college. And finally, there is a proposal to eliminate charitable deductions from income taxes. This could have a huge impact on amounts of donations made to colleges.

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

PUBLIC HEARING ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE ITEMS

Ilze Zigurs from UNO

Systems Development and Data Management (Undergraduate Certificates) at University of Nebraska at Omaha

Ilze Zigurs, Chair, Department of Information Systems and Quantitative Analysis at University of Nebraska at Omaha, spoke in favor of the proposed Undergraduate Certificates at UNO in Systems Development and Data Management. Both are unique programs expected to reach a wide variety of traditional and non-traditional students. These programs will help students stand out in an increasingly competitive workplace.

Nancy Edick from UNO

Public Health (BS) at University of Nebraska at Omaha

Nancy Edick, Dean, College of Education at University of Nebraska at Omaha spoke in favor of the proposed BS in Public Health at UNO. This is a tremendous opportunity because there is not another bachelor's degree offered in Public Health in the state of Nebraska. The closest offering is in Indiana.

Linda Pratt from University of Nebraska

Emergency Preparedness, Infectious Disease Epidemiology, Maternal and Child Health, and Community Oriented Primary Care (Professional Certificates) at University of Nebraska Medical Center

Linda Pratt, Executive VP and Provost at University of Nebraska-Lincoln spoke in favor of the proposed Post-baccalaureate Professional Certificate programs at University of Nebraska Medical Center. They represent an effort to take courses already being taught and focus them on particular audiences working within the community. The College of Public Health recently received full accreditation and is working toward bringing higher levels of public health training to the state of Nebraska.

Commissioner Zink closed the public hearing on Academic Programs Committee items.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Sioux Falls Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD proposal to offer programs in Nebraska

Sioux Falls Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakotas proposal to Offer Programs in Nebraska

The Academic Programs Committee recommended approval of the request to offer programs in Nebraska, with the following conditions: 1) the seminary shall submit its annual audited financial statements for a period of five years, 2) the seminary shall notify the Commission of any significant event, either positive or negative, that may affect the financial and/or accreditation status of the institution, and 3) approval is received from the Higher Learning Commission and the Association of Theological Schools Commission on Accrediting and that students are informed of the status of accreditation for the Omaha location.

Dr. Fimple presents the proposal

Dr. Kathleen Fimple, Academic Programs Officer, presented the proposal to Commissioners and introduced the representatives present from Sioux Falls Seminary: Jason Klein, Chief Financial Officer, and Nate Helling, Director of Enrollment.

Dr. Hill comments on the proposal

Dr. Marshall Hill stated Commission staff's only real concern with this proposal is the financial stability of the institution and the impact on students if they go out of business. If that were to happen, there are ample opportunities for students to complete the programs elsewhere. Commission staff believes that this endeavor in Omaha could possibly strengthen the seminary's financial stability. The downside risk is minimal for both the institution and the students.

Proposal for Sioux Falls Seminary to offer programs in Nebraska approved

Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the proposal from Sioux Falls Seminary to offer Master of Divinity (MDiv) and Doctor of Ministry (DMin) programs in Omaha with the conditions as listed above. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

University of Missouri-Columbia

University of Missouri-Columbia's request to Extend Approval to Offer a Program in Nebraska

The Academic Programs Committee recommended approval of the proposed request to extend authorization to offer a program in Nebraska through 2011.

Dr. Fimple discusses the request

Dr. Fimple provided background information regarding the request to Commissioners.

Proposal to extend University of Missouri-Columbia's authorization approved

Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the request from University of Missouri-Columbia to extend approval to offer a program in Nebraska through 2011. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

UNMC Emergency Preparedness

University of Nebraska Medical Center's proposal for a new instructional program: Emergency Preparedness (Professional Certificate)

The Academic Programs Committee recommended approval of the proposed request to offer a new instructional program, Emergency Preparedness (Professional Certificate).

Dr. Fimple reviews the proposal

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal to Commissioners.

Motion to consider all UNMC proposals as one item

Commissioner Bishop moved to consider all four proposals from University of Nebraska Medical Center as one vote to approve. Commissioner Seacrest seconded the motion. A roll call vote on that motion was taken with all Commissioners present voting yes.

UNMC Infectious Disease Epidemiology

University of Nebraska Medical Center's proposal for a new instructional program: Infectious Disease Epidemiology (Professional Certificate)

The Academic Programs Committee recommended approval of the proposed request to offer a new instructional program, Infectious Disease Epidemiology (Professional Certificate).

Dr. Fimple presents the proposal

Dr. Fimple stated that this program represents an expanded demand which would include not only doctors and nurses, but also veterinarians, laboratory professionals, etc..

UNMC Maternal and Child Health

University of Nebraska Medical Center's proposal for a new instructional program: Maternal and Child Health (Professional Certificate)

The Academic Programs Committee recommended approval of the proposed request to offer a new instructional program, Maternal and Child Health (Professional Certificate)

Dr. Fimple discusses the proposal

Dr. Fimple noted that this program will not only look at the status of maternal and child health, but also any inequalities that may exist across different populations.

UNMC Community Oriented Primary Care

University of Nebraska Medical Center's proposal for a new instructional program: Community Oriented Primary Care (Professional Certificate)

The Academic Programs Committee recommended approval of the proposed request to offer a new instructional program, Community Oriented Primary Care (Professional Certificate).

Dr. Fimple comments on the proposal

Dr. Fimple stated that this program is one that looks at primary care through a holistic approach. There is only one other program like this one in the country, located at George Washington University.

Proposals from UNMC approved

Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the four proposals from UNMC for new instructional programs: Emergency Preparedness, Infectious Disease Epidemiology, Maternal and Child Health, and Community Oriented Primary Care. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

University of Nebraska – Buffett Early Childhood Institute

University of Nebraska's proposal for a new organizational unit: Buffett Early Childhood Institute

The Academic Programs Committee recommended approval of the proposed new organizational unit: Buffett Early Childhood Institute.

J.B. Milliken discusses the proposed institute

James B. Milliken, President of the University of Nebraska, spoke about the importance of this new institute. He said that it will build upon great strengths across the entire University of Nebraska system. He has received calls and letters from across the world from people who are interested in this effort. This is an area where Nebraska can make a huge difference. The funding donor has many goals in mind for this institute: 1) focus on vulnerable children between ages of zero and eight, 2) to have an impact nationally, it needs to add value to current efforts, 3) it has to have a significant impact on Nebraska-it needs to be a game changer. This is an opportunity for Nebraska to create a model for how early childhood is addressed across the country. There is no excuse for us not to be involved in the research and training of new practitioners and educators on this subject.

This is an opportunity for Nebraska to innovate the way land grant universities address the challenges of early childhood development in education.

EduCare Center philosophy includes working with parents. These centers are for children who are vulnerable and at risk. They are community based with high-quality, research-based instruction and activity for students to attempt to close the gap between cognitive development and vocabulary development to prepare young children for school.

Dr. Fimple comments on the Buffet Early Childhood proposal

Dr. Fimple commented that this proposal is looking at key factors that influence learning in young children. That research will identify unemployed single parents, etc., which then has great potential for off-shoots of other research to identify causes and effects of those situations.

Proposal for Buffett Early Childhood Institute approved

Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the proposal from University of Nebraska for a new organizational unit: Buffett Early Childhood Institute. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

UNL Microbiology

University of Nebraska-Lincoln's proposal for a new instructional program: Microbiology (BS)

The Academic Programs Committee recommended approval of the proposed request to offer a new instructional program, Microbiology (BS). The Committee would also like to remind UNL of the Commission's expectation that the program reach productivity thresholds after its first several years.

Dr. Fimple discusses the proposal

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal to Commissioners. This is a good example of inter-college cooperation at UNL.

Proposal for Microbiology (BS) approved (UNL)

Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the proposal from University of Nebraska-Lincoln for a new instructional program: Microbiology (BS). A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

UNO Public Health

University of Nebraska at Omaha's proposal for a new instructional program: Public Health (BS)

The Academic Programs Committee recommended approval of the proposed request to offer a new instructional program, Public Health (BS). The Committee would also like to remind UNO of the Commission's expectation that the program reach productivity thresholds after its first several years.

Dr. Fimple presents the proposal

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal to Commissioners. This program could possibly help students get to a master's degree more quickly through an agreement with UNMC.

Proposal for Public Health (BS) approved (UNO)

Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the proposal from University of Nebraska at Omaha

for a new instructional program: Public Health (BS). A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

UNO Systems Development

University of Nebraska at Omaha's proposal for a new instructional program: Systems Development (Undergraduate Certificate)

The Academic Programs Committee recommended approval of the proposed request to offer a new instructional program, Systems Development (Undergraduate Certificate).

Dr. Fimple presents the proposal

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal to Commissioners. The initial proposed start date was Spring 2011, but because of legislative gaps the Commission was unable to act upon the proposals when originally submitted. The passage of LB 637 clarified language so UNO resubmitted the proposals. The new start date will be as soon as the Commission approves the program.

Dr. Hill comments on the proposal

Dr. Hill commented that the idea of post-baccalaureate certificates is quite common around the country and this is a reasonable request.

Proposal for Systems Development (Undergraduate Certificate) approved (UNO)

Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the proposal from University of Nebraska at Omaha for a new instructional program: Systems Development (Undergraduate Certificate). A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

UNO Data Management

University of Nebraska at Omaha's proposal for a new instructional program: Data Management (Undergraduate Certificate)

The Academic Programs Committee recommended approval of the proposed request to offer a new instructional program, Data Management (Undergraduate Certificate).

Dr. Fimple comments on the proposal

Dr. Fimple stated that this proposal had the same criteria as the previous proposal.

Proposal for Data Management (Undergraduate Certificate) approved (UNO)

Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the proposal from University of Nebraska at Omaha for a new instructional program: Data Management (Undergraduate Certificate). A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

NECC Wind Energy Technology

Northeast Community College's proposal for a new instructional program: Wind Energy Technology (AAS)

The Academic Programs Committee recommended approval of the proposed request to offer a new instructional program, Wind Energy Technology (AAS). The Committee would also like to remind NECC of the Commission's expectation that the program reach productivity thresholds after its first several years.

Dr. Fimple reviews the proposal

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal to Commissioners. Employers in the area are requesting a degree program in this field.

Lyle Kathol comments on the proposal

Lyle Kathol, Dean of Applied Technology Division at Northeast Community College, discussed the current and proposed wind farm properties in Nebraska.

Proposal for Wind Energy Technology (AAS) approved (NECC)

Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the proposal from Northeast Community College for a new instructional program: Wind Energy Technology (AAS). A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

Adjourned for break at 10:30 a.m. Meeting resumed at 10:44 a.m. with Commissioner Davis absent.

UNL Philosophy

Existing Program Review: Philosophy (MA, PhD) at University of Nebraska-Lincoln

The Academic Programs Committee recommended continuation of the program, with a report on need and demand for the master's and doctoral programs due October 31, 2014.

Dr. Fimple reviews the program

Dr. Fimple presented the program information and additional information as requested by the Academic Programs Committee.

UNL Philosophy program continued

Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to continue the program at University of Nebraska-Lincoln: Philosophy (MA, PhD). A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

Commissioner Davis returned to the meeting.

ITQ Request for Proposals

Improving Teacher Quality state grant program Request for Proposals 2011-2012

The Academic Programs Committee recommended approval of the 2011-2012 Request for Proposals for the ITQ program.

Dr. Fimple discusses ITQ available funds

Dr. Fimple stated that less money is available for this program in the year 2011-2012. Current projects are enjoying great success.

RFP approved

Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to accept the 2011-2012 Request for Proposals for the Improving Teacher Quality state grant program. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

Institutions "Authorized to Operate on a Continuing Basis"

Institutions "Authorized to Operate on a Continuing Basis"

The Academic Programs Committee recommended authorization of the following institutions to operate on a continuing basis pursuant to Neb. Laws 2011, LB 637 §10: Bellevue University, Clarkson College, College of St. Mary, Concordia University, Creighton University, Doane College, Grace University, Hastings College, Midland University, Nebraska Christian College, Nebraska Methodist College, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Summit Christian College, Union College, and York College.

Dr. Hill speaks about authorizing institutions to operate in Nebraska

Dr. Hill provided background information regarding this action. New rules issued by the U.S. Department of Education last fall contain certain requirements that institutions must meet in order to participate in federal financial aid programs. One of those expectations is that a state must have "a process to review and appropriately act on complaints concerning the institution including enforcing applicable State laws . . ." LB 637, as enacted by the Nebraska Legislature and signed by Governor Heineman this past session, brings Nebraska into compliance with that provision.

A second requirement is that the institution is established or authorized "*by name*" (*italics added*) by a State to operate educational programs beyond secondary education. The state has established its existing public institutions through the Nebraska Constitution and state statutes. Many institutions, both for-profit and non-profit, have been authorized by the Commission *by name*. However, most of Nebraska's independent, non-profit institutions have not been authorized by name as an educational institution by previous state action. For state purposes, LB 637 granted most of these institutions the "authorization to operate on a continuing basis" as long as they have been in operation in the state for 20 years. The new federal rules still require the further step that these institutions be authorized *by name*, which is the reason for the action by the Commission.

Institutions are approved to operate in Nebraska on a Continuing Basis

Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the institutions as listed above to Operate on a Continuing Basis. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

Reasonable and Moderate Extension

Information Items: Reasonable and Moderate Extension

WNCC – Business Technology-option in Medical Office Management (AAS)

Program name changes

Program Name Changes

UNL – College of Law degree program in Space and Telecommunications Law to *Space, Cyber and Telecommunication Law*
CCC – Commercial Art to *Visual Communications*

New minor program

New Minor program

PSC – Exercise Science

Rebecca Koller from University of Nebraska

PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET, CONSTRUCTION AND FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE ITEMS

Surplus Fund and Revenue Bond Proposals at UNK and UNL

Rebecca Koller, Assistant Vice President/Director Facility Plan Management from the University of Nebraska, offered herself and others present in the audience to answer any questions regarding the housing proposals.

Commissioner Davis closed the public hearing on Budget, Construction and Financial Aid Committee items.

BUDGET, CONSTRUCTION AND FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE

UNK Centennial Towers West capital improvements

University of Nebraska at Kearney – Centennial Towers West capital improvements

The Budget, Construction and Financial Aid Committee recommended approval of the surplus fund proposal.

Mike Wemhoff presents the proposal

Mr. Mike Wemhoff, Facilities Officer, presented the proposal information and answered general questions from Commissioners.

Lee McQueen from UNK

Lee McQueen, Director of Facilities, Facilities Management & Planning from University of Nebraska at Kearney, spoke about asbestos removal and answered other general questions from Commissioners regarding the improvements proposed.

Proposal for Centennial Towers West capital improvements at UNK approved

Commissioner Davis, on behalf of the Budget, Construction and Financial Aid Committee, moved to recommend approval of the proposal to the Legislature. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

UNL 18th/19th & R Street Residence Hall

University of Nebraska-Lincoln / City Campus 18th/19th & R Street Residence Hall

The Budget, Construction and Financial Aid Committee recommended approval of the revenue bond and surplus fund proposal.

Mike Wemhoff discusses the proposal

Mr. Wemhoff presented the proposal and answered general questions from Commissioners.

Proposal for 18th/19th & R Street Residence Hall approved

Commissioner Davis, on behalf of the Budget, Construction and Financial Aid Committee, moved to recommend approval of the proposal to the Legislature. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

PUBLIC HEARING ON PLANNING AND CONSUMER INFORMATION COMMITTEE ITEMS

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

Commissioner Lauritzen closed the public hearing on Planning and Consumer Information items.

Adjourned for break at 11:35 a.m. Meeting resumed at 11:45 a.m.

PLANNING AND CONSUMER INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Dr. McCuen presents section B of the Factual Look

Dr. Barbara McCuen, Research Coordinator, presented Section B of the 2010-2011 *Factual Look at Higher Education in Nebraska* and answered general questions from Commissioners.

Dr. Hill comments on reports and data collection at the Commission office

Dr. Hill discussed the reports and data that Commission staff analyze and gather and the importance of those reports. He also stated that Nebraska is

the only state without a postsecondary education data system. The lack of a data system is standing in the way of Nebraska receiving specific federal funds.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sports Arena Facility Financing Act

Ratification of the appointment of a designee to the board established by the Sports Arena Facility Financing Act

The Executive Committee recommended ratification of the appointment of Dr. Eric C. Thompson to a two-year term as the Commission's designee to the board established by the Sports Arena Facility Financing Act.

Dr. Hill discusses appointment of a designee

Dr. Hill presented information and answered general questions from Commissioners regarding appointment of this designee.

Appointment of Dr. Thompson ratified

Chair Simmons, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to ratify the appointment of Dr. Thompson to a two-year term as the Commission's designee to the board established by the Sports Arena Facility Financing Act. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

ACE Plus Scholarship

Adjust ACE Plus Scholarship award amounts for the 2011-2012 year

The Executive Committee recommended approval of the proposed changes.

Katherine Green discusses the proposed change

Katherine Green, College Access Challenge Grant Program Director, explained the need for this one-time adjustment to the ACE Plus Scholarship award amounts and answered questions from Commissioners.

ACE Plus Scholarship award amount adjustment approved

Chair Simmons, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to approve the proposed change. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

Dr. Hill comments on the large amount of paperwork ACE generates

Dr. Hill commented on the huge amount of paperwork that is involved in the ACE Scholarship programs. The Commission applied for a state grant to help fund an electronic system to handle the applications but was denied. Because of the denial, Commission staff anticipates bringing a deficit request before Commissioners for approval to develop a new system.

CACG Funding recommendations

2011 College Access Challenge Grant Funding recommendations

The Executive Committee recommended approval of the proposed subgrantee funding.

Katherine Green presents the recommendations

Katherine Green discussed the grant and the recommendations for funding to subgrantees. She also informed Commissioners that outside evaluators have been contracted to evaluate the performance of subgrantees. These evaluators will present a report at the September 29, 2011 Commission meeting.

Dr. Hill overviews a proposed program

Dr. Hill discussed the proposed program through Metropolitan Community College entitled "Prepare – Lead – Enroll – Succeed".

CACG Funding proposal approved

Chair Simmons, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to approve the proposed 2011 College Access Challenge Grant subgrantee funding. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

2011-2012 Operating Budget

2011-2012 Operating Budget

The Executive Committee recommended approval of the proposed 2011-2012 Operating Budget.

Dr. Hill reviews the proposed budget

Dr. Hill discussed the proposed Operating Budget.

Kadi Lukesh comments on the budget request

Kadi Lukesh presented additional information and answered questions from Commissioners.

2011-2012 Operating Budget approved

Chair Simmons, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to approve the proposed 2011-2012 Operating Budget. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

FY 2011-2012 Salaries for Executive Director and Associate Director

Commissioners moved into a closed session to discuss salary proposals

Commissioner Bishop moved to enter into closed session as authorized by the Nebraska Revised Statutes, Section 84-1410, for the protection of the public interest and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of persons who have not requested a public hearing, for the purpose of discussing salary recommendations for the Associate Director and Executive Director. Commissioner Lauritzen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

The Commission entered into closed session at approximately 1:00 p.m. to discuss the salary recommendations for the Associate Director and Executive Director. The Commission ended the closed session at 1:13 p.m. by unanimous consent.

Salaries approved

Commissioner Davis moved to approve the salary for Marshall Hill, Executive Director, and approve Dr. Hill's recommendation on the salary for Carna Pfeil, Associate Director for Finance and Administration. Commissioner Adam seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.

*Next Commission Meeting:
September 29, 2011*

FUTURE MEETINGS

The Next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for Thursday, September 29, 2011. The meeting will be held at Grace University in Omaha, Nebraska.

Meeting adjourned 1:21 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:21 p.m.



NEW POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION APPLICATION

To Establish a Campus in Nebraska

Institution: Wright Career College, Overland Park, Kansas

Legal Status: Non-profit (§501(c) (3)) as Mission Group Kansas, Inc.

Site for Campus: 3000 S. 84th Street, Omaha, Nebraska

Programs: Bachelor of Science (BS) in Healthcare Administration; Business Administration

Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management; Accounting; Software Administration; Office Administration; Information Technology and Systems Administration; Healthcare Administration; Medical Insurance Coding; Medical Assisting; Personal Training and Fitness

Diploma in Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management; Accounting; Software Administration; Administrative Assistant; Personal Computer Technician; Medical Insurance Coding; Medical Assisting; Administrative Medical Assistant

Institution's Existing Degree in Same or Similar Discipline: All degrees and programs are offered at other Wright Career College locations

Proposed Start Date: November 2011

Introduction

Wright Career College was founded in 1921 as Dickinson Business School, serving the need for typists in the Kansas City area. A secretarial program was added in the 1950s with expanded educational offerings in the 1970s. The college earned accreditation from the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) in 1988. Dickinson Business School became Wright Business School in 1990 and Wright Career College in 2007.

Wright currently has branch campuses in three cities—Oklahoma City, Tulsa, and Wichita—as well as online courses. Offering diplomas and associate degrees in primarily business and medical office fields, the college was recently approved by ACICS to offer baccalaureate

degrees in business administration and healthcare administration. The institution plans to add additional baccalaureate and, potentially, master's programs.

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
<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Wright Career College provided audited financial statements for years ending June 30, 2009 and 2010 as well as their proposed annual budget for the Omaha campus. Commission staff reviewed the documents and found no financial issues of concern. In fact, the college recently paid off all debts.

The tuition for the 2011-12 academic year is \$4,995 per term (\$416.25 per credit hour). The total over the life of a program is \$49,950 for a BS degree, \$24,975 for an associate degree, and \$14,985 for a diploma program. There are also fees that range from roughly \$200 to \$400 per term. The cost of books varies from program to program.

Selected comparison tuition and fees for institutions operating in Omaha
(estimates based on 2010-11 costs except 2011-12 for Wright)

Program	Wright	NAU	Baker	Herzing	MCC	UNO	Kaplan	Bellevue
Bachelor	\$56,957 - \$57,739	\$66,774	\$39,730	\$60,820*		\$23,808	\$61,308*	\$31,800-\$43,800
Associate	\$28,072 - \$30,166	\$33,387	\$14,700	\$31,685*	\$5,088		\$30,654*	

*includes books

While the above figures are rough estimates and not entirely comparable, it appears that Wright's tuition is within the range of other private institutions in the area.

Wright Career College 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 a copy of the college catalog for the Overland Park campus, including the federal return policy for Title IV funds, college withdrawal policy, and college refund procedures.

The application states that in the unlikely circumstance of having to close the Omaha campus, the college would assist students in transferring to one of Wright's ground campuses, if feasible, or to their online campus (under development). They would also work with other institutions in the Omaha area to facilitate possible transfers.

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
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Curriculum- The proposed programs are identical to those offered on the Overland Park home campus and the three other Wright locations.

All of the diploma programs require the completion of 36 semester hours. While no general education courses are specifically identified, all diploma programs require applied psychology and almost all require ethics and “contemporary math” or accounting.

The associate degree requirements include 16 hours of general education courses (biology, English composition, “contemporary math”, general psychology, and sociology) and 45 hours of required courses for a total of 61 semester credit hours. The 36 hours earned in the diploma program apply directly to the 61 hours needed for the degree in the same field.

Both the diploma and AAS in medical assisting require a 180 clock-hour externship. The college would have a full-time externship coordinator to assist with placements. Since medical assisting encompasses a wide range of skills in both health and business, there should be a greater number of externship sites available than in other allied health fields.

The two BS degrees each require 122 semester credit hours, 40 of which are in general education (biology, English composition, government, math, economics, environmental science, history, art, psychology, and sociology). Both also require a three-hour capstone course. The healthcare administration program consists of 52 hours of required courses and 30 hours of electives from related fields. The business administration program requires 58 hours in the major area with 24 elective hours in related fields.

These are appropriate general requirements for a diploma and for associate and baccalaureate degrees. The strong general education requirements are especially notable. In addition, the curriculum for many programs is designed with industry certification and/or examinations in mind.

Enrollment - The enrollment projection of 250 students in the first year was based on the enrollments in Wright Career College’s recently opened Wichita campus—one that might be comparable to Omaha. There was no other basis for the figure and it was not broken down by program, making it difficult to assess how realistic it might be. However, the college provided additional information comparing the two locations (see the table below). The Wichita campus opened in May 2011 and currently has 140-145 students. The largest campus is Tulsa, with 650 students. There are approximately 1600 students in the Wright system.

	Omaha, NE	Wichita, KS
Total Population	865,350	630,721
Population 25-34	120,342	88,052
Number of colleges	13	10
25-34 per college	9,257	8,805

The table shows that the Omaha area has a larger population, but also more colleges. Although Wichita has fewer colleges based in the city (ten), there are other opportunities available. For example, Baker University and University of Phoenix have campuses in Wichita. The figures support the comparability of the two cities and give some minimal credence to the enrollment projections.

Within Omaha there are several institutions that provide the same programs Wright is applying to offer. Numerous public and private institutions offer baccalaureate degrees in business

administration. Bellevue, Clarkson, Nebraska Methodist, and University of Phoenix have BS programs in health care management, and Herzing University and National American University have recently been approved to offer health care management programs.

Associate degree and diploma programs similar to those proposed by Wright Career College are offered by (or have been approved for) Metropolitan Community College, Nebraska Methodist College, Kaplan University, ITT Technical Institute, Herzing University, National American University, and Vatterott College. (Not all programs are offered at all schools listed.)

Labor data and reports from employers suggest that there will be employment opportunities for graduates in information technology fields. Business graduates have a wide variety of job possibilities. With the aging population, especially in the plains states, health-related job openings are likely to grow in number (although some figures indicate that medical assisting is not a growth area). With the variety of planned programs, it is likely that Wright Career College will have sufficient student interest, at least in most of its program areas, to sustain enrollments and support the viability of the campus.

It should be noted that even in fields where supply may exceed current demand, there are other factors at play in potential enrollments. A student may select a new institution, for example, because it offers a schedule more convenient to that of the student, it is closer to the student's home, it has lower tuition, or offers courses online.

Credit - The awarding of credit is based on the following: one semester credit hour is earned by 15 clock hours of lecture, 30 hours of lab work, or 45 hours of an externship.

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

High-----Low				
		√		

Faculty - The college intends to initially employ eight faculty, with others to be hired as enrollment grows. The qualifications for the faculty members were provided and are summarized in the table on the

following page.

ACICS policy on faculty preparation does not identify degree levels or specific academic preparation required. It states that faculty preparation "shall be academically and experientially appropriate to the subject matter they teach." While the application did not link the faculty to the specific course/s they would teach, the expertise of these eight people covers business (general and medical), information technology, fitness, and allied health. (See public hearing section for additional faculty information.)

The resumes that included a current address indicate that these faculty members live in Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Illinois. They would move temporarily to Omaha, teach classes, and train new faculty hired locally. When there is sufficient local faculty, they would return to their home campuses. The college has hired Jim Guyer to serve as campus director. He has been involved in career education and administration for many years in the Omaha area.

	Post Masters/ Doctorate	Master's	Bachelor's	Associate; Certifications	Experience
1	DC		BSEd		Office manager
2		MS in Industrial Mgt	BS Graphic Arts Mgt/Technology	AA in Business Administration	President/CEO
3			BA Math		President/CEO
4		MBA	Business Mgt	Associate - Computer Technology	Account executive
5				Medical assistant; medical office assistant; insurance and coding	Medical transcriptionist; clinic coordinator
6				Information technology (42 hours); MCSE-Security; MCSA-Security; Security+; MCP; Network+, A+	
7		MBA; MS in MIS	BS Business Admin		Adjunct faculty- Missouri College
8	DC		BS Ed/ Human Development - Health	EMT; personal trainer	Adjunct faculty – Platt College

(DC = Doctor of Chiropractic)

Library - The library will consist of 1200 square feet adjacent to the computer lab. Both print and digital resources will be available. The application included a list of 12 electronic reference products purchased by the college, such as ERIC, MEDLINE, Business Source Complete, Health Source, Internet and Personal Computing Abstract, and Vocational Search and Career Collection, as well as a specific listing of many thousands of information resources available through the electronic references. There was also a list of print materials ranging from dictionaries and encyclopedias to math texts to allied health.

Support Services – Wright Career College assigns each student a student services coordinator as well as an academic advisor. The latter monitors the student's academic progress and advises them every five weeks. The former assists with all other school and non-school related issues. Each student is also required to take a career development course and work with the career development department as they near graduation.

The application included a list of equipment available both for general purposes and for specialized programs. For medical related programs, equipment includes exam tables, EKG machine, centrifuge, autoclave, mannequins, and a variety of examination instruments and assistive devices. The equipment for the personal training and fitness program includes an elliptical, inclined trainer, exercise bike, Crossover "technogym" equipment, and a long list of smaller equipment. Each student also receives a college-owned laptop to use while enrolled in Wright, and is provided a new one upon graduation.

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

Wright Career College has signed a lease for a 32,232 square feet facility located in a shopping center in southwest Omaha. The location is near South 84th Street and West Center Road, both major thoroughfares, as well as near an Interstate 80 interchange. Five bus routes also serve the area, making the campus easily accessible to many students.

When remodeling is complete, the facility will include 14 lecture classrooms (six specifically designated for business classes), three medical labs, two computer labs, one business lab, three personal training and fitness labs, one men's and one women's locker room, a student lounge, a library, and 18 administrative offices.

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

Wright Career College is accredited by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS), an accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. Accredited since 1988, the college's current accreditation runs through 2013, with no interim reporting requirements. ACICS would visit a new campus within six months.

The business and medical assisting programs are not accredited, but neither accreditation is required for those professions in Nebraska.

The college is also authorized by the Kansas Board of Regents (Postsecondary Private and Out-of-State Education). Kansas reports that Wright Career College is current with all required approvals.

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 Wright Career College is accredited by ACICS, students would likely be able to readily transfer credits to other institutions accredited by ACICS. Acceptance of transfer credit by institutions that are accredited by other accrediting bodies would vary. Acceptance of transfer credits is always determined by the receiving institution. The college catalog contains this statement: "The transfer of credits between institutions is always at the discretion of the receiving institution; therefore, credits earned at Wright may or may not be transferable to other institutions." (p.7)

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

The admission standards are included in the college catalog. The college reported that they will recruit students using traditional methods, including media (television, yellow pages, Internet, etc.), community events, and career fairs. Locations in other cities have also experienced enrollments based on referrals from current students or graduates.

Public Hearing

A public hearing was held August 31, 2011, at the State Office Building in Omaha, room 229. Commissioner Mary Lauritzen served as hearing officer. Commissioner John Winkleblack also attended the hearing. The Commission was represented by Marshall Hill, Kathleen Fimple, Jason Keese, and Miste Adamson-DaMoude. Dr. Adam John, Vice President / Director of Education and Ms. Stacia Boden, General Counsel, represented Wright Career College.

Kathleen Fimple entered into the record a letter from Metropolitan Community College opposing the application. The letter is included at the end of this document along with the interim application form reflecting new state statutes referring to Commission authorization of institutions and campuses.

Dr. John gave a brief history of the institution and provided the following responses to questions from Commission staff.

- Wright Career College (WCC) leases buildings because of tax advantages and the flexibility it provides as enrollment grows. They are, however, currently building a new facility in Overland Park that will be "lease to own."
- The college's financial statements show royalty payments which are actually a mechanism for completing payments resulting from the purchase of the college in 1995 by Mission Group Kansas, Inc.
- The college is planning to form a foundation that will be able to offer scholarships.
- Omaha meets the general demographics and geographic location of WCC's target cities.
- Students selecting WCC are often single parents and first-time college students. The extensive placement assistance and high employment rates (75% to 80%) for graduates are attractions.
- Employability is an important factor when the college selects new programs.
- Classes are scheduled during the day (8:30 -2:30) and evenings (5:30-10:30) on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday year round. This schedule appeals to people with full-time jobs.
- The college will be launching their online campus this fall. Five or six programs will be offered initially, with the goal of all on-ground programs being available online.
- WCC is involved in the community, offering free GED preparation programs. The Oklahoma City campus sponsors a community service day.
- Faculty must have a minimum of a baccalaureate degree plus certification in their field. Ideally, they would hold a master's degree. All general education faculty must hold a master's degree and have 18 credit hours in the field in which they teach.
- WCC is cost efficient because curriculum is fairly standardized, having been created by a team and vetted by outside subject matter experts.

After the hearing the college provided this information: the freshman to sophomore retention rate is 70.9%, and the student loan default rate is 14.7%.

Mr. Jim Thibodeau, General Counsel for Metropolitan Community College in Omaha, spoke in opposition to the application. Metro has two concerns. First, Wright is not regionally accredited and students may have difficulty in transferring credits to other institutions. Second, the proposed offerings duplicate programs already offered in the Omaha area. He noted that the number of students likely to enroll at WCC would not have a significant impact on Metro's enrollments; MCC is concerned about the quality of education offered to Omaha students.

In response, Dr. John pointed out that WCC is student-centered, offers different experiences, provides more help with career services, and has smaller classes (11:1 student-teacher ratio) where faculty know their students.

There was no proponent or neutral testimony.

Committee Comment: Wright Career College is nationally accredited and is in sound financial condition. The program curricula meet common standards. Faculty qualifications meet the accreditor's guidelines. Substantial student support services are planned; policies for financial aid are in place and meet federal requirements.

Committee Recommendation: Approve the application of Wright Career College, with the following conditions: prior to Wright Career College offering courses, 1) Commission staff conduct a site visit of the proposed facility as part of the college's statutory obligation to demonstrate that facilities are adequate, 2) approval is received from the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS), and 3) Mission Group Kansas, Inc. files with the Nebraska Secretary of State.

Reporting requirements: Reporting requirements for newly authorized institutions were changed with the passage of LB 637. If approved to operate in Nebraska, Wright Career College would be subject to those requirements. The process and forms for that reporting are currently under development. All institutions will be individually notified when the process and forms have been finalized.

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METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

August 25, 2011

AUG 25 2011

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

Coordinating Commission
for Postsecondary Education

Re: Proposal for an Out-of-State Institution to establish a campus in the State of
Nebraska: Wright Career College – *Public Hearing*

Dear Dr. Hill and Members of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education

There have been several attempts to object to new applications from out-of-state institutions wanting to establish a base of operations in Nebraska. The arguments have not been sufficient to warrant your support. Each attempt has met the same fate and we end up welcoming our new colleagues to our state.

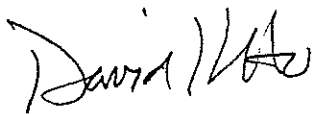
In the case at hand, Wright Career College, I simply ask that you carefully consider three areas of Wright's application:

- Section 9 – Accreditation: CCPE requires that the institution provides evidence that it holds appropriate accreditation from an accrediting organization recognized by the United States Department of Education. Wright Career College is accredited by the *Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS)*. The great preponderance of the institutions of higher education in Nebraska are accredited by the regional accreditor, *The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools*. Wright is based in Kansas, one of the nineteen states in the Higher Learning Commission's region. In order to facilitate the transfer of credits between institutions, regional accreditation is generally required. Why wouldn't the Commission use the possession of regional accreditation as a requirement for out-of-state institutions wanting to enter Nebraska? The most recent entrants to Nebraska . . . Baker, Herzing and National American . . . are all regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.
- Section 3 – Need and Demand for the Courses or Program (Part 1): If a public Nebraska institution of higher education desires to offer its programs in new areas within the state, CCPE does a careful review to ensure that expensive duplication of programs doesn't occur. Isn't it appropriate that avoidance of duplication of programs now be considered when out-of-state institutions make application?
- Section 3 – Need and Demand for the Courses or Program (Part 2): CCPE requires that the institution addresses employment opportunities for graduates, the basis for projected enrollments, and the availability of similar programs from other institutions serving the

geographical area within a thirty mile radius of the proposed location of the program. Rather than a simple percentage review of population growth, we think that Wright needs to provide a *gap analysis* in which they clearly identify unmet needs and how they can offer solutions. The following list of higher education institutions are within a thirty mile radius of Wright's proposed location (84th Street in Omaha) and many of the proposed programs are readily available at these locations. Does Wright propose to "increase the size of the total enrollment pie or simply make each institution's piece smaller?"

Bellevue University
Buena Vista University (Iowa)
College of Saint Mary
Creighton University
Grace University
Iowa Western Community College
ITT Technical Institute
Kaplan University
Metropolitan Community College (three campuses and three centers)
Nebraska Wesleyan University
University of Phoenix
University of Nebraska at Omaha
Vatterott College

Thank you for your time and your service.



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cc: Randy Schmailzl
President, Metropolitan Community College

James Thibodeau
Director of Labor Relations & General Counsel, Metropolitan Community College



Application to Modify a Previous Authorization to Operate

Institution: BryanLGH College of Health Sciences
Program: Nurse Anesthesia
Degree: Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice (DNAP)

Institution's Existing Degree(s) in Same or Similar Discipline: Master of Science in Nurse Anesthesia

Proposal Received by Commission: September 1, 2011

Proposed Start Date: May 2013

Background

Bryan Hospital began training nurse anesthetists in 1968. In 1988 they began offering courses for a master's degree in nurse anesthesia in conjunction with the University of Kansas Medical Center. In 2004 the Commission approved an application from BryanLGH to offer the master's degree independent of the University of Kansas.

The master's degree became a requirement for continued accreditation by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Programs (COA) in 1998. In 2009 COA revised their standards, requiring nurse anesthesia students matriculating on or after January 1, 2022 to graduate with doctoral degrees. The movement to so-called "practice" doctorates has become common in health-related fields, including pharmacy, physical therapy, and others.

Description

The proposed program would replace the current master's in nurse anesthesia. The MS would be phased out as the DNAP is initiated. The program would be open to nurses holding a baccalaureate degree and completion of the program would qualify them to sit for the National Certification Examination given by the National Board on Certification and Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA).

REVIEW CRITERIA

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

High-----Low
√

BryanLGH College of Health Sciences provided the audited financial statements for year ending May 3, 2010 and 2009 for BryanLGH Health System, Inc. and Subsidiaries. Commission staff reviewed the documents and found no financial issues of concern. The college also provided the School of Nurse Anesthesia's annual budget, which included funds for the development of the doctoral curriculum.

The tuition for the three-year program starting in 2011-12 would be \$66,500, plus \$5,195 in fees.

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 degree program would consist of 97 semester credit hours after the baccalaureate degree, taken over a 36 month program of study divided into two phases. (The MS program requires 71-73 credit hours.) Phase I encompasses the first four semesters during which students take advanced courses in the sciences as well as research and statistical methods courses, foundations of nurse anesthesia practice, and introduction to clinical practice. Phase II includes advanced courses in research methods, doctoral seminar, doctoral capstone, and senior synthesis. There are six credit hours of clinical practicum.

The National Board on Certification and Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists (NRCRNA) is recognized and approved by the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (ABSNC) of the American Board of Nursing Specialties (ABNS). The NRCRNA is also responsible for the development and administration of the National Certification Examination. Minimum didactic and clinical requirements must be met in order for program graduates to be eligible to sit for the exam. BryanLGH reports that the course requirements for the proposed program exceed all categories of the didactic requirements.

Enrollment - Based on enrollments in the MS program, the college estimates that 15 to 16 students would enroll each year. The number of qualified applicants has exceeded the number of seats available for the past several years. BryanLGH cites a 2010 CRNA (Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist) manpower study of Nebraska that estimated between 89 and 122 additional CRNAs would be required between 2010 and 2015.

There are no other DNAP programs in Nebraska. Both Creighton University and UNMC offer a doctor of nurse practice, but not a doctor of nurse anesthesia practice.

Clinical Placements – The MS program has affiliations with 28 clinical sites in Lincoln, Omaha, and throughout the state. The proposed program would continue to utilize these sites.

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 in preparing for a learning experience.

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

High-----Low
√

Faculty - There are ten faculty teaching in the MS program. They will be the foundation for the DNAP program, as well. Currently, half hold doctorates with the remainder enrolled in doctoral programs. Six are also CRNAs.

Library - The college library includes the print and electronic holdings of the college as well as the BryanLGH 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.

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 research 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 BryanLGH 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 BryanLGH 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.

The college also utilizes space at BryanLGH 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.

These facilities have been utilized by the MS students and faculty and should continue to meet the needs of the proposed program since the number of students in the classroom will not change. The additional courses will be primarily scheduled in the summer months when the college reports there currently is ample classroom space available.

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 there is no other DNAP in Nebraska, many courses would not be eligible for transfer because of their specific nature. BryanLGH does report that individual courses such as research methods, policy, and leadership courses would be most likely to be considered for transfer to another postsecondary institution. Since BryanLGH 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.

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

BryanLGH College of Health Sciences is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The college will seek approval from the HLC to award doctoral degrees.

The BryanLGH College of Health Sciences School of Nurse Anesthesia is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA), an accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. The school was granted the maximum length of accreditation, 10 years, at the most recent reaccreditation review in 2010.

If the Commission approves this application, the college will submit an Application to COA for Approval of a Practice-Oriented Doctoral Degree for Entry into Nurse Anesthesia Practice according to the policies and procedures of the COA. As the College must have the legal authority to grant a doctoral degree in order for the COA to approve the DNAP program, the College is submitting this application to the Commission prior to the accreditation of the DNAP program. The college will not admit students to the program until specialized accreditation for the DNAP program is achieved through the COA and approval to offer doctoral courses is received from the HLC.

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 and pertinent sections were attached to the application. Requirements specific to the DNAP are included in the School of Nurse Anesthesia Handbook Addendum. The admission requirements for the DNAP were listed in the application.

The college reported that they will recruit students primarily through their Web site.

Additional Comments: All public and private institutions offering related programs were notified of the application on September 6, 2011. Interested parties were encouraged to provide written comment two weeks prior to the Commission meeting so that the Academic Programs Committee could consider any such input. Comment can also be made during the designated time for public comment on academic program items during the September 29, 2011 Commission meeting in Omaha, Nebraska.

Committee Recommendation: Approve

Note on Reporting Requirements: The passage of LB 637 changes reporting requirements. The process and forms for that reporting are currently under development. All institutions will be individually notified when the process and forms have been finalized.

2010-11 EXISTING PROGRAM REVIEW

COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROGRAMS APPROVED by the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR						
Institution	Program	5 yr Average (2005-2010)				
		SCH/ FTE	Associate	Diploma	Certificate	Total Awards
SCC	Major Appliance Professional Technology	348*		4*		4*
CCC	Dental Hygiene	184	AAS 14.6			14.6
CCC	Dental Assisting	404	AAS 9.8	11.8		21.6
MCC	Dental Assisting	693			18.6	18.6
SCC	Dental Assisting	276		30.2		30.2
MCC	Respiratory Care Technology	246	AAS 15.6			15.6
SCC	Respiratory Care	341	AAS 24			24
SCC	Polysomnographic Technology	242**			5.5**	5.5**
MCC	Interior Design	658	AAS 15.4			15.4

*first year of program (2009-10 figures only)

**second year of program (2 year average)

Commission Thresholds

Number of Degrees/Awards in this Program (the mean of the prior 5 years)		Student Credit Hour Production by Department Per Full-Time Equivalent Faculty (the mean of the prior 5 years)	
Less Than Two Years and Associate	10	All credit hours produced at the baccalaureate	All credit hours produced at the associate level
Baccalaureate and First Professional	7	levels and all credit hours at the associate	and below in programs which utilize contact hours
Masters Degree	5	level or below except those described below.	that are converted to credit hours for purposes of
Specialist	4		determining full-time equivalency pursuant
Doctoral Degree	3		to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1503 (2008)

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2010-2011 Programs Requiring Additional Review **** (Item in bold is under Commission Threshold)**

			Five Year Average (2005-10)							
Institution	Program	Degree	Degrees Awarded	SCH	FTE	SCH/FTE	Need (selected summarized comments from institutional reviews)	Governing Board Action	Recommend CCPE Action	CCPE Comments
MPCC	Dental Assisting	AAS Diploma	2.0 5.6	315.8	1.3	246	There is no other Dental Assisting program in the western half of the state. According to the state and national employment resources, there is a definite long-term need for Dental Assistants in the region. MPCC hired a new Program director in 2009 and updated equipment and facilities in Fall of 2010 to help with recruitment of new students. Enrollment has steadily increased over the past two years.	Approved as presented with follow-up reports to board for the next three years on graduates and SCH/FTE.	Continue, with a report due Sept. 15, 2014 on graduation rates and SCH/FTE.	

Information Items

1. Program Deletion

- a. MCC – Polysomnography (AAS, Certificate)
- b. SCC – John Deere Technology (AOS)
- c. UNL – Plant Protection Sciences (BS)

2. New Certificate

- a. SCC – Fire Protection Technology (Certificate)

3. Program Name Change

- a. SCC – Diesel Technology-Farm to
Diesel Technology-Ag Equipment Service Technology

4. Focus Area Name Change

- a. SCC – Merge Computer Information Technology-Programmer and
Computer Information Technology-Web Applications Programmer

New focus:

Computer Information Technology-Applications/Web Programmer

5. Department Merger

- a. UNL – Department of Engineering Mechanics and Department of
Mechanical Engineering

New department:

Department of Mechanical and Materials Engineering

6. Center Renaming

- a. UNL – Center for Biopreparedness Education to
*Center for Biosecurity, Biopreparedness and Emerging Infectious
Diseases*

7. Center Elimination

- a. UNO – Center for ePortfolio-Based Assessment

OVERVIEW OF COMMISSION RESPONSIBILITIES REGARDING THE REVIEW OF REVENUE BOND PROJECTS

The following information pertains to the proposed revenue bond proposals included in Appendices 6, 7 and 8:

The Nebraska Revised Statutes (2008), Sections 85-404 and 85-1415, require the Commission to review, and recommend to the Legislature approval or disapproval, within 60 days of receipt of a proposal, University or State College revenue bond proposed projects and finance plans. Revenue bond projects include student housing, student centers, student/faculty health centers, student/faculty recreation and parking facilities. These projects are generally funded by student room and board fees, student facilities fees and parking revenues.

Commission Rules and Regulations Concerning Capital Construction outline the Commission's review criteria for proposed revenue bond projects to include: 1) compliance and consistency with the *Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education*, 2) compliance and consistency with the *Statewide Facilities Plan*, and 3) review for possible unnecessary duplication of facilities.

Following Commission review, revenue bond proposals are approved or disapproved by the Legislature or, if the Legislature is not in session, the Executive Board of the Legislative Council. The relevant institutional governing board is responsible for submitting the Commission's recommendation along with the institution's proposal to the Legislature for review.

STUDENT REFERENDUM LANGUAGE PROVIDED BY UNL REGARDING THE CAMPUS RECREATIONAL FACILITIES REVENUE BOND PROPOSALS

The following information pertains to the proposed revenue bond proposals included in Appendices 6, 7 and 8:

Do you support the Campus Wellness Committee's recommendation to 1) conduct renovations to the City Campus Recreation Center, 2) construct a new East Campus Recreation Center, and 3) to construct a new facility to house Outdoor Adventures on the City Campus, and do you agree to increase student fees to fund this project? The proposed fee increase of approximately \$59 would be phased as follows:

Phase 1: \$22 per semester begins Fall 2011

Phase 2: + \$22 per semester begins Fall 2012

Phase 3: + \$15 per semester begins Fall 2015

☐ **Yes**

☐ **No**

Details of Campus Recreation enhancements (*Students would click to bring up a text box*)

If a student graduates before the project is completed, the student will receive one free semester of Recreation Center use for each semester he/she paid the new fees.

The City Campus Recreation Center renovations would increase the number of cardiovascular machines (e.g. treadmills/ellipticals) from 42 pieces of equipment to 92 pieces of equipment by 1) expanding the strength training and conditioning room by approximately 2,200 sq. ft. and 2) converting a racquetball court to a cardio room.

The new East Campus Recreation Center is proposed to be approximately 45,000 sq. ft. and will be constructed in the location of the current Activities Building. It would have a 2-court gymnasium, an elevated jogging/walking track, group exercise space, injury prevention & care room, locker rooms with saunas, cardiovascular machines (increase from 22 pieces of equipment to 72 pieces of equipment) and strength training area (8,500 square feet).

To accommodate the strength training & conditioning room expansion at the City Campus Rec Center, UNL Outdoor Adventures would be relocated to a new facility. It would be located on City Campus, and would include new and larger rock climbing/bouldering walls, a larger bike shop, equipment rental and storage, and training space. The proposed building would be approximately 10,000 sq. ft.

The need to renovate or construct new student life buildings is assessed by ASUN and presented to students in the form of a student fee referendum. The outcome of the referendum becomes the official student opinion on the matter and is communicated to the Chancellor, the President, and the Board of Regents, who are ultimately responsible for deciding whether and how to proceed.

Total Eligible Voters 24,171

Yes 3,672

No 1,392

Total Voters 5,066

20.96%

Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education
Revenue Bond Project Evaluation Form

Committee Draft
September 21, 2011

Institution/Campus: University of Nebraska-Lincoln / East Campus
Project Name: East Campus Recreation Center
Date of Governing Board Approval: June 17, 2011
Date Complete Proposal Received: June 22, 2011 (program statement)
August 22, 2011 (finance plan)
Date of Commission Evaluation: September 29, 2011

Project Description: The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is proposing to construct a 48,000 gross square foot (gsf) East Campus Recreation Center at the site of the existing 28,168 gsf Activities Building, originally constructed in 1926. A site plan is provided on the following page. The possibility of renovating and expanding the existing facility, in lieu of demolition, will be explored during the program verification phase. UNL has stated that they will look for a solution that balances cost, scope and schedule.

The building would include a two-court gymnasium and approximately 10,000 net square feet for cardiovascular and strength training, group exercise rooms, and other recreation activities. The building would also provide space for wellness services, staff offices, and support functions. Support space would include locker rooms for men and women and a family changing room, as well as equipment issue, storage, and maintenance areas. Public space would include a control desk, lounge area, meeting room, and free day-use lockers. A jogging track (3,960 net assignable square feet) and multipurpose activities court (MAC) gym (about 8,000 net assignable square feet) may be included in the project if sufficient funds are available.

The university has estimated the total project cost to be \$14,886,000 (\$310.13/gsf). The proposed source of funding for this project, along with two other recreation center projects, would be a new 30-year revenue bond issue financed by revenue bond facility income, including: student recreation fees, faculty/staff fees, investment income and other auxiliary income such as recreation facility/equipment rental fees. Annual debt service is estimated to average \$1.68 million per year over the 30 years, totaling about \$50.31 million in principal and interest payments. Net bond proceeds would fund all three UNL recreation center proposals, with estimated project costs totaling \$21,000,700.

Ongoing facility operations and maintenance (O&M) costs are projected to increase \$277,000 per year as a result of this project, along with an additional \$458,000 per year increase in programmatic costs. Both the increased facility O&M and programmatic costs would be funded from auxiliary funds, primarily from future student recreational fee increases.

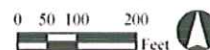
A spring 2009 student referendum on facilities improvements and student fee increases, which included improvements to the Student Health Center, was narrowly defeated by four votes. In October 2010, a revised referendum for proposed recreational facilities and student fee increases was held, with about a quarter of UNL's student population voting. The referendum to support the proposed projects and fee increases was approved by 72% of students who voted.

(UNL-East / East Campus Recreation Center evaluation continued)

UNL's student recreation fee was \$138.58 per semester for all students taking one or more credit hours during Academic Year (AY) 2011. Student recreation fee increases of \$22/semester in AY 2012 and AY 2013 along with a \$16/semester increase in AY 2014 would be used to finance the proposed revenue bond issue. An additional \$24/semester increase in student fees would be assessed beginning in AY 2014 to fund increased facility O&M and programmatic costs. A table illustrating the proposed recreational fee increases is provided at the end of this evaluation.



Campus Recreation - East Campus Project
Project Location Map



(UNL-East / East Campus Recreation Center evaluation continued)

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

Yes

☒

No

☐

Comments: Page 1-5 of the Commission's *Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education* states: "Both the cost of education for taxpayers and price of education for students and parents are rising faster than general inflation."

Page 1-7 of the *Plan* states: "Nebraska public institutions are accountable to the State for making wise use of resources for programs, services, and facilities as well as for avoiding unnecessary duplication."

Page 2-2 of the *Plan* states: "The rising cost of postsecondary education throughout the country has raised concerns that some students may be priced out of opportunities. While tuition and fees at Nebraska's public institutions are generally less than national averages, paying for a college education is a barrier to higher education for many students and their families."

Increases in higher education tuition/fees/room & board continue to outpace median household incomes. The financial capability of students from median and lower income families to achieve a UNL four-year degree is increasingly difficult, if not already beyond reach. Although data to validate these concerns is not currently available, the Commission believes that increasing fees likely have a significant impact on middle class families' ability to attend the public institution of their choice.

Page 6-3 of the *Plan* states: "Facilities funding has historically come from a variety of sources. These sources of funding and example applications include: . . . Self-generated funding for auxiliary programs such as bookstores, child care centers, hospitals, etc."

Pages 6-8 and 6-9 of the *Plan* state: "Funds from non-tax sources support the design, construction, and ongoing facility O&M of other institutional space, such as: . . . Self-sufficient student support space such as student housing, parking, student centers/unions, student medical services, recreational facilities, and student auxiliary services (e.g., childcare services, bookstores, etc.)."

(UNL-East / East Campus Recreation Center evaluation continued)

This proposed project advances some important statewide goals while at the same time hinders other important statewide goals. In such situations, the Commission has to balance the various attributes of the project to determine if the Commission finds the net balance of the project's effect will be to advance or to hinder to important statewide goals. The Commission believes that this proposed renovation or replacement of an aging facility is a wise use of resources that on balance advances important statewide goals

In regards to compliance with institutional role and mission assignment, this proposed project involves student support space and therefore does not directly pertain to UNL's instructional, research and public service role and mission assignment.

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

Yes

☒

No

☐

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

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

High Low

☐ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: The Board of Regents approved the UNL *Physical Master Plan 2006-2015* on April 21, 2006. Page 13 of the *Plan* listed the following as a goal: "Ensure adequate space is provided to meet student demand for gathering spaces, campus housing, recreational activities, health facilities, and student union functions."

Page 14 of the *Plan* states: "Today's students place a high value on health and fitness. More are participating in campus recreation activities, increasing the demand for recreational programs and facilities."

Page 15 of the *Plan* states: "Students requested recreation space near housing units."

Page 30 of the *Plan* states: "Recreation space need is

(UNL-East / East Campus Recreation Center evaluation continued)

projected to be an additional 81,243 nsf, 46.7 percent greater than today. The study allocated some recreation-type space to Athletics. Further review is needed to determine if the space should be allocated to Campus Recreation, which may reduce the apparent deficit."

Page 54 of the *Plan* states: "A future site for the East Campus Recreation Center remains the same as that recommended in the 1998 Master Plan, at the location of the former Agriculture Biochemistry Building immediately east of the Nebraska East Union. When the new Recreation Center is constructed, the Activities Building where the recreation center is now located can be renovated for another use or demolished and the site used for future building needs. Alternative sites for a new Recreation Center include the potential building site east of Chase Hall or the potential in-fill site north of the Nebraska East Union."

The UNL *Recreation Facilities Master Plan* dated September 11, 2007, identified the East Campus Activities Building as an "historic-looking" facility that was not a good renovation candidate. Six potential sites were identified for a new East Campus Recreation Center, including the site of the existing Activities Building.

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

High Low
☒ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: The Activities Building has not undergone a major renovation since it was constructed in 1926. Improvements are needed on the building envelope, including brick tuck pointing, caulking and sealing joints. Other exterior rehabilitation needs include roof replacement, and replacement of exterior doors and windows.

Mechanical and plumbing systems are a mixture of original and repaired work and in need of replacement. Some shower, toilet, and lavatory fixtures are broken or completely removed. All electrical/lighting systems in addition to all floor, wall and ceiling finishes have reached the end of their useful life.

- 2.C 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 Activities Building, in its current state, does not comply with current codes. ADA standards are not met as there are no accessible restroom or shower facilities and no elevator service or ramps at the building's entrance. Limited air conditioning and ventilation make much of the facility uncomfortable for recreational activities. The existing building does not include a fire sprinkler system. The Activities Building also contains asbestos in pipe insulation, stair treads and ceiling finishes that need to be removed.

- 2.D 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: Recreational space needs are discussed in criterion 2.E below.

- 2.E 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: In a 2007 survey of UNL students, faculty and staff, 82% responded that they currently use recreation, fitness or aquatic facilities on campus. As it relates to the need for an East Campus Recreation Center, approximately one quarter of UNL's students faculty and staff are located on East Campus.

Part of UNL's *Recreation Facilities Master Plan* included a demand analysis conducted by a national recreational space consultant. The demand analysis was based on student and faculty/staff surveys that indicated a shortage of program space needs to meet current and projected

(UNL-East / East Campus Recreation Center evaluation continued)

demand. The consultant's analysis identified additional space needs in the following areas:

- Weight training;
- fitness space, with special focus on cardiovascular area;
- outdoor adventures center programming;
- one racquetball court; and
- office space.

A demand-based programming analysis was also prepared using space allocation per user. This analysis was based on national usage stats developed by the recreation consultant. This method of analysis identified additional space needs in the following areas:

- Weight training;
- fitness space, with special focus on cardiovascular area;
- multipurpose rooms;
- one multipurpose activity court;
- outdoor adventures center programming; and
- office space.

The proposed project would increase the amount of net assignable square feet (nasf) of space in the Activities Building from 20,001 nasf to 36,480 nasf with the increased space being used to provide a second multipurpose activities court, additional weight training and cardiovascular equipment space, and spaces not currently available on East Campus to include: a demonstration kitchen, lounge, large group exercise room, massage therapy, golf swinging stations, and equipment maintenance and storage space. The addition of a third multipurpose activities court as an add-alternate does not appear to be supported unless student enrollment was to increase substantially.

(UNL-East / East Campus Recreation Center evaluation continued)

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

High Low

☐ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: The proposed construction would provide additional space that is targeted to meet the high priority needs for East Campus.

2.G 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 renovation or replacement of the Activities Building would not create the need for additional projects. Additional facility operating and maintenance costs and programmatic costs would be funded with a \$24 per semester student fee increase for this and two other recreation projects.

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

High Low

☐ ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Comments: The primary alternatives considered were to renovate and expand the Activities Building or demolish and replace the existing facility. Six alternate sites were considered by the university in the replacement alternative. The site of the existing Activities Building was determined by the university as the best site for a replacement alternate because the other five sites had large costs associated with the relocation or extension of utilities and parking replacement, or the presence of buildings that were recently renovated or not slated for replacement. When choosing between the two alternatives, the UNL would look for the solution that balances cost, scope and schedule.

In an effort to increase affordability for middle income families, several alternatives should be explored before issuing revenue bonds for these proposed recreational facilities. Such alternative could include: seeking private funding; allowing recreational fees to be an opt-in for

(UNL-East / East Campus Recreation Center evaluation continued)

students similar to faculty/staff and alumni; reducing the scope of these three projects; etc.

- 2.I **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. Renovation or replacement of the Activities Building would provide substantial improvements to recreational space on the East Campus.

- 2.J **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: Construction Costs - The university's estimate to construct a 48,000 gsf East Campus Recreation Center is \$14,886,000 (\$310.13/gsf). Commission staff's estimate of the total project cost is \$13,111,700 (\$273.16/gsf) for construction of gymnasium space per *R.S. Means Square Foot Costs* modified to account for local conditions. The university's estimate is \$1,774,300 (13.5%) higher than Commission staff's estimate. The primary difference between these estimates is in estimated construction costs. It is likely that the difference between estimates can be attributed to the university inflating costs from a 2007 feasibility study, which was near the peak of construction activity prior to the recession. The university has stated that any excess funds from this project would likely be shifted to increasing the size of the East Campus Recreation Center project using add-alternates for a third multipurpose activity court and a jogging/walking track. Commission staff estimates that the cost of these two add-alternates would increase the project cost by about \$2.5 million.

Operating and Maintenance Costs - The university's estimate for increased facility operating and maintenance (O&M) funding for a new facility is \$277,000 per year (\$5.77/gsf). Commission staff's estimate for increased

(UNL-East / East Campus Recreation Center evaluation continued)

facility O&M is \$215,900 per year (\$4.50/gsf/year). The university's estimate is \$61,100 per year (28.3%) higher than Commission staff's estimate. Both estimates account for existing facility O&M costs from the Activities Building that would be reused. Additional programmatic costs of \$458,000 per year would also be needed for increased staffing and maintenance of equipment.

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

High Low



Comments: The use of increased recreation facilities fees to retire a 30-year revenue bond issue is appropriate. The use of increased recreation facilities fees to finance an increase in facility operating and maintenance costs and programmatic costs is also appropriate.

The Board of Regents authorized a principal bond issue not to exceed \$23,500,000 with an average interest rate not to exceed 6.25%. The financial feasibility plan submitted to the Commission has broken out these funds as follows:

- Construction Fund (3 projects) – \$21,008,000
- Debt Service Reserve Fund – \$ 1,715,000
- Interest Rate Cushion – \$ 452,000
- Issuance & Misc. Costs – \$ 325,000

The university is estimating the average coupon rate of about 5.3% plus a 0.75% cushion to account for rate fluctuation. Annual debt service for the bond issue is estimated to average \$1,676,850 per year, totaling approximately \$50,305,495 in principal and interest payments based on an average coupon rate of about 6.05%. University bond counsel has stated that revenue bond interest rates have dropped nearly 75 basis points since when the original estimates were prepared. If rates stayed this low at the time of issue, annual debt service would be reduced around \$250,000 per year.

(UNL-East / East Campus Recreation Center evaluation continued)

3. **The proposed project demonstrates that it is not an unnecessary duplication of facilities.** Yes ☒ No ☐

Comments: The university has demonstrated that this project would not unnecessarily duplicate recreation space on the UNL 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: Existing campus recreation space does not meet peak demands for the various recreational activities as outlined in the UNL *Recreation Facilities Master Plan* dated September 11, 2007. This project would address this unmet need for the highest priority activities identified in the survey.

4. **The project's proposal provides sufficient information from which the Commission can review and make an informed recommendation.** Yes ☒ No ☐

Comments: The initial proposal, along with financial information and follow-up responses to questions, has provided sufficient information for the Commission to review this proposed project.

COMMISSION ACTION AND COMMENTS:

Approve ☒ Disapprove ☐

Action: Pursuant to the Nebraska Revised Statutes (2008), Section 85-404, the **Budget, Construction and Financial Aid Committee** of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education recommends approval of this proposal to issue revenue bonds to renovate/add or replace the Activities Building on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln East Campus as outlined in the program statement, financial feasibility plan and supplemental information provided by the university.

Comments: Following Commission review, this proposal

(UNL-East / East Campus Recreation Center evaluation continued)

requires the review and approval of the Legislature or the Executive Board of the Legislative Council as required by Statute. The university will submit the Commission's recommendation along with the institution's proposal to the Legislature for review.

UNL has demonstrated a need to renovate or replace the Activities Building on East Campus along with providing some additional recreation space. Further review by the university's design consultants would determine if replacement of the Activities Building or renovation and expansion is a more cost effective solution.

The Commission's estimated total project cost for replacing the Activities Building is \$1.77 million lower than outlined in the university's proposal. UNL has stated that any excess funds resulting from favorable construction bids would likely be used to construct a larger East Campus Recreation Center. The Commission does not support the need for a larger facility. It is recommended that any savings from lower construction bids be returned to the students by way of lower recreation fees rather than increasing the size of the East Campus Recreation Center beyond the scope originally presented per a student referendum.

The current student recreation fee is \$138.58/semester (\$277/year), charged to all students taking one or more credit hours. Student recreation fees are projected to increase an additional \$168/year to finance the proposed revenue bond issue, increased facility operating and maintenance costs, and programmatic costs associated with the three proposed recreation projects. The following table illustrates the proposed increases in recreational fees:

Academic Year	Fee Increase	Total Rec. Fee*
AY 2010-11		\$277.16/year
AY 2011-12	\$44/year	\$321.16/year
AY 2012-13	\$44/year	\$365.16/year
AY 2013-14	\$32/yr. + \$48/yr.	\$445.16/year

* Excludes annual inflationary operating costs increases.

(UNL-East / East Campus Recreation Center evaluation continued)

While students are required to enroll as members of the Campus Recreation Center, faculty, staff and members of the Nebraska Alumni Association (NAA) have a choice to become members and pay the associated fees. Membership costs for faculty/staff are currently \$396/year. Membership costs for alumni are currently \$480/year.

As previously stated, increases in higher education tuition/fees/room & board continue to outpace median household incomes. The financial capability of students from median and lower income families to achieve a UNL four-year degree is increasingly difficult, if not already beyond reach. Although data to validate these concerns is not currently available, the Commission believes that increasing fees likely have significant impact on middle class families' ability to attend the public institution of their choice.

The use of revenue bonds amortized over a 30-year period is an acceptable means of financing. A debt service coverage ratio for the new revenue bond issue is estimated to be 1.4 times available income after expenses in FY 2014 when the proposed fee increases would be fully implemented. The debt service coverage could be even higher if interest rates come in lower than estimated at the time of issuance. University bond covenants require a minimum debt service coverage ratio of 1.15.

However, in an effort to increase affordability for middle income families, several alternatives should be explored before issuing revenue bonds for these proposed recreational facilities. Such alternatives could include: seeking private funding; allowing recreational fees to be an opt-in for students similar to faculty/staff and alumni; reducing the scope of these three projects; etc.

Institution/Campus: University of Nebraska-Lincoln / City Campus
Project Name: Campus Recreation Outdoor Adventures Center
Date of Governing Board Approval: June 17, 2011
Date Complete Proposal Received: June 22, 2011 (program statement)
August 22, 2011 (finance plan)
Date of Commission Evaluation: September 29, 2011

Project Description: The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is proposing to construct a 13,000 gross square foot (gsf) Outdoor Adventures Center on the site of an existing parking lot at 14th & 'W' Streets on City Campus. A site plan is provided on the following page.

The building would house the Outdoor Adventures Program, which is currently located in the Sapp Recreation Facility. A forty-foot-tall climbing wall and a bouldering area to practice rock climbing would be the main features of the Outdoor Adventures Center. The new facility would also include space for a bicycle repair and maintenance shop, floor space for the climbing program, equipment rental and storage, service and reception area, a meeting/conference room, and offices. The site would include space for parking recreation vehicles and permanent screening for the outdoor storage of large recreation equipment such as canoes. Public shower facilities would be provided for students and faculty/staff that bike to campus.

The university has estimated the total project cost to be \$4,695,000 (\$361.15/gsf). The proposed source of funding for this project, along with two other recreation center projects, would be a new 30-year revenue bond issue financed by revenue bond facility income, including: student recreation fees, faculty/staff fees, investment income and other auxiliary income such as recreation facility/equipment rental fees.

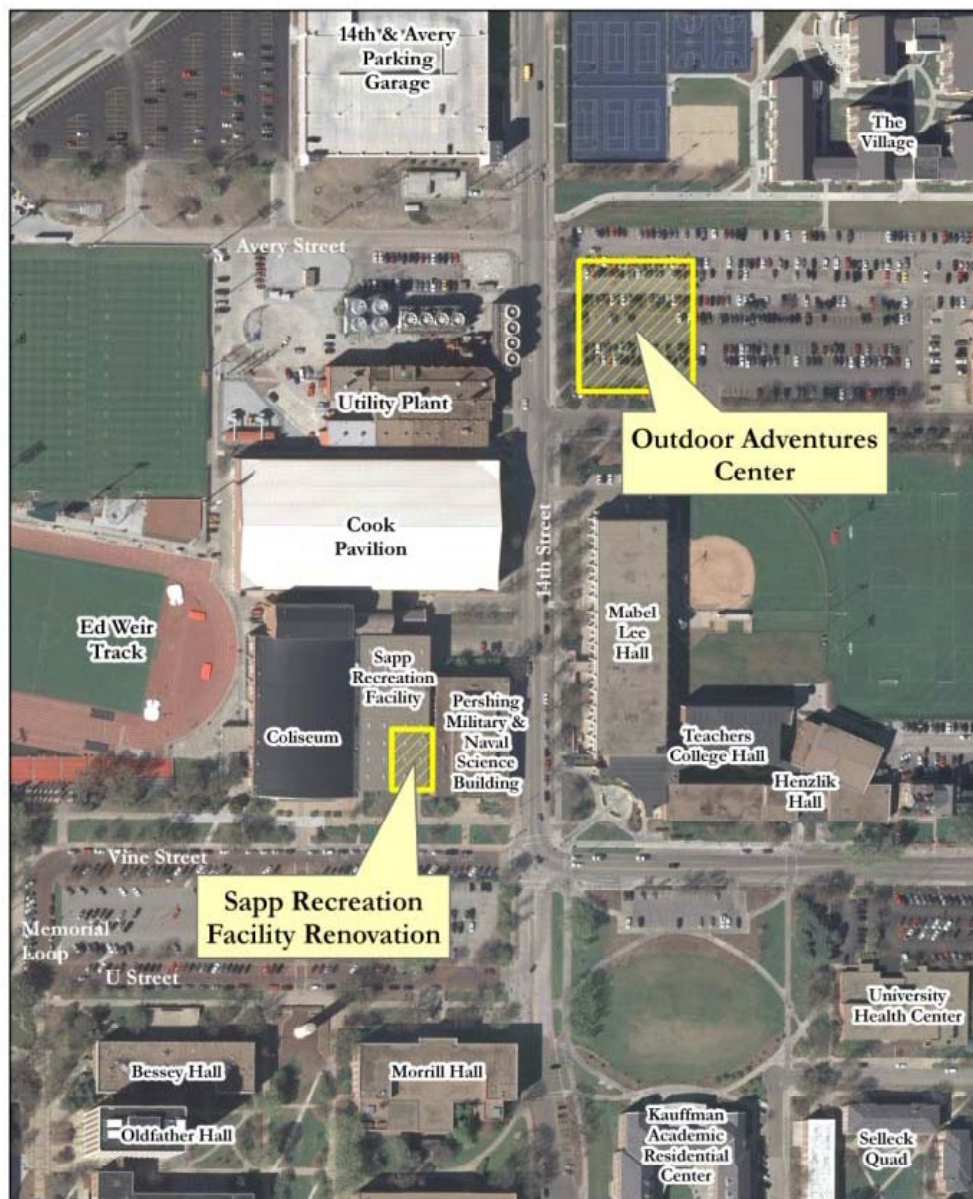
Annual debt service for a bond issue funding all three proposed projects is estimated to average \$1.68 million per year over the 30 years, totaling about \$50.31 million in principal and interest payments. Net bond proceeds would fund all three UNL recreation center proposals, with estimated project costs totaling \$21,000,700, of which less than 25 percent would be used to fund this project.

Ongoing facility operations and maintenance (O&M) costs are projected to increase \$99,000 per year as a result of this project, along with an additional \$154,000 per year for increased programmatic costs. Both the increased facility O&M and programmatic costs would be funded from auxiliary funds, primarily from future student recreational fee increases.

A spring 2009 student referendum on facilities improvements and student fee increases, which included improvements to the Student Health Center, was defeated by four votes. In October 2010, a revised referendum for proposed recreational facilities and student fee increases was held, with 21 percent of UNL's student population voting. The referendum to support the proposed projects and fee increases was approved by 72% of students who voted.

(UNL-City / Campus Rec. Outdoor Adventures Ctr. eval. cont.)

UNL's student recreation fee was \$138.58 per semester for all students taking one or more credit hours during Academic Year (AY) 2011. Student recreation fee increases of \$22/semester in AY 2012 and AY 2013 along with a \$16/semester increase in AY 2014 would be used to finance the proposed revenue bond issue. An additional \$24/semester increase in student fees would be assessed beginning in AY 2014 to fund increased facility O&M and programmatic costs. A table illustrating the proposed recreational fee increases is provided at the end of this evaluation.



Campus Recreation - City Campus Projects
Project Location Map

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

Yes

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No

☒

Comments: Page 1-5 of the Commission's *Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education* states: "Both the cost of education for taxpayers and price of education for students and parents are rising faster than general inflation."

Page 1-7 of the *Plan* states: "Nebraska public institutions are accountable to the State for making wise use of resources for programs, services, and facilities as well as for avoiding unnecessary duplication."

Page 2-2 of the *Plan* states: "The rising cost of postsecondary education throughout the country has raised concerns that some students may be priced out of opportunities. While tuition and fees at Nebraska's public institutions are generally less than national averages, paying for a college education is a barrier to higher education for many students and their families."

Page 6-3 of the *Plan* states: "Facilities funding has historically come from a variety of sources. These sources of funding and example applications include: . . . Self-generated funding for auxiliary programs such as bookstores, child care centers, hospitals, etc."

Pages 6-8 and 6-9 of the *Plan* state: "Funds from non-tax sources support the design, construction, and ongoing facility O&M of other institutional space, such as: . . . Self-sufficient student support space such as student housing, parking, student centers/unions, student medical services, recreational facilities, and student auxiliary services (e.g., childcare services, bookstores, etc.)."

The Commission believes that this proposed project on balance does not advance important statewide goals. The Commission believes that this proposed construction of an Outdoor Adventures Center is not a wise use of students' limited financial resources that would be utilized by a small overall percentage of students, faculty and staff compared to other recreational activities.

Increases in higher education tuition/fees/room & board continue to outpace median household incomes. The financial capability of students from median and lower income families to achieve a UNL four-year degree is increasingly difficult, if not already beyond reach. Although data to validate these concerns is not currently available, the Commission believes that increasing fees likely have a significant impact on middle and lower income families' ability to send students to the public institution of their choice.

In regards to compliance with institutional role and mission assignment, this proposed project involves student support space and therefore does not directly pertain to UNL's instructional, research and public service role and mission assignment.

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

Yes

No

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Comments: This proposal does not demonstrate compliance and consistency with the Commission's *Statewide Facilities Plan* as outlined in the following criteria: 1) evidence is provided that this project is the best of all known and reasonable alternatives, 2) degree that the project would enhance institutional effectiveness/efficiencies with respect to programs and/or costs, 3) degree that the amount of requested funds is justified for the project and does not represent an insufficient or extraordinary expenditure of resources, and 4) the source of funds requested are appropriate for the project.

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

High Low

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☒
☐
☐
☐

Comments: The Board of Regents approved the UNL *Physical Master Plan 2006-2015* on April 21, 2006. Page 13 of the *Plan* listed the following as a goal: "Ensure adequate space is provided to meet student demand for gathering spaces, campus housing, recreational activities, health facilities, and student union functions."

Page 14 of the *Plan* states: "Today's students place a high value on health and fitness. More are participating in campus recreation activities, increasing the demand for recreational programs and facilities."

Page 15 of the *Plan* states: "Students requested recreation space near housing units."

Page 30 of the *Plan* states: "Recreation space need is projected to be an additional 81,243 nsf, 46.7 percent greater than today. The study allocated some recreation-type space to Athletics. Further review is needed to determine if the space should be allocated to Campus Recreation, which may reduce the apparent deficit."

The UNL *Recreation Facilities Master Plan* dated September 11, 2007, identified City Campus recreational facilities as having undersized fitness, multi-purpose and outdoor programming, along with a shortage of storage and administrative office space.

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

High Low
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Not applicable since the proposed project would involve new construction.

2.C 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 Outdoor Adventures Program facility's functional deficiencies include: An entrance that is not visible or easy to find; a lack of loading space for equipment rentals; and a lack of City Campus public shower facilities for students and faculty/staff that commute to campus by bicycle.

2.D 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: Recreational space needs are discussed in criterion 2.E below.

2.E 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: Part of UNL's *Recreation Facilities Master Plan* included a demand analysis conducted by a national recreational space consultant. The demand analysis was based on student and faculty/staff surveys that indicated a shortage of program space needs to meet current and projected demand. The consultant's analysis identified additional space needs in the following areas:

- Weight training;
- fitness space, with special focus on cardiovascular area;
- outdoor adventures center programming;
- one racquetball court; and
- office space.

A demand-based programming analysis was also prepared using space allocation per user. This analysis was based on national usage stats developed by the recreation consultant. This method of analysis identified additional space needs in the following areas:

- Weight training;
- fitness space, with special focus on cardiovascular area;
- multipurpose rooms;
- one multipurpose activity court;
- outdoor adventures center programming; and
- office space.

A shortage of space for climbing wall activities was not indicated.

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

High Low

☐ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: The primary advantage of the proposal would be to make additional space available for additional strength training and cardiovascular exercise equipment as part of a separate remodel project.

2.G 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

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Comments: This construction of a new Outdoor Adventures Center would create the need to remodel vacated spaces. This remodeling would be addressed by one of the three proposed recreation projects involved in this proposed revenue bond issue. Additional facility operating and maintenance costs and programmatic costs would be funded with a \$24 per semester student fee increase for this and two other recreation projects.

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

High Low

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Comments: The following two alternatives were considered by the university in addition to the proposed construction of a new facility:

- One alternative would be to leave the outdoor adventures program in the Sapp Recreation Facility. This alternative was not chosen by the university because it would not alleviate space shortages for either the outdoor adventures program or high demand fitness and multipurpose court use in the Sapp Recreation Facility.
- A second alternative considered by the university was to include the outdoor adventures program space in an expanded East Campus Recreation Center. This

alternative was not chosen because demand for the outdoor adventures programs is primarily from City Campus students and faculty/staff. This is particularly true for the bicycle rental/repair program.

The Commission questions the need to construct a new facility for a climbing wall and bouldering wall considering the low level of use identified on student surveys compared to other high frequency activities. Outdoor equipment rental space could be relocated to a facility that is significantly smaller and less costly than is presently proposed.

2.I 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. While a new facility would allow for the remodeling of vacated space to provide additional strength training and cardiovascular exercise equipment, the Commission does not view this proposal as an efficient use of student fees. The outdoor equipment rental, climbing wall and bouldering wall were identified among the least utilized activities in student surveys. The use of valuable campus land, which is at a premium on City Campus, for such a specialized facility is questionable.

2.J 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: Construction Costs - The university's estimate to construct a 13,000 gsf Outdoor Adventures Center is \$4,695,000 (\$361.15/gsf). Commission staff's estimate of the total project cost is \$4,086,500 (\$314.35/gsf) for construction of gymnasium space per *R.S. Means Square Foot Costs* modified to account for increased ceiling height and local conditions. The university's estimate is \$608,500 (14.9%) higher than Commission staff's estimate. The primary difference

between these estimates is in estimated construction costs. It is likely that the difference between estimates can be attributed to the university inflating costs from a 2007 feasibility study, which was near the peak of construction activity prior to the recession. The university has stated that any excess funds from this project would likely be shifted to increasing the size of the East Campus Recreation Center project.

Operating and Maintenance Costs - The university's estimate for increased facility operating and maintenance (O&M) funding for a new facility is \$99,000 per year (\$7.62/gsf). Commission staff's estimate for increased facility O&M is \$125,700 per year (\$9.67/gsf/year). The university's estimate is \$26,700 per year (21.2%) lower than Commission staff's estimate. Additional programmatic costs of \$154,000 per year would also be needed for increased staffing and maintenance of equipment.

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

High Low



Comments: The university proposes to use increased recreational facilities fees to retire a 30-year revenue bond issue. The Commission does not consider it appropriate to fund a narrowly focused project with a general assessment on all students through a mandatory recreational fee increase.

The Board of Regents authorized a principal bond issue not to exceed a total of \$23,500,000 for all three proposed recreational facility projects, with an average interest rate not to exceed 6.25%. The financial feasibility plan submitted to the Commission has broken out these funds as follows:

- Construction Fund (3 projects) – \$21,008,000
- Debt Service Reserve Fund – \$ 1,715,000
- Interest Rate Cushion – \$ 452,000
- Issuance & Misc. Costs – \$ 325,000

The university is estimating the average coupon rate of about 5.3% plus a 0.75% cushion to account for rate

fluctuation. Annual debt service for the entire bond issue is estimated to average \$1,676,850 per year, totaling approximately \$50,305,495 in principal and interest payments based on an average coupon rate of about 6.05% for all three proposed recreational facility projects. The costs of issuing bonds for the Campus Recreation Outdoor Adventures Center represent less than 25 percent of the overall revenue bond issue.

University bond counsel has stated that revenue bond interest rates have dropped nearly 75 basis points since the time when the original estimates were prepared. If rates stayed this low at the time of issue, annual debt service would be reduced around \$250,000 per year for the entire bond issue that would finance all three projects.

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

Yes

No

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Comments: The university has not demonstrated that this project would not unnecessarily duplicate existing recreation space as outlined below.

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

High Low

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Comments: The existing climbing wall is located adjacent to a multipurpose activities court that presently creates scheduling conflicts between these activities. As the existing climbing wall is in satisfactory condition, the Commission questions the proposed substantial expense to relocate this activity. The existing outdoor equipment rental space is currently in crowded conditions. As this space requires warehouse/retail type space, the university could potentially relocate this activity to other existing campus space, or construct a low cost facility for this function, if additional strength training and cardiovascular exercise equipment space is needed.

4. **The project's proposal provides sufficient information from which the Commission can review and make an informed recommendation.**

Yes

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No

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Comments: The initial proposal, along with financial information and follow-up responses to questions, has provided sufficient information for the Commission to review this proposed project. However, information provided was not of a level of quality comparable to prior proposals. Much of the information submitted was based on dated material from 2007, including cost estimates.

COMMISSION ACTION AND COMMENTS:

Approve

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Disapprove

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Action: Pursuant to the Nebraska Revised Statutes (2008), Section 85-404, the **Budget, Construction and Financial Aid Committee** of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education recommends disapproval of this proposal to issue revenue bonds to construct an Outdoor Adventures Center on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln City Campus as outlined in the program statement, financial feasibility plan and supplemental information provided by the university.

Comments: Following Commission review, this proposal requires the review and approval of the Legislature or the Executive Board of the Legislative Council as required by Statute. The university will submit the Commission's recommendation along with the institution's proposal to the Legislature for review.

UNL has not demonstrated a need for a new Outdoor Adventures Center. The Commission questions the need to construct a narrowly focused facility funded by a mandatory fee increase on all on-campus students. Climbing wall, bouldering wall, and outdoor equipment rental are among the least used activities identified in a student survey. The Commission would recommend that if the proposed project were to proceed, that it be funded with private donations.

The current student recreation fee is \$138.58/semester (\$277/year), charged to all students taking one or more credit

(UNL-City / Campus Rec. Outdoor Adventures Ctr. eval. cont.)

hours. Student recreation fees are projected to increase an additional \$168/year to finance the proposed revenue bond issue, increased facility operating and maintenance costs, and programmatic costs associated with the three proposed recreation projects. The following table illustrates the proposed increases in recreational fees:

Academic Year	Fee Increase	Total Rec. Fee*
AY 2010-11		\$277.16/year
AY 2011-12	\$44/year	\$321.16/year
AY 2012-13	\$44/year	\$365.16/year
AY 2013-14	\$32/yr. + \$48/yr.	\$445.16/year

* Excludes annual inflationary operating costs increases.

While students are required to enroll as members of the Campus Recreation Center, faculty, staff and members of the Nebraska Alumni Association (NAA) have a choice to become members and pay the associated fees. Membership costs for faculty/staff are currently \$396/year. Membership costs for alumni are currently \$480/year.

As previously stated, increases in higher education tuition/fees/room & board continue to outpace median household incomes. The financial capability of students from median and lower income families to achieve a UNL four-year degree is increasingly difficult, if not already beyond reach. Although data to validate these concerns is not currently available, the Commission believes that increasing fees likely have significant impact on middle and lower income families' ability to send students to the public institution of their choice.

Institution/Campus: University of Nebraska-Lincoln / City Campus
Project Name: Sapp Recreation Facility remodel
Date of Governing Board Approval: June 17, 2011
Date Complete Proposal Received: August 22, 2011 (project statement)
August 22, 2011 (finance plan)
Date of Commission Evaluation: September 29, 2011

Project Description: The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is proposing to remodel 5,500 gross square foot (gsf) of vacated space in the Sapp Recreation Facility. A site plan is provided on the following page.

The project would remodel Outdoor Adventures Program spaces, which are currently located in the Sapp Recreation Facility after a new Outdoor Adventure Center is constructed. Remodeled spaces would provide additional cardiovascular fitness, multipurpose court and storage space.

The university has estimated the total project cost to be \$1,419,700 (\$258.13/gsf). The proposed source of funding for this project, along with two other recreation center projects, would be a new 30-year revenue bond issue financed by revenue bond facility income, including: student recreation fees, faculty/staff fees, investment income and other auxiliary income such as recreation facility/equipment rental fees.

Annual debt service for a bond issue funding all three proposed projects is estimated to average \$1.68 million per year over the 30 years, totaling about \$50.31 million in principal and interest payments. Net bond proceeds would fund all three UNL recreation center proposals, with estimated project costs totaling \$21,000,700, of which less than 10 percent would be used to fund this project.

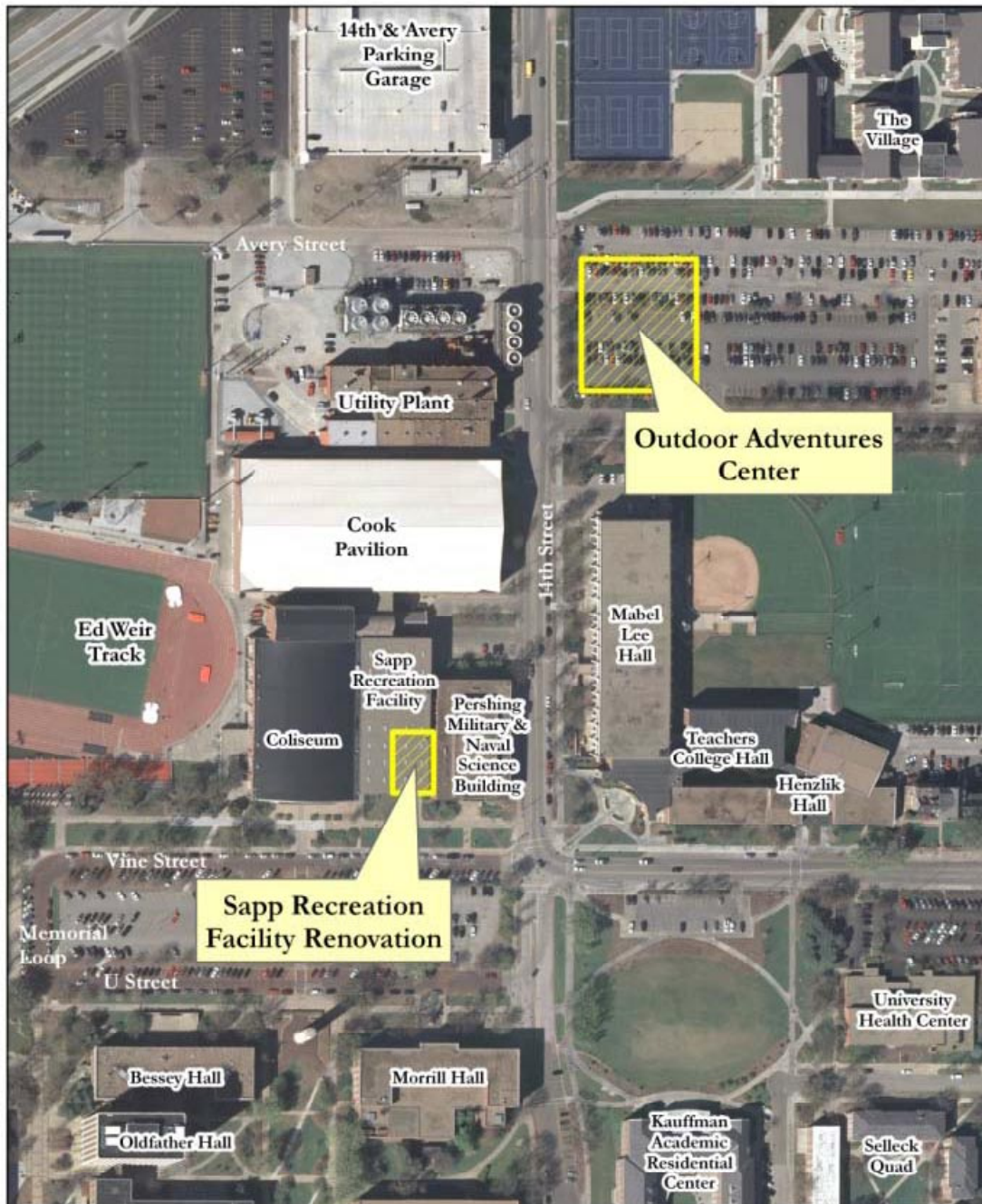
Ongoing facility operations and maintenance (O&M) and programmatic costs are projected to increase \$114,500 per year as a result of this project. Both the increased facility O&M and programmatic costs would be funded from auxiliary funds, primarily from future student recreational fee increases.

A spring 2009 student referendum on facilities improvements and student fee increases, which included improvements to the Student Health Center, was defeated by four votes. In October 2010, a revised referendum for proposed recreational facilities and student fee increases was held, with 21 percent of UNL's student population voting. The referendum to support the proposed projects and fee increases was approved by 72% of students who voted.

UNL's student recreation fee was \$138.58 per semester for all students taking one or more credit hours during Academic Year (AY) 2011. Student recreation fee increases of \$22/semester in AY 2012 and AY 2013 along with a \$16/semester increase in AY 2014 would be used to finance the proposed revenue bond issue. An additional \$24/semester increase in student fees would be assessed beginning in AY 2014 to fund increased facility O&M and programmatic

(UNL-City / Sapp Recreation Facility remodel evaluation cont.)

costs. A table illustrating the proposed recreational fee increases is provided at the end of this evaluation.



Campus Recreation - City Campus Projects
Project Location Map

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

Yes

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No

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Comments: Page 1-5 of the Commission's *Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education* states: "Both the cost of education for taxpayers and price of education for students and parents are rising faster than general inflation."

Page 1-7 of the *Plan* states: "Nebraska public institutions are accountable to the State for making wise use of resources for programs, services, and facilities as well as for avoiding unnecessary duplication."

Page 2-2 of the *Plan* states: "The rising cost of postsecondary education throughout the country has raised concerns that some students may be priced out of opportunities. While tuition and fees at Nebraska's public institutions are generally less than national averages, paying for a college education is a barrier to higher education for many students and their families."

Page 6-3 of the *Plan* states: "Facilities funding has historically come from a variety of sources. These sources of funding and example applications include: . . . Self-generated funding for auxiliary programs such as bookstores, child care centers, hospitals, etc."

Pages 6-8 and 6-9 of the *Plan* state: "Funds from non-tax sources support the design, construction, and ongoing facility O&M of other institutional space, such as: . . . Self-sufficient student support space such as student housing, parking, student centers/unions, student medical services, recreational facilities, and student auxiliary services (e.g., childcare services, bookstores, etc.)."

This proposed project advances some important statewide goals while at the same time hinders other important statewide goals. In such situations, the Commission has to balance the various attributes of the project to determine if the Commission finds the net balance of the project's effect will be to advance or to hinder important statewide goals. The Commission believes that this proposed project on balance advances important statewide goals.

Increases in higher education tuition/fees/room & board

continue to outpace median household incomes. The financial capability of students from median and lower income families to achieve a UNL four-year degree is increasingly difficult, if not already beyond reach. Although data to validate these concerns is not currently available, the Commission believes that increasing fees likely have a significant impact on middle and lower income families' ability to send students to the public institution of their choice. However, fee increases associated with this proposed remodel would be minimal compared to the two other recreation facilities proposals.

In regards to compliance with institutional role and mission assignment, this proposed project involves student support space and therefore does not directly pertain to UNL's instructional, research and public service role and mission assignment.

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

Yes

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No

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

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

High Low

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Comments: The Board of Regents approved the UNL *Physical Master Plan 2006-2015* on April 21, 2006. Page 13 of the *Plan* listed the following as a goal: "Ensure adequate space is provided to meet student demand for gathering spaces, campus housing, recreational activities, health facilities, and student union functions."

Page 14 of the *Plan* states: "Today's students place a high value on health and fitness. More are participating in campus recreation activities, increasing the demand for recreational programs and facilities."

Page 15 of the *Plan* states: "Students requested recreation space near housing units."

Page 30 of the *Plan* states: "Recreation space need is projected to be an additional 81,243 nsf, 46.7 percent greater than today. The study allocated some recreation-type space to Athletics. Further review is needed to determine if the space should be allocated to Campus Recreation, which may reduce the apparent deficit."

The UNL *Recreation Facilities Master Plan* dated September 11, 2007, identified City Campus recreational facilities as having undersized fitness, multipurpose and outdoor programming, along with a shortage of storage and administrative office space.

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

High Low
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Comments: Not applicable for the following reasons: 1) The existing Sapp Recreation Facility is a fairly new building, originally constructed in 1989, and 2) the remodel project only involves a small portion (5,500 gsf) of the overall building (69,000 gsf).

2.C 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: Information provided by UNL stated that a market survey indicated that only 33% of students were very or somewhat satisfied with the number of cardiovascular machines. The survey also indicated that only 39% of students were very or somewhat satisfied with the availability of free play and open recreation facilities.

2.D 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: Recreational space needs are discussed in criterion 2.E below.

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

High Low

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Comments: Part of UNL's *Recreation Facilities Master Plan* included a demand analysis conducted by a national recreational space consultant. The demand analysis was based on student and faculty/staff surveys that indicated a shortage of program space needs to meet current and projected demand. The consultant's analysis identified additional space needs in the following areas:

- Weight training;
- fitness space, with special focus on cardiovascular area;
- outdoor adventure center programming;
- one racquetball court; and
- office space.

A demand-based programming analysis was also prepared using space allocation per user. This analysis was based on national usage stats developed by the recreation consultant. This method of analysis identified additional space needs in the following areas:

- Weight training;
- fitness space, with special focus on cardiovascular area;
- multipurpose rooms;
- one multipurpose activity court;
- outdoor adventure center programming; and
- office space.

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

High Low

☐ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: The feasibility study survey results indicate that the proposed project's additional recreational space will not be able to meet all activity peak demand loads. The proposed remodel would provide additional space that is targeted to meet the high priority needs.

2.G 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 will not create the need for additional construction or renovation work. Additional facility operating and maintenance costs and programmatic costs would be funded with a \$24 per semester student fee increase for this and two other recreation projects.

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

High Low

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Comments: The only other option to remodeling space in the Sapp Recreation Facility would be to leave all existing programs in their current locations. This option would not provide additional cardiovascular exercise and multipurpose court space that is in high demand.

2.I 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. Remodeling a portion of the Sapp Recreation Facility would improve the availability of strength training and cardiovascular exercise equipment and multipurpose courts which are in high demand.

2.J 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: **Construction Costs*** - The university's estimate to remodel 5,500 gsf of recreation space is \$1,419,700 (\$258.13/gsf). Commission staff's estimate of the total project cost is \$840,500 (\$152.82/gsf) for construction of gymnasium space per *R.S. Means Square Foot Costs* modified to account for local conditions. The university's estimate is \$579,200 (68.9%) higher than Commission staff's estimate. The primary difference between these estimates is in estimated construction costs. It is likely that the difference between estimates can be attributed to the university inflating costs from a 2007 feasibility study, which was near the peak of construction activity prior to the recession. The university has stated that any excess funds from this project would likely be shifted to increasing the size of the East Campus Recreation Center project.

Operating and Maintenance Costs - The university estimates a minimal increase in facility operating and maintenance (O&M) funding for this remodeling. Commission staff's estimate for increased facility O&M is \$9,100 per year (\$1.65/gsf/year) for increased HVAC costs. Additional programmatic costs would also be needed for staffing and maintenance of new equipment.

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

High Low

Comments: The use of increased recreation facilities fees to retire a 30-year revenue bond issue is appropriate. The use of increased recreation facilities fees to finance an increase in facility operating and maintenance costs and programmatic costs is also appropriate.

The Board of Regents authorized a principal bond issue not to exceed a total of \$23,500,000 for all three proposed recreational facility projects, with an average interest rate not to exceed 6.25%. The financial feasibility

(UNL-City / Sapp Recreation Facility remodel evaluation cont.)

plan submitted to the Commission has broken out these funds as follows:

- Construction Fund (3 projects) – \$21,008,000
- Debt Service Reserve Fund – \$ 1,715,000
- Interest Rate Cushion – \$ 452,000
- Issuance & Misc. Costs – \$ 325,000

The university is estimating the average coupon rate of about 5.3% plus a 0.75% cushion to account for rate fluctuation. Annual debt service for the entire bond issue is estimated to average \$1,676,850 per year, totaling approximately \$50,305,495 in principal and interest payments based on an average coupon rate of about 6.05% for all three proposed recreational facility projects. The costs of issuing bonds for the Sapp Recreation Facility remodel represent less than ten percent of the overall revenue bond issue.

University bond counsel has stated that revenue bond interest rates have dropped nearly 75 basis points since the time when the original estimates were prepared. If rates stayed this low at the time of issue, annual debt service would be reduced around \$250,000 per year for the entire bond issue that would finance all three projects.

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

Yes

No

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Comments: The university has demonstrated that this project would not unnecessarily duplicate recreation space on the UNL 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

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Comments: Existing campus recreation space does not meet peak demands for the various recreational activities as outlined in the UNL *Recreation Facilities Master Plan* dated September 11, 2007. This project would partially address this unmet need for the highest priority activities identified in the survey.

4. **The project's proposal provides sufficient information from which the Commission can review and make an informed recommendation.**

Yes

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No

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Comments: The initial proposal, along with financial information and follow-up responses to questions, has provided sufficient information for the Commission to review this proposed project. However, information provided was not of a level of quality comparable to prior proposals. Much of the information submitted was based on dated material from 2007, including cost estimates.

COMMISSION ACTION AND COMMENTS:

Approve

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Disapprove

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Action: Pursuant to the Nebraska Revised Statutes (2008), Section 85-404, the **Budget, Construction and Financial Aid Committee** of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education recommends approval of this proposal to issue revenue bonds to remodel a portion of the Sapp Recreation Facility on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln City Campus as outlined in the project statement, financial feasibility plan and supplemental information provided by the university on the condition that any excess funds available from favorable construction bids for this project be used to lower student recreation fees.

Comments: Following Commission review, this proposal requires the review and approval of the Legislature or the Executive Board of the Legislative Council as required by Statute. The university will submit the Commission's recommendation along with the institution's proposal to the Legislature for review.

UNL has demonstrated a need for additional cardiovascular exercise equipment and multipurpose court space which would both be provided as part of this remodel project. The additional space would be made available by relocating the Outdoor Adventures Program space. The Commission realizes in recommending disapproval of the funding source for the Outdoor Adventures Center, as presently proposed by

(UNL-City / Sapp Recreation Facility remodel evaluation cont.)

the university, that completion of this project would be delayed. Remodeling associated with this proposed project could proceed once an appropriate funding source is found for a new Outdoor Adventures Center.

The Commission's estimated total project cost for this remodel is nearly \$580,000 lower than outlined in the university's proposal. UNL has stated that any excess funds from this remodel project would likely be used to construct a larger East Campus Recreation Center as part of the overall revenue bond issue. The Commission does not support the need to increase the size of the East Campus Recreation Center beyond the scope originally presented in the student referendum. It is strongly recommended that any savings from lower construction bids be returned to the students by way of lower recreation fees.

Current student recreation fees are \$138.58/semester (\$277/year), charged to all students taking one or more credit hours. Student recreation fees are projected to increase an additional \$168/year to finance the proposed revenue bond issue, increased facility operating and maintenance costs, and programmatic costs associated with the three proposed recreation projects. The following table illustrates the proposed increases in recreational fees:

Academic Year	Fee Increase	Total Rec. Fee*
AY 2010-11		\$277.16/year
AY 2011-12	\$44/year	\$321.16/year
AY 2012-13	\$44/year	\$365.16/year
AY 2013-14	\$32/yr. + \$48/yr.	\$445.16/year

* Excludes annual inflationary operating costs increases.

While students are automatically enrolled as members of the Campus Recreation Center, faculty, staff and members of the Nebraska Alumni Association (NAA) have a choice to become members and pay the associated fees. Membership costs for faculty/staff are currently \$396/year. Membership costs for alumni are currently \$480/year.

(UNL-City / Sapp Recreation Facility remodel evaluation cont.)

As previously stated, increases in higher education tuition/fees/room & board continue to outpace median household incomes. The financial capability of students from median and lower income families to achieve a UNL four-year degree is increasingly difficult, if not already beyond reach. Although data to validate these concerns is not currently available, the Commission believes that increasing fees likely have significant impact on middle and lower income families' ability to send students to the public institution of their choice.

The use of revenue bonds amortized over a 30-year period is an acceptable means of financing. A debt service coverage ratio for the new revenue bond issue is estimated to be 1.4 times available income after expenses in FY 2014 when the proposed fee increases would be fully implemented. The debt service coverage could be even higher if interest rates come in lower than estimated at the time of issuance. University bond covenants require a minimum debt service coverage ratio of 1.15:1.0.

However, in an effort to increase affordability for lower and middle income families, several alternatives should be explored before issuing revenue bonds for these proposed recreational facilities. Such alternatives could include: seeking private funding; reducing the scope of these three projects; etc.

2010-11 Access College Early Scholarship			
School	Amount Awarded	Number of Students	Average Award
CCC	\$187,746.00	575	\$326.51
MCC	\$18,745.25	144	\$130.18
MPCC	\$48,705.00	130	\$374.65
NCTA	\$3,937.50	28	\$140.63
NECC	\$174,043.62	459	\$379.18
NWU	\$71,440.00	170	\$420.24
PSC	\$35,300.00	173	\$204.05
SCC	\$33,664.50	101	\$333.31
UNK	\$450.02	2	\$225.01
UNL	\$6,450.00	19	\$339.47
UNO	\$129,529.50	392	\$330.43
WNCC	\$13,657.50	80	\$170.72
Totals	\$723,668.89	2,273	\$318.38

2010-11 Grades of ACE Recipients*								
	A	B	C	D	F	W	IP**	Hours^
CCC	321	257	147	37	36	10	13	2,317.0
MCC	66	92	29	11	13	0	0	898.5
MPCC	84	56	24	6	7	3	1	573.0
NCTA	17	8	1	0	0	1	3	88.0
NECC	271	209	98	22	21	7	0	2,069.5
NWU	123	109	31	8	9	0	0	893.0
PSC	112	70	24	6	8	0	0	706.0
SCC	55	53	24	9	6	3	0	687.0
UNK	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	6.0
UNL	8	6	2	2	3	1	0	66.0
UNO	170	237	108	12	6	1	2	1,766.0
WNCC	36	42	11	3	12	5	0	323.0
Totals	1265	1139	499	116	121	31	19	10,393.0

* Includes + and - grades

** Number of courses in progress

^ Total number of hours paid by the scholarship

2010-11 Access College Early Scholarship

School	Female	Male	White	Asian/Pacific	Black	Hispanic	Native American	Multi-Race	Unknown
CCC	365	210	384	8	7	140	5	25	6
MCC	92	52	73	3	20	36	3	8	1
MPCC	94	36	123	1	1	0	0	2	3
NCTA	15	13	27	0	0	0	0	0	1
NECC	308	151	346	2	4	73	12	17	5
NWU	112	58	109	9	4	34	2	9	3
PSC	130	43	153	6	1	8	0	1	4
SCC	68	33	89	1	0	5	2	3	1
UNK	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
UNL	15	4	15	0	0	2	1	1	0
UNO	284	108	170	23	59	97	2	37	4
WNCC	61	19	40	0	2	31	5	2	0
Totals	1546	727	1531	53	98	426	32	105	28

2010-11 Access College Early Scholarship

School	9th	10th	11th	12th	SSI	TANF	SNAP	WIC	F/R Price	Lunch	Other
CCC	0	39	165	371	1	0	1	0	541		32
MCC	10	8	56	70	0	0	0	0	143		1
MPCC	1	4	30	95	0	0	1	0	116		13
NCTA	0	2	9	17	1	0	0	1	24		2
NECC	1	15	134	309	1	0	6	5	412		35
NWU	0	5	49	116	3	0	3	1	148		15
PSC	0	2	62	109	0	0	2	0	158		13
SCC	0	1	14	86	0	0	0	0	91		10
UNK	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2		0
UNL	0	0	1	18	0	0	0	0	15		4
UNO	1	41	130	220	2	0	1	0	372		17
WNCC	0	1	25	54	0	0	1	0	75		4
Totals	13	118	675	1467	8	0	15	7	2097		146

Access College Early 2010-11
Number of Scholarships Awarded by High School

Students attending:

Central Community College (63):

Adams Central (Hastings) (5)
Allen (2)
Alma (3)
Arcadia (5)
Aurora (15)
Blue Hill (20)
Boone Central (Albion) (5)
Cambridge (2)
Cedar Catholic (Hartington) (3)
Cedar Rapids (1)
Central City (20)
Centura (Cairo) (2)
Clarkson (19)
Columbus (34)
Cozad (16)
Cross Co (Stromsburg) (4)
David City (1)
Doniphan-Trumbull (2)
East Butler (Brainard) (2)
Elwood (7)
Fullerton (9)
Giltner (2)
Grand Island (201)
Grand Island Central Catholic (1)
Greeley-Wolbach (6)
Hampton (2)
Hartington (1)
Hastings (2)
High Plains (Polk) (1)
Holdrege (3)
Holy Family (Lindsay) (6)
Howells (1)
Humphrey (6)
Lakeview (Columbus) (1)
Lawrence-Nelson (3)
Leigh (5)
Lexington (13)
Litchfield (2)
Loup County (Taylor) (1)
Madison (4)
Northwest (Grand Island) (24)
Ord (7)
Osceola (4)
Overton (4)
Palmer (6)
Pleasanton (4)
Randolph (3)
Ravenna (10)
Red Cloud (3)
Rising City (1)

Sandy Creek (Fairfield) (5)
Scotus Cent Catholic (Columbus) (6)
Shelby (3)
Silver Lake (Roseland) (1)
Southern Valley (Oxford) (1)
Spalding (24)
St Cecilia (Hastings) (11)
St Francis (Humphrey) (2)
St Paul (3)
West Point-Beemer (2)
Wheeler Central (Bartlett) (5)
Wilcox-Hildreth (2)
Wood River (6)

Metropolitan Community College (19):

Arlington (9)
Benson (Omaha) (4)
Blair (1)
Burke (Omaha) (1)
Career Center (Omaha) (37)
Dodge (2)
Ft Calhoun (9)
Gretna (6)
Howells (1)
Logan View (Hooper) (8)
North (Millard) (4)
North (Omaha) 5)
Northwest (Omaha) 3)
Papillion LaVista (2)
South (Millard) (2)
South (Omaha) (25)
West (Bellevue) (1)
West (Millard) (7)
Westside (Omaha) (17)

Mid-Plains Community College (28):

Anselmo-Merna (2)
Arcadia (6)
Arnold (1)
Brady (8)
Broken Bow (3)
Burwell (1)
Callaway (1)
Cambridge (11)
Cody-Kilgore (1)
Dundy County (Benkelman) (6)
Elwood (7)
Garden County (Oshkosh) (6)
Hershey (2)
Home School (1)
Hyannis (2)

Loup County (Taylor) (1)
Maxwell (4)
McPherson County (Tryon) (2)
Mullen (7)
North Platte (33)
Ogallala (2)
Paxton (4)
Sargent (1)
South Platte (Big Springs) (2)
Southwest (Bartley) (4)
St Patrick's (North Platte) (2)
Sutherland (4)
Wallace (6)

NCTA (13):

Ainsworth (1)
Conestoga (3)
Franklin (2)
Garden County (Oshkosh) (7)
Heartland (Henderson) (1)
HTRS (Humboldt) (1)
Laurel-Concord (1)
Loup County (Taylor) (1)
McPherson County (Tryon) (1)
Mead (1)
Pawnee City (1)
Stuart (6)
Wheeler Central (Bartlett) (2)

Nebraska Wesleyan (37):

Adams Central (Hastings) (5)
Alma (1)
Aurora (17)
Boone Central (Albion) (5)
Centennial (Utica) (1)
Columbus (9)
Creighton Prep (Omaha) (1)
Duchesne Academy (Omaha) (1)
Elkhorn (1)
Elkhorn Valley (Tilden) (1)
Elm Creek (4)
Elwood (8)
Franklin (4)
Hastings (12)
Lexington (31)
Marian (Omaha) (1)
Mercy (Omaha) (2)
Minden (1)
Mount Michael (Elkhorn) (1)
Norfolk (3)
Norris (Firth) (2)

North Star (Lincoln) (12)
Northeast (Lincoln) (6)
Northwest (Grand Island) (1)
Ord (7)
Papillion LaVista (1)
Papillion LaVista South (4)
Scottsbluff (2)
Seward (1)
Sidney (2)
Southeast (Lincoln) (15)
Southwest (Lincoln) (1)
Sutton (1)
Thayer Central (Hebron) (1)
Waverly (1)
Wayne (3)
Westside (Omaha) (1)

Northeast Community College (55):

Ainsworth (6)
Allen (1)
Bancroft-Rosalie (11)
Battle Creek (4)
Bloomfield (4)
Burwell (15)
Cedar Catholic (Hartington) (14)
Central Catholic (West Point) (2)
Chambers (12)
Clearwater (2)
Cody-Kilgore (6)
Creighton (8)
Dodge (1)
Elgin (7)
Elkhorn Valley (Tilden) (7)
Ewing (7)
Hartington (5)
Home School (2)
Homer (2)
Humphrey (1)
Keya Paha (Springview) (4)
Laurel-Concord (9)
Logan View (Hooper) (1)
Lutheran (Norfolk) (6)
Lynch (2)
Lyons-Decatur (4)
Madison (9)
Neligh-Oakdale (1)
Newcastle (1)
Newman Grove (19)
Niobrara (7)
Norfolk (29)
Oakland-Craig (9)

O'Neill (7)
 Osmond (6)
 Pierce (7)
 Plainview (2)
 Ponca (2)
 Pope John Cent Catholic (Elgin) (2)
 Randolph (5)
 Rock County (Bassett) (9)
 So. Sioux City (51)
 St Francis (Humphrey) (4)
 Stanton (6)
 Stuart (23)
 Tekamah-Herman (3)
 Verdigre (1)
 Wausa (1)
 Wayne (8)
 West Boyd (Spencer) (6)
 West Holt (Atkinson) (13)
 West Point-Beemer (38)
 Wisner-Pilger (32)
 Wynot (15)

Peru State College (31):

Ainsworth (1)
 Aurora (12)
 Beatrice (2)
 Cedar Rapids (9)
 Centennial (Utica) (2)
 Cody-Kilgore (5)
 Conestoga (Murray) (2)
 Crete (5)
 Fairbury (3)
 Falls City (7)
 Fillmore Central (Geneva) (3)
 Fullerton (8)
 Heartland (Henderson) (1)
 HTRS (Humboldt) (15)
 Johnson County (Tecumseh) (2)
 Johnson-Brock (3)
 Kenesaw (1)
 Keya Paha County (Springview) (10)
 Lourdes Central (NE City) (2)
 McCool Junction (1)
 Nebraska City (4)
 Norris (Firth) (7)
 North Bend (7)
 South (Papillion LaVista) (3)
 Pawnee City (22)
 Pleasanton (1)
 Southern (Wymore) (11)
 St. Edward (2)

Sterling (5)
 Thayer Central (Hebron) (1)
 York (14)

Southeast Community College (22):

Beatrice (1)
 Deshler (1)
 Exeter-Milligan (1)
 Fairbury (3)
 Falls City (19)
 Friend (1)
 Heartland (Henderson) (5)
 Lewiston (3)
 Louisville (5)
 Lyons-Decatur (1)
 Malcolm (1)
 Mead (5)
 Nebraska City (1)
 Norris (Firth) (24)
 North Star (Lincoln) (2)
 Pawnee City (3)
 Pius X (Lincoln) (1)
 Plattsmouth (5)
 Thayer Central (Hebron) (1)
 Wahoo (2)
 Wilber-Clatonia (8)
 Yutan (8)

University of Nebraska at Kearney (1)

Burwell (2)

University of Nebraska – Lincoln (11)

Aurora (2)
 Broken Bow (1)
 Columbus (4)
 Grand Island (2)
 Homer (1)
 HTRS (Humboldt) (1)
 Kearney Catholic (1)
 Laurel-Concord (4)
 Lexington (1)
 Malcolm (1)
 Platteview (1)

University of NE at Omaha (23):

Arlington (2)
 Benson (Omaha) (17)
 Blair (7)
 Brownell Talbot (Omaha) (3)
 Bryan (Omaha) (28)
 Burke (Omaha) (54)

Career Center (Omaha) (7)
Central (Omaha) (71)
Concordia (Omaha) (1)
Creighton Prep (Omaha) (1)
East (Bellevue) (18)
North (Millard) (6)
North (Omaha) (34)
Northwest (Omaha) (30)
Papillion LaVista (11)
Papillion LaVista South (10)
Plattsmouth (5)
Ralston (8)
South (Millard) (10)
South (Omaha) (46)
West (Bellevue) (6)
West (Millard) (3)
Westside (Omaha) (14)

Western NE Community College (12):

Alliance (1)
Banner County (Harrisburg) (3)
Chadron (3)
Creek Valley (Chappell) (1)
Garden County (Oshkosh) (8)
Gordon-Rushville (4)
Hay Springs (3)
Mitchell (2)
Morrill (3)
Potter-Dix (2)
Scottsbluff (49)
Sidney (1)

2011-12 Target Allocations for Students Attending:

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA:	
UNK	\$863,042
UNL	\$2,904,836
UNMC	\$124,579
UNO	\$1,874,601
NCTA-Curtis	\$43,079
STATE COLLEGES:	
Chadron	\$252,175
Peru	\$198,418
Wayne	\$472,605
COMMUNITY COLLEGES:	
Central	\$383,862
Metropolitan	\$1,025,175
Mid-Plains	\$118,767
Northeast	\$313,428
Southeast	\$776,190
Western Nebraska	\$169,691
PRIVATE CAREER COLLEGES:	
Capitol Schools of Hairstyling	\$45,205
College of Hair Design	\$77,389
Creative Center	\$28,464
ITT Educational Services, Inc.	\$280,615
Joseph's Colleges of Beauty	\$128,088
Kaplan University - Lincoln	\$378,906
Kaplan University - Omaha	\$453,568
La'James College	\$24,323
Omaha School of Massage and Health	\$143,398
Vatterott College	\$790,823
Xenon International School of Hair	\$68,921
INDEPENDENT COLLEGES:	
Bellevue University	\$599,417
Bryan School of Nursing	\$86,647
Clarkson College	\$132,381
College of Saint Mary	\$184,173
Concordia University	\$100,898
Creighton University	\$251,138
Doane College	\$371,130
Grace University	\$82,295
Hastings College	\$176,920
Little Priest Tribal College	\$23,820
Midland University	\$242,963
Nebraska Christian College	\$20,779
Nebraska Methodist College	\$111,817
Nebraska Wesleyan University	\$293,677
Union College	\$53,635
York College	\$56,261
GRAND TOTALS:	\$14,728,099

2011-12

	Dollars	Percent
UN	\$5,810,137	39.4%
State	\$923,198	6.3%
CC	\$2,787,113	18.9%
Priv	\$2,419,700	16.4%
Ind	\$2,787,951	18.9%
Total	\$14,728,099	100.0%
	Dollars	Percent
Public	\$9,520,448	64.6%
Private	\$5,207,651	35.4%
Total	\$14,728,099	100.0%

2010-11

	Dollars	Percent
UN	\$5,747,492	38.4%
State	\$1,037,024	6.9%
CC	\$2,805,202	18.7%
Priv	\$2,451,469	16.4%
Ind	\$2,943,720	19.6%
Total	\$14,984,907	100.0%
	Dollars	Percent
Public	\$9,589,718	64.0%
Private	\$5,395,189	36.0%
Total	\$14,984,907	100.0%

2009-10

	Dollars	Percent
UN	\$5,310,772	37.5%
State	\$1,050,714	7.4%
CC	\$2,417,967	17.1%
Priv	\$2,622,400	18.5%
Ind	\$2,743,627	19.4%
Total	\$14,145,480	100.0%
	Dollars	Percent
Public	\$8,779,453	62.1%
Private	\$5,366,027	37.9%
Total	\$14,145,480	100.0%

2008-09

	Dollars	Percent
UN	\$4,933,679	38.8%
State	\$950,136	7.5%
Comm	\$2,044,908	16.1%
Priv	\$2,193,087	17.3%
Ind	\$2,588,115	20.4%
Total	\$12,709,925	100.0%
	Dollars	Percent
Public	\$7,928,723	62.4%
Private	\$4,781,202	37.6%
Total	\$12,709,925	100.0%

2007-08

	Dollars	Percent
UN	\$4,751,381	38.3%
State	\$944,640	7.6%
Comm	\$2,027,431	16.3%
Priv	\$2,229,853	18.0%
Ind	\$2,463,599	19.8%
Total	\$12,416,904	100.0%
	Dollars	Percent
Public	\$7,723,452	62.2%
Private	\$4,693,452	37.8%
Total	\$12,416,904	100.0%

2006-07

	Dollars	Percent
UN	\$4,001,490	38.7%
State	\$831,656	8.0%
Comm	\$1,653,096	16.0%
Priv	\$1,923,959	18.6%
Ind	\$1,935,529	18.7%
Total	\$10,345,730	100.0%
	Dollars	Percent
Public	\$6,486,242	62.7%
Private	\$3,859,488	37.3%
Total	\$10,345,730	100.0%

2005-06

	Dollars	Percent
UN	\$3,783,872	37.9%
State	\$751,125	7.5%
Comm	\$1,538,026	15.4%
Priv	\$1,657,353	16.6%
Ind	\$2,260,037	22.6%
Total	\$9,990,413	100.0%
	Dollars	Percent
Public	\$6,073,023	60.8%
Private	\$3,917,390	39.2%
Total	\$9,990,413	100.0%

2004-05

	Dollars	Percent
UN	\$2,979,570	35.6%
State	\$625,268	7.5%
Comm	\$1,212,454	14.5%
Priv	\$1,305,742	15.6%
Ind	\$2,246,249	26.8%
Total	\$8,369,283	100.0%
	Dollars	Percent
Public	\$4,817,292	57.6%
Private	\$3,551,991	42.4%
Total	\$8,369,283	100.0%

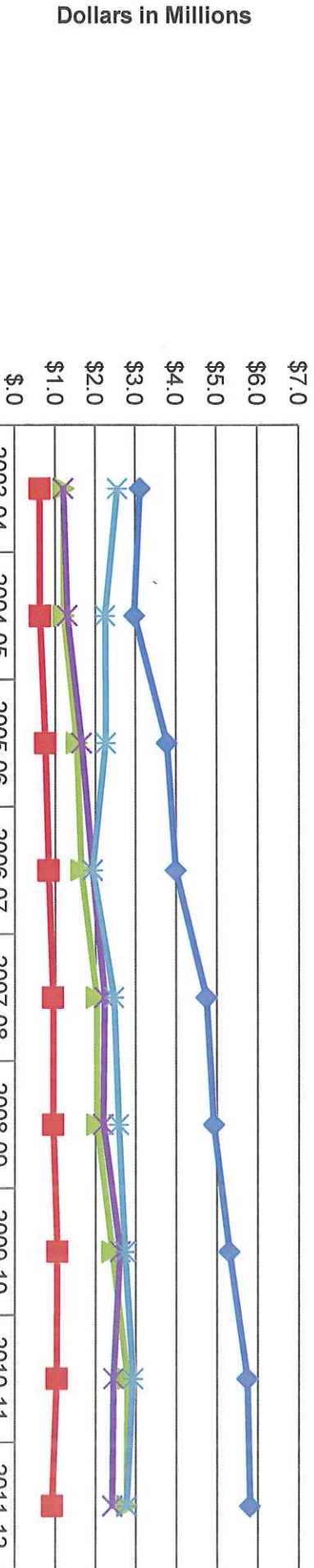
2003-04

	Dollars	Percent
UN	\$3,098,263	35.3%
State	\$614,328	7.0%
Comm	\$1,213,109	13.8%
Priv	\$1,327,900	15.1%
Ind	\$2,523,052	28.8%
Total	\$8,776,652	100.0%
	Dollars	Percent
Public	\$4,925,700	56.1%
Private	\$3,850,952	43.9%
Total	\$8,776,652	100.0%

2002-2003

	Dollars	Percent
UN	\$942,939	15.1%
State	\$378,769	6.0%
Comm	\$997,524	15.9%
Priv	\$657,188	10.5%
Ind	\$3,284,478	52.5%
Total	\$6,260,898	100.0%
	Dollars	Percent
Public	\$2,319,232	37.0%
Private	\$3,941,666	63.0%
Total	\$6,260,898	100.0%

State Grant Allocations by Sector



	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA	\$3.1	\$3.0	\$3.8	\$4.0	\$4.8	\$4.9	\$5.3	\$5.7	\$5.8
STATE COLLEGES	\$0.6	\$0.6	\$0.8	\$0.8	\$0.9	\$1.0	\$1.1	\$1.0	\$0.9
COMMUNITY COLLEGES	\$1.2	\$1.2	\$1.5	\$1.7	\$2.0	\$2.0	\$2.4	\$2.8	\$2.8
PRIVATE CAREER COLLEGES	\$1.2	\$1.3	\$1.7	\$1.9	\$2.2	\$2.2	\$2.6	\$2.5	\$2.4
INDEPENDENT COLLEGES	\$2.6	\$2.2	\$2.3	\$1.9	\$2.5	\$2.6	\$2.7	\$2.9	\$2.8

ACE Plus Scholarship 2011-2012 Summary

By Katherine M. Green

CACG Program Director



COLLEGE ACCESS
CHALLENGE GRANT

Scholarship Overview

- First year operating the new scholarship program
- Fully funded by the federal CACG (\$223,000)
- Awards were made in July and August for the 2011-2012 academic year

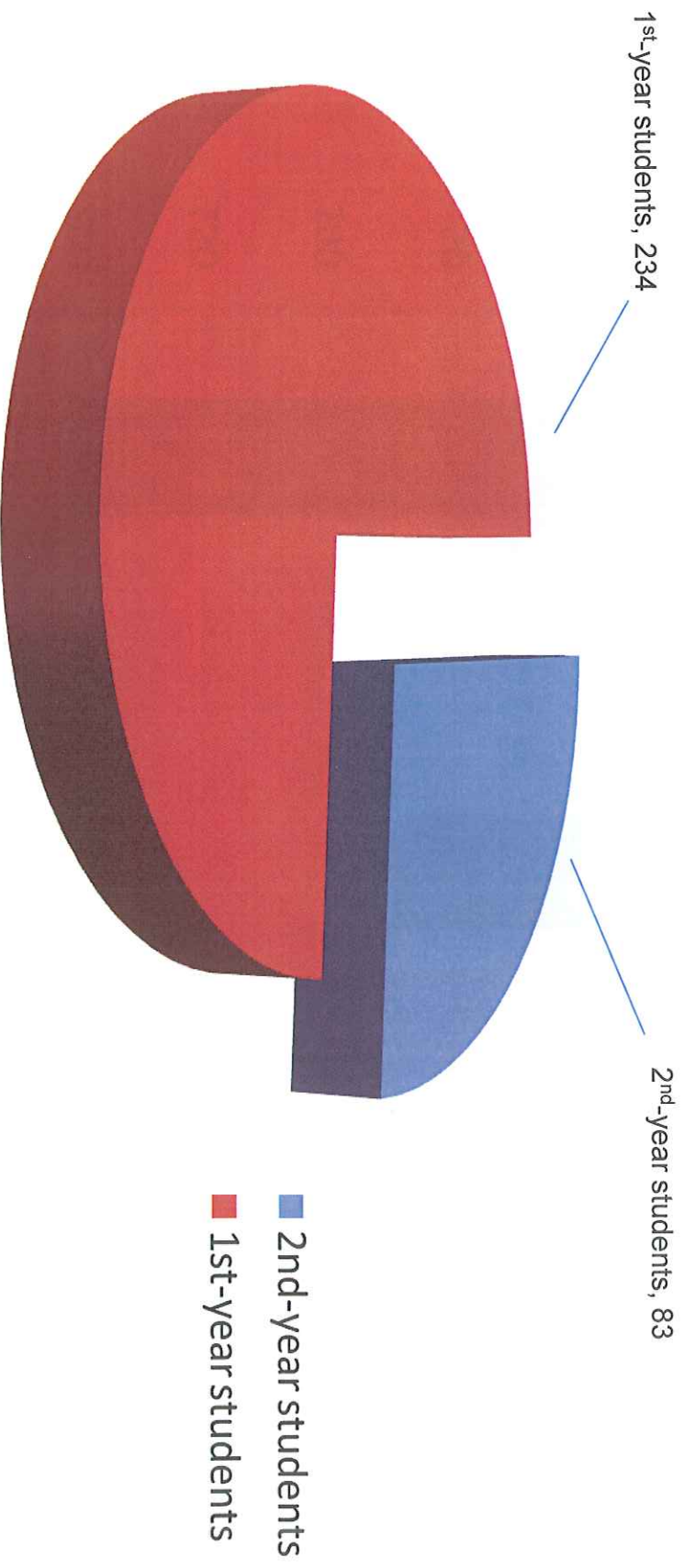
Awards

- First-year student award = \$500
- Second-year student award = \$1,250
- Total number of scholarships awarded: 317
- Total amount expended: \$220,750
- Budget for 2012-2013: \$227,000

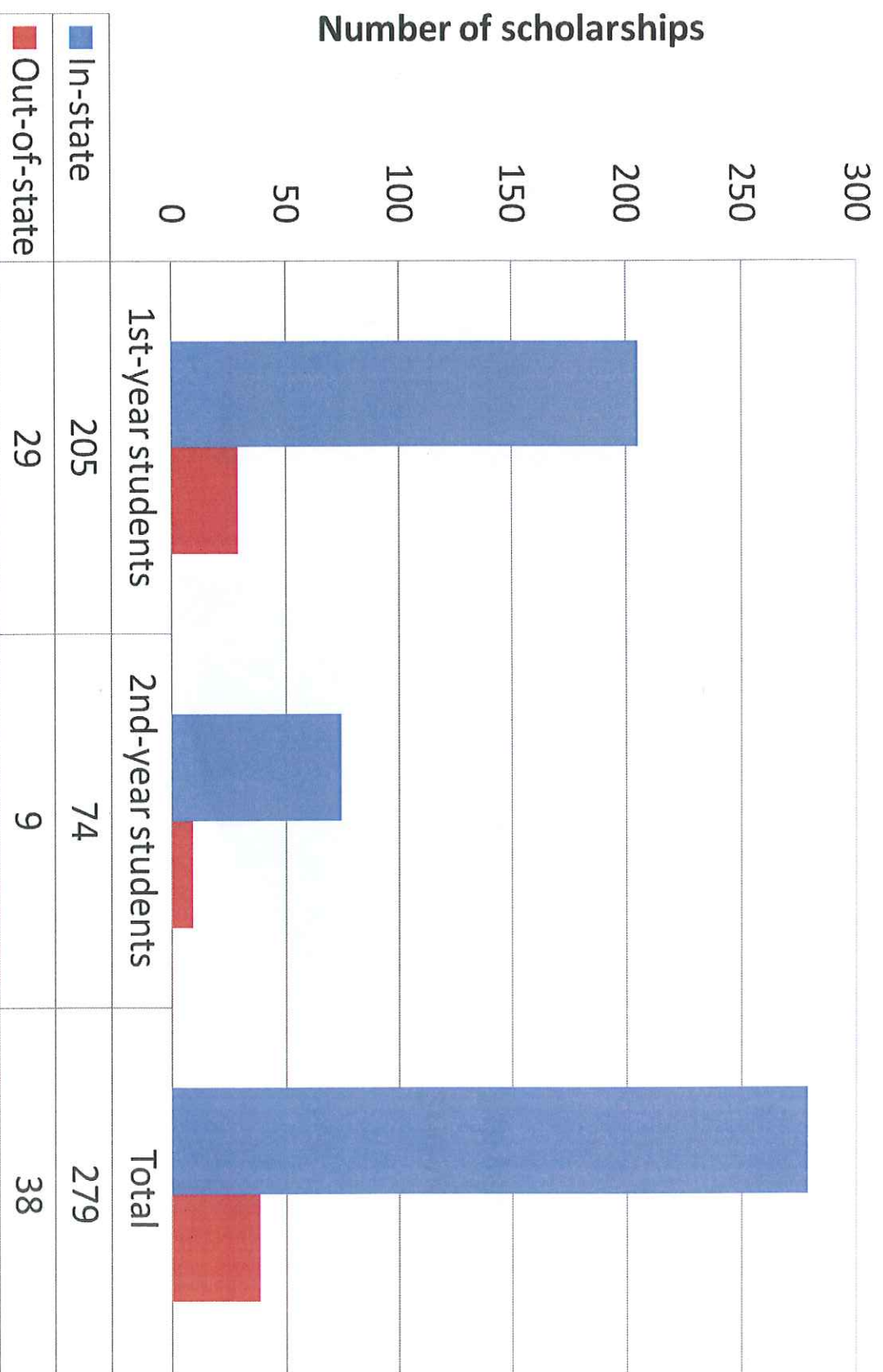
Student Qualifications

- Must take at least one college course while in high school funded by the Access College Early (ACE) program
- Must be enrolled full time in college for the full academic year
- Must earn at least a 2.0 GPA in ACE courses and during first year of college

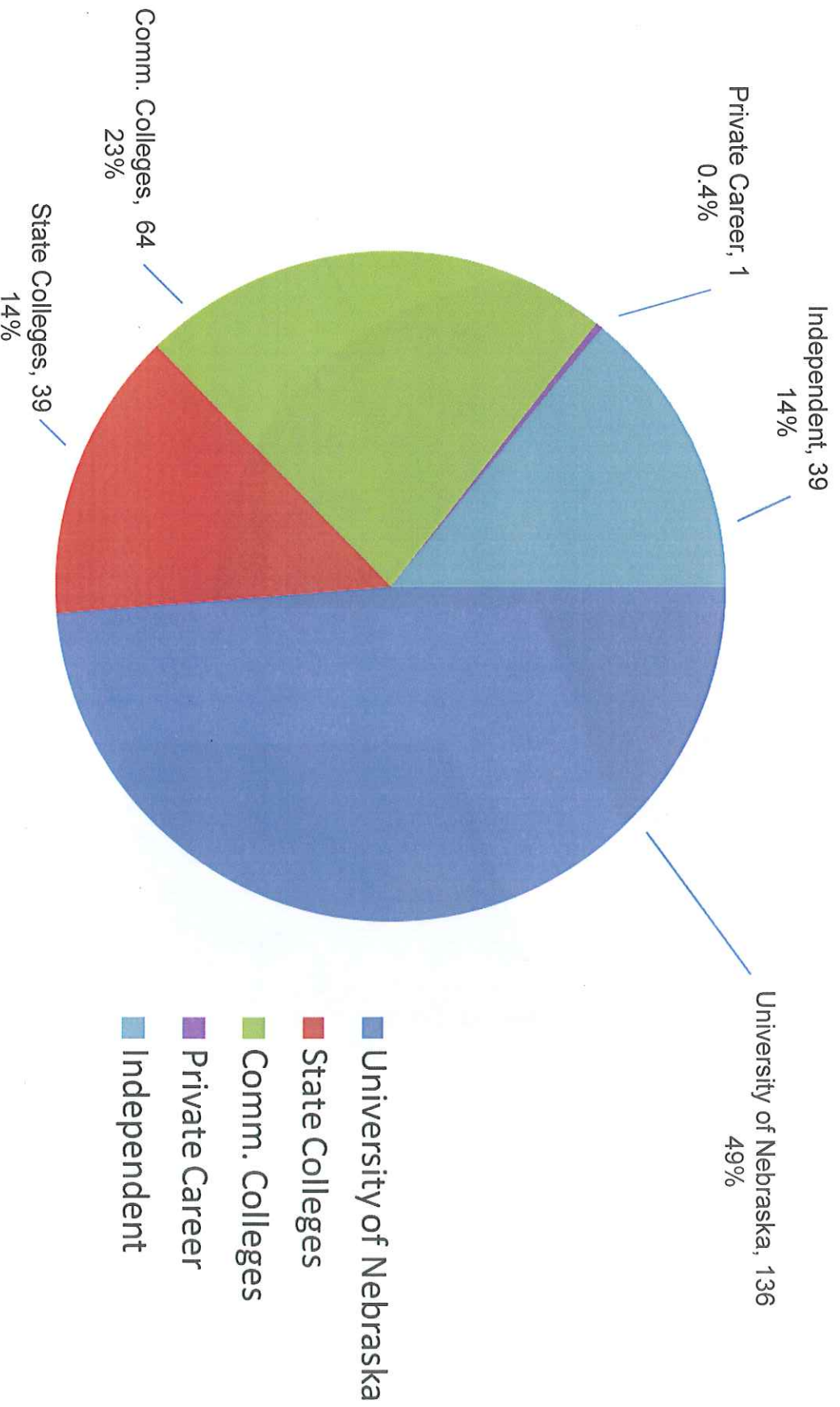
Total recipients by award type



Total recipients by award type, in-state vs. out-of-state



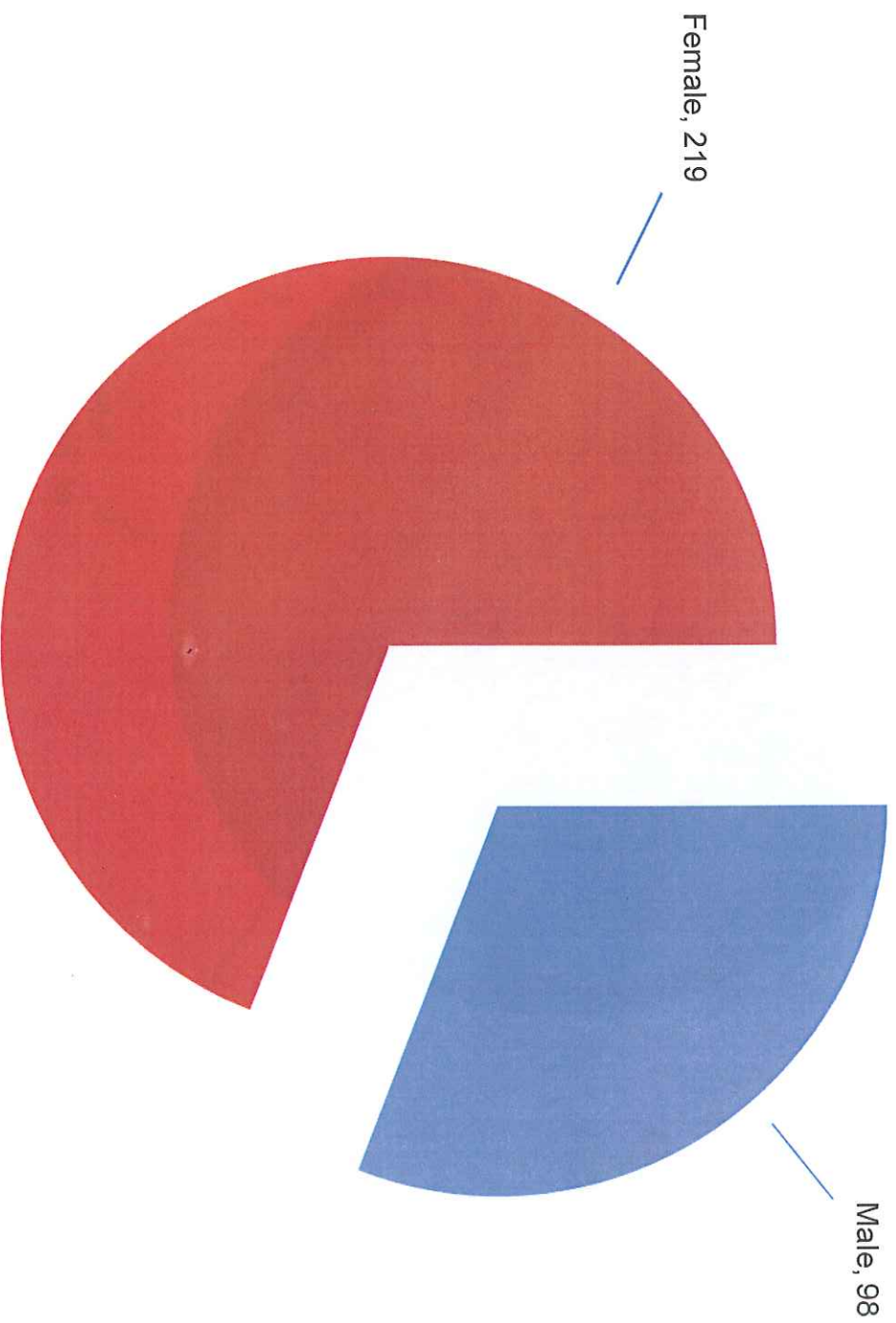
Total recipients attending a Nebraska institution, by sector



Sept. 29, 2011

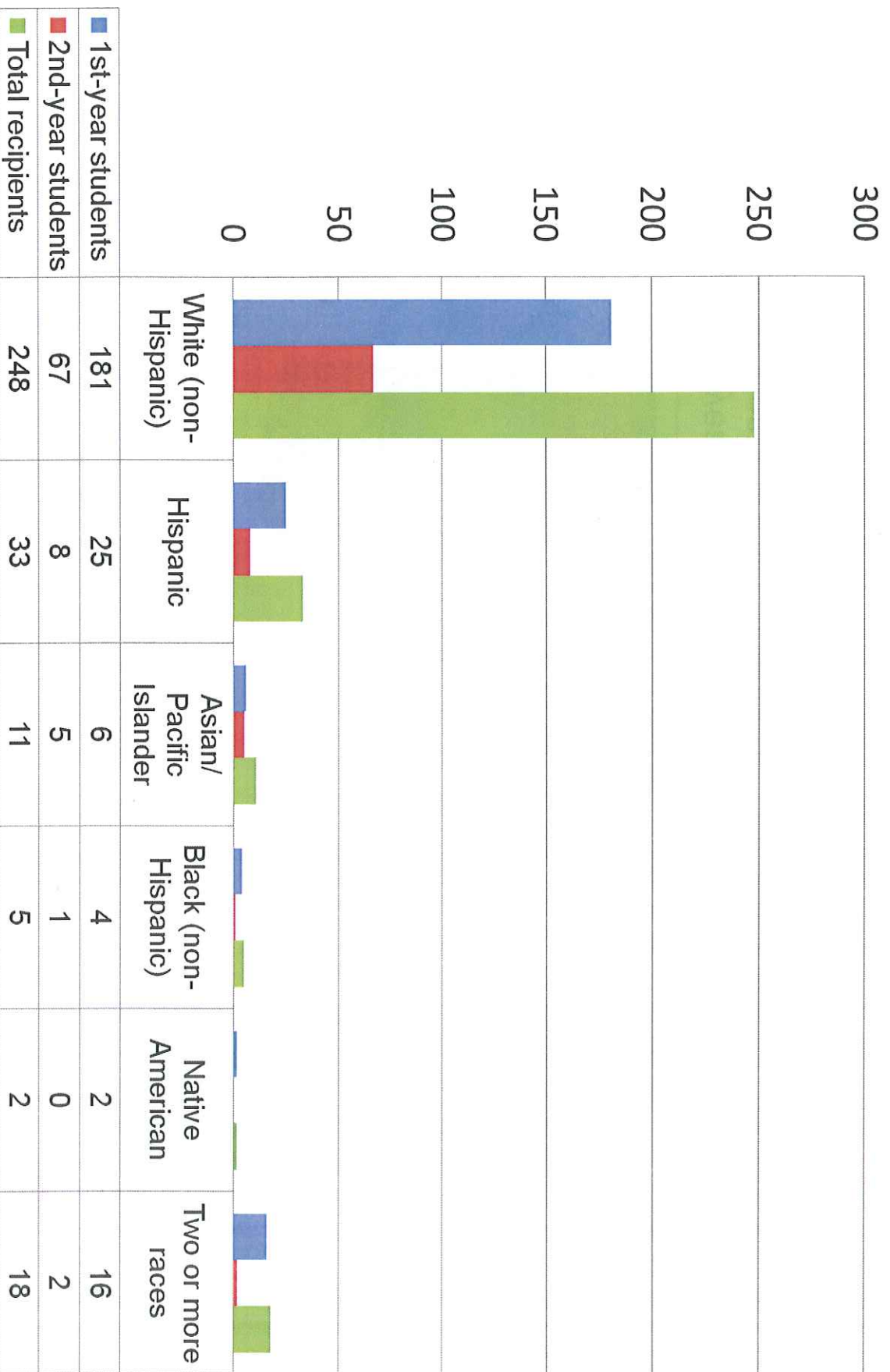
Coordinating Commission for
Postsecondary Education

Total recipients by gender



■ Male
■ Female

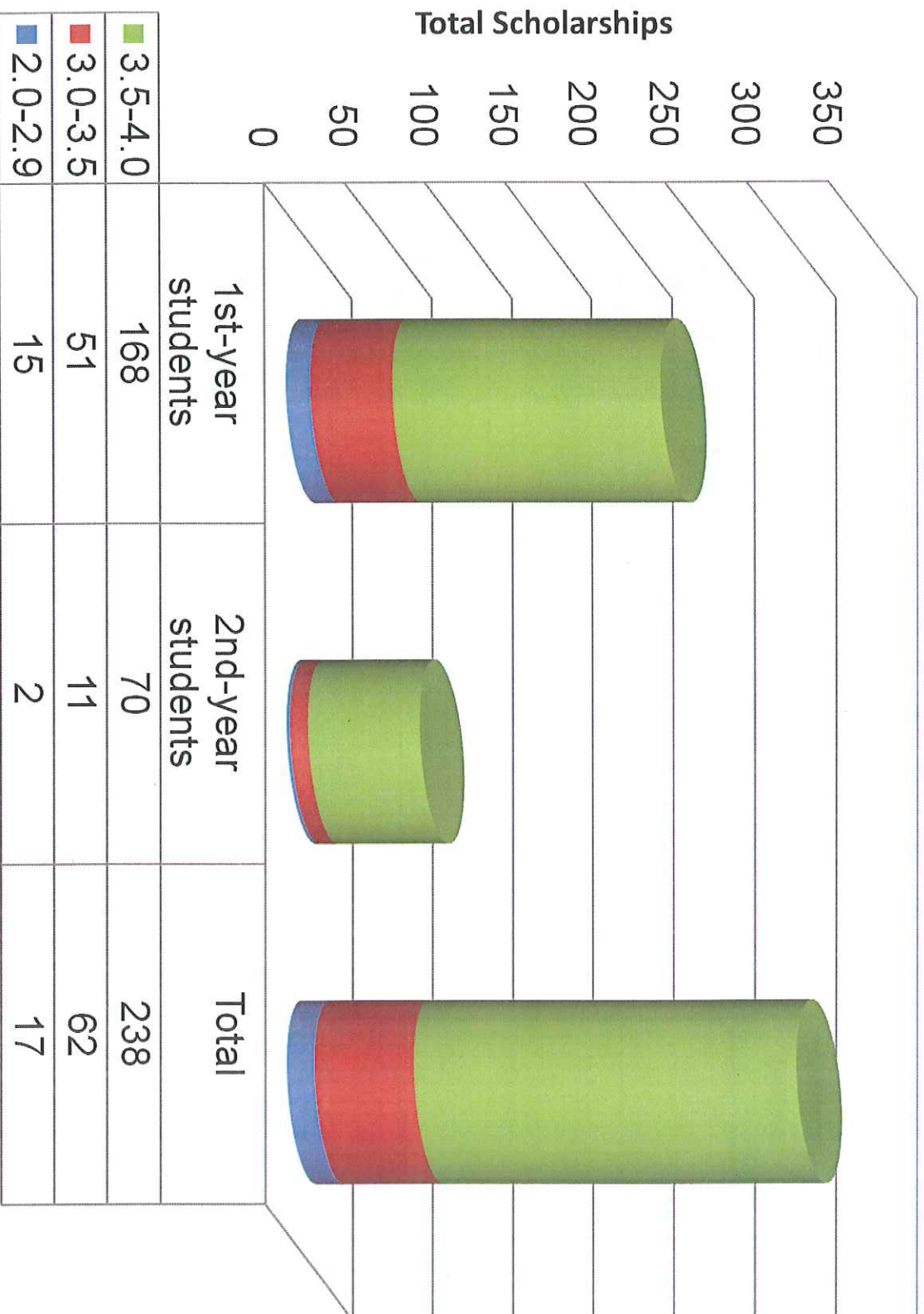
Total recipients by race/ethnicity



Sept. 29, 2011

Coordinating Commission for
Postsecondary Education

Total recipients by award type by high school GPA



Deficit Request for Fiscal Year 2011-12

The following is the Commission's proposed deficit request for fiscal year 2011-12. This request is due to the DAS-Budget Office by Friday, October 28, 2011.

Request for Increase in Spending Authority (No new funds requested)

Description of Request

We are requesting an increase in spending authority in our cash fund (fund 2481, program 640). Currently we have a spending authority of \$9,535. We are requesting a spending authority of \$15,000 (an increase of \$5,465) for each year of the biennium.

Rationale of Request

Revenue received by the Commission is primarily from application fees received from out-of-state higher education institutions seeking authorization to offer courses and programs in Nebraska and institutions wishing to establish a private college or university in the state.

The application fees are used to offset the costs of public hearings for each of the applications we receive and other costs to review and approve applications. Since most applications from out-of-state institutions list Omaha as their Nebraska teaching location, the hearings are usually held in Omaha. Expenses for hearings include Commissioner and staff travel to the hearing, meeting room expense, printing charges that include any photocopying necessary, plus publication of the notice of hearing, and any other operating expenses necessary to review and approve the application, such as travel to inspect potential sites and correspondence with interested parties.

Impact of Request

Since the beginning of this fiscal year, July 1, 2011, staff has already received one application from an out-of-state institution requiring review of 19 programs and an application from one private college to offer a new degree program. We anticipate receiving additional applications during the current fiscal year. Although the increased spending authority of \$5,465 is not a large request, it would aid the Commission in meeting expenses associated with required review and approval or disapproval of out-of-state applications and other in-state program applications.

This is a request for spending authority only. No new funds are requested.

Request Re-instatement of Data Analyst Position (New Funding Request)

Description of Request

The Commission requests \$60,534 in salary and benefits to re-instate the 1.0 FTE position of Data Analyst. This position was cut as of June 30, 2011, because of the reduction to the Commission's budget.

Rationale for Request

The Data Analyst position was responsible for NEEDS (state) and IPEDS (federal) survey, response tracking and accuracy. This position was the first contact with federal data collection entities, national data providers, and Nebraska postsecondary institutions in the process of providing national, federal, and state data.

The Commission is devoting increased staff time to securing, verifying, analyzing, and presenting the complex data needed to develop and inform sound educational and fiscal recommendations and policies affecting Nebraska's public higher education system. Some data is secured from Nebraska's institutions; additional data comes from a variety of sources, accessed via print or online means. We are working increasingly with colleagues at the Nebraska Department of Education to document and study the progress of students through the "P-16" pipeline in Nebraska.

The Commission's workload in this area has increased significantly over the years. With established legislative and P-16 goals and priorities for postsecondary education, the Commission is more involved in analyses of progress towards reaching those goals. In addition, the need for current data and future trend analyses will continue to increase in the next few years as the state strives to educate its changing population.

Impact of Request

The re-instatement of this position would allow us to continue to make data more readily available and understandable to institutions, the legislative or executive branches of the state, and the public. With better data and additional analyses, institutions, boards, the Commission, the Governor, and the Legislature could develop more informed higher education policies and directives.

Request to Return Executive Assistant Position to Full-time (New Funding Request)

Description of Request

The Commission requests \$25,875 in salary and benefits to restore the executive assistant position to 1 FTE. This position was reduced to .5 FTE because of budget cuts to the agency. This position provides staff support to the Commission's executive director, associate director for finance and administration, handles liaison with commissioners, and performs other sensitive duties.

Rationale for Request

Due to the fact that the Commission has a very small budget and has been experiencing budget cuts in recent years, there was no alternative but to reduce personnel when our budget was cut by \$54,176 this fiscal year. The Commission has a small staff and many of the employees have job descriptions that include duties that have been mandated by the Nebraska Constitution and statutes, which does not allow us to decrease those positions. Consequently, even though the Commission employed only two support staff, there was no choice but to reduce the Executive Assistant FTE by .5.

In the budget cuts of 2002, the reception/secretary position was cut. The duties for that position were divided between the executive assistant and the administrative assistant. With the executive assistant position moving from full-time to part-time the administrative assistant has assumed duties from the executive assistant position that has placed undue stress and responsibilities on the administrative assistant.

Impact of Request

The Commission operates with a limited number of staff positions. This makes it one of the smallest coordinating commissions in the country, even though it has constitutional and statutory responsibilities that equal or exceed many other state coordinating commissions. Each of our staff is vital to the efficient operation of our day-to-day duties and responsibilities. The executive assistant position has been a very vital position in the commission from its inception.

Returning this position to full-time would be critical in ensuring efficient day-to-day operations of the Commission. Returning the position to full time would also provide a more manageable workload for the administrative assistant.

Request Automation of Access College Early (ACE) Program and the Access College Early (ACE) Plus Scholarship Program (New Funding Request)

Description of Request

We are requesting one-time funding of \$31,900 plus on-going funding of \$3,324 to automate and secure data for our manually operated ACE and ACE Plus programs.

Rationale for Request

The Access College Early (ACE) program awards scholarships to qualified, low-income high school students in Nebraska to enroll in college courses from Nebraska's eligible colleges and universities while the students are still in high school. The purpose of the ACE program is to provide the opportunity for low-income high school students to earn college credit while in high school with the expectation that those low-income students will graduate from high school and continue on to college. ACE recipients are continuing on to college at much higher rates than other low-income students.

The ACE Plus Scholarship program provides scholarships to college students who previously received an ACE award while in high school. The aid is provided during the first two years of college. The intent of the ACE Plus scholarship is to encourage former ACE students to enroll in college full-time and to help them complete a postsecondary credential.

Each program receives numerous applications during an academic year. Each coordinator of the programs must process the applications manually – roughly 3,500 a year for ACE and 450 per year for ACE Plus, with each application producing a minimum of three additional documents that must be reviewed. Both of these programs continue to grow and have become difficult to handle manually because both coordinators are responsible for administering other programs and duties at the Commission.

Impact of Request

Requested funds would be used to automate the application process, allow for an e-signature, provide access to a subset of student data by high school guidance counselors and postsecondary institutions, and automate the award notification process. This automation project would greatly streamline the process for review of all ACE and ACE Plus applications and provide increased security for personally identifiable information of the ACE students.

The requested one-time funding of \$31,900 would pay for an outside vendor to design and install the automation software, plus any licenses or hardware that might be necessary. The requested on-going funding (\$277 a month or \$3,324 per year) would pay for the vendor to host the application and keep the software current.

CCPE has weathered consistent reductions to its budget during recent years. This has resulted in a decrease in staff and the remaining staff accepting additional duties beyond their normal assignments. If the ACE and ACE Plus programs are not automated and the process remains manual, CCPE will need to request funding to hire an additional employee to assist with the processing of the ACE and ACE Plus applications and awarding of the scholarships.

Restoration of Some Operating Funds

Description of Request

The Commission is requesting the restoration of additional general operating dollars cut in 2010-11 and 2011-12 because pass-through funds were not removed from the base appropriation prior to determining the budget cut. The requested restoration for the two-year period is \$9,500.

Rationale for Request

The Midwest Higher Education Compact (MHEC) is a nonprofit regional organization established by compact statute to assist midwestern states in advancing higher education through interstate cooperation and resource sharing. By act of the Legislature (§85-1301), Nebraska is one of 12 states participating in the Compact.

MHEC seeks to advance its interstate missions through programs that enhance productivity through reductions in administrative costs:

- encourage student access, completion and affordability
- facilitate public policy analysis and information exchange
- facilitate regional cooperation
- encourage quality educational programs and services in higher education
- encourage innovation in the delivery of educational services
- cost savings programs (computing, software, property, insurance)

Nebraska was one of the founding member states to pass authorizing legislation to join the Midwestern Higher Education Compact, which was created in 1991. Initially, the funds to pay the MHEC dues were housed in the Legislative Fiscal Office's budget. These funds were transferred to the Commission budget starting with the 2003-04 fiscal year.

In 2009-2010, Nebraska's MHEC dues (\$95,000) yielded savings of approximately \$1.3 million for Nebraska colleges, universities, public schools and libraries, and state and local government, and \$2.8 million in tuition costs for Nebraska students attending institutions in other MHEC states.

In the past two budget years (2010-11 & 2011-12), the Commission has experienced budget cuts of 5% each year. Each time the budget cut was developed by the Governor and Legislature, the pass-through funding for MHEC remained in the Commission's total state appropriation. Leaving the MHEC pass-through funds in the Commission's base funding resulted in the Commission experiencing a larger budget cut than other state agencies. This is due to the fact that the State's contract with MHEC requires a specified membership fee each year, which cannot be reduced. Therefore, the Commission had to cut other areas of its operating budget to offset its inability to apply the 5% cut to the MHEC dues.

At the beginning of funding year 2010-11, the Commission received a 5% budget cut. Leaving the MHEC pass-through dollars in the base funding resulted in an additional cut to the Commission's operating budget of \$4,750 because the Commission was required by contract to pay the MHEC dues of \$95,000 and could not apply the 5% cut to the MHEC dues. Consequently, the Commission's operating budget experienced a 5.7% cut, rather than the published 5% budget cut.

The same situation occurred again in the 2011-12 when the state cut agency budgets by 5%. The MHEC required pass-through dues were not removed prior to determining a 5% budget cut. This resulted in another \$4,750 of additional cuts to the Commission's operating budget for the same reasons stated earlier.

Impact of Request

Funding of this request would provide much needed funds for the Commission's operating budget. The addition of \$9,500 to the budget would assist the Commission in meeting its fiscal responsibilities in 2011-12 and 2012-13.

Summary of Deficit Request

Increase in Spending Authority (no new funded requested)

	<u>2011-12</u>	<u>2012-13</u>
1. Administrative Cash Fund	\$ 5,465	\$ 5,465

Increase in Appropriated Funds

	<u>2011-12</u>	<u>2012-13</u>
1. Restoration of Data Analyst Position	\$60,534	\$60,534
2. Restore Executive Assistant to 1 FTE	25,875	25,875
3. Automation of ACE programs	31,900	3,324
4. Recovery of MHEC budget cuts	<u>9,500</u>	<u>9,500</u>
	\$127,809	\$99,233



2012 Commission meeting schedule

(with tentative locations)

January 19 (Thursday)

Videoconference

March 1 (Thursday)

Lincoln

April 12 (Thursday)

University of Nebraska at Omaha

May 24 (Thursday)

Northeast Community College, Norfolk

July 12 (Thursday)

Peru State College

September 19 (Wednesday)

Lincoln

October 11 (Thursday)

Lincoln

December 6 (Thursday)

Lincoln