
MINUTES

COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION Videoconference via ZOOM Thursday, December 3, 2020

Public notice of meeting

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

NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION WILL HOLD A MEETING ON DECEMBER 3, 2020. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 8:30 A.M. AND ADJOURN AT APPROXIMATELY 11:45 A.M.

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

DR. DEBORAH FRISON, CHAIR

Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Deborah Frison called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and asked for introductions.

Commissioners Present

Colleen Adam
Gwenn Aspen
Dr. John Bernthal
Tim Daniels
Dr. Deborah Frison

Charles Garman (arrived 8:47 a.m.)
Mary Lauritzen
W. Scott Wilson
Dr. Paul Von Behren

Commission Staff Present

Dr. Michael Baumgartner
Dr. Kathleen Fimple
Jill Heese
Kadi Lukesh
J. Ritchie Morrow

Helen Pope
Gary Timm
Mike Wemhoff
Joe Velaquez (Zoom moderator)

Minutes of October 8, 2020, approved

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 8, 2020, COMMISSION MEETING

Commissioner Bernthal made a motion to approve the October 8, 2020, minutes as written. Commissioner Aspen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioner Adam abstained. The remaining seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.

Chair's Report

Chair Frison reported on MHEC activities

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Frison stated she has participated in several activities associated with the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC). Their annual meeting was held virtually on November 9 and 10. Chair Frison and Executive Director Dr. Mike Baumgartner, two of Nebraska's appointed commissioners, attended the meeting. She noted that recently MHEC formed a comprehensive learner record advisory group and she was invited to serve on the advisory group. The group studies the future of comprehensive learner records (CLRs). CLRs fill a niche in the market in that they merge technology with the detailed, expansive documentation students and employers wish to see pertaining to the college experience. The advisory group will provide feedback to MHEC's digital credentialing committee regarding vendor proposals and help MHEC strategize and prioritize work to help states toward the use of comprehensive learner records.

Executive Directors Report

Dr. Baumgartner reported on recent college visits

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Baumgartner reported that he traveled to Western Nebraska Community College for a visit with President Carmen Simone since the last Commission meeting. While in the western part of the state he made stops at McCook Community College and met with Mid-Plains Community College (MPCC) Vice President Kelly Rippen and visited MPCC extended campuses at Imperial and Ogallala.

Dr. Baumgartner participated in several virtual meetings

Dr. Baumgartner stated he recently participated in virtual annual meetings with the National Council of State Directors of Community Colleges, Midwestern Higher Education Compact as Chair Frison reported, Education Commission of the States, and the Higher Learning Commission's (HLC) Annual State meeting with Dr. Kathleen Fimple.

Dr. Baumgartner discussed staff activities

Dr. Baumgartner reported that J. Ritchie Morrow, Financial Aid Officer, has completed the college audits and recently attended the virtual National Association of State Student Grant & Aid Programs Administrators Meeting. Dr. Fimple attended the virtual HLC state agencies meeting in November and recently had a meeting with the legal office of the U. S. Department of Education in Kansas City.

Dr. Baumgartner presented the preliminary 2020 Fall Enrollment Report

Dr. Baumgartner spoke on the preliminary 2020 Fall Enrollment Report, noting that Research Coordinator, Jill Heese, received the information directly from the institutions since IPEDs no longer collects preliminary fall enrollment information. The Commission uses the enrollment information for the Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report.

Public Hearing on Matters of General Concern

PUBLIC HEARING ON MATTERS OF GENERAL CONCERN

There was no testimony on Matters of General Concern.

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

*Public Hearing on Academic Programs
Committee Items*

*Dr. David Jackson, University of
Nebraska*

*Dr. Matt Bice, University of Nebraska
at Kearney*

*Dr. Jodi Kupper, Nebraska State College
System*

PUBLIC HEARING ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE ITEMS

Dr. David Jackson, Vice Provost at the University of Nebraska, came forward to state that representatives from the University were available to discuss and answer questions pertaining to programs on the agenda.

Dr. Matt Bice, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, made introductory remarks on the need and demand for UNK's Master of Science degree in Health Sciences.

Dr. Jodi Kupper, Vice Chancellor for Academic Planning and Partnerships with the Nebraska State College System, noted she and Dr. James Powell were available to discuss and answer questions on the Chadron State College proposal.

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

Academic Programs Committee

Commissioner Adam spoke

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

*Dr. Fimple and Commissioner Adam
presented the proposal*

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Commissioner Adam, Committee Chair, acknowledged Committee members who were on the recent Committee call.

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Proposal for a New Instructional
Program – Supply Chain Management, MS**

Dr. Fimple and Commissioner Adam presented the proposal. Dr. Fimple stated there is a Supply Chain Management undergraduate program in place and the target audience for the Master of Science would be working professionals who want to expand their knowledge base. The program would be offered entirely online and could be completed in one year. Dr. Fimple noted there is great need for this program with many job openings in Nebraska. She noted the University contracted a marketing firm that conducted an assessment indicating the demand for the program.

*Dr. Jennifer Ryan, University of
Nebraska-Lincoln*

*Dr. Scott Swenseth, University of
Nebraska-Lincoln*

Dr. Jennifer Ryan, Chair, Department of Supply Chain Management and Analytics, clarified that there would be 400 job openings annually in Nebraska that require a Bachelors or Master's degree. Dr. Ryan also discussed the industrial advisory board the Supply Chain Management and Analytics Department has that meets twice a year and provides feedback and input on the curriculum. Dr. Ryan and Dr. Scott Swenseth, Associate Professor, Department of Supply Chain Management and Analytics, answered Commissioners' questions.

APC recommendation

Commissioner Adam stated the APC Committee recommendation is to approve the Master of Science in Supply Chain Management at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Proposal for a New Instructional
Program-Supply Chain Management,
MS approved*

**Commissioner Adam, on behalf of the Academic Programs
Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Supply Chain
Management, MS. A roll call vote was taken. All nine Commissioners
voted yes. The motion carried.**

University of Nebraska at Kearney

Dr. Fimple and Commissioner Adam presented the proposal

Correction to minutes by Commissioner Adam before approval at 1/21/21 meeting

Ms. Peggy Abels, University of Nebraska at Kearney

Dr. Matt Bice, University of Nebraska at Kearney

Dr. David Jackson, University of Nebraska

APC recommendation

University of Nebraska at Kearney Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Health Sciences, MS approved

Chadron State College

Dr. Fimple and Commissioner Adam presented the proposal

Dr. Jodi Kupper, Nebraska State College System

Dr. James Powell, Chadron State College

University of Nebraska at Kearney – Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Health Sciences, MS

Dr. Fimple and Commissioner Adam presented the proposal. Dr. Fimple stated the program would be offered entirely online and there are ten introductory classes that would need to be taken before entering this program. The Committee had concerns that even though it appears there is student demand and UNMC support, the need for this program is not well documented, and many students would may not be adequately advised regarding admission to a professional school.

Ms. Peggy Abels, Director of Health Sciences at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, spoke on the number of students currently enrolled in the BS program, noting that program would feed the Master's program. Students with a biology background would enter this program also. Dr. Bice added that this program is rigorous and built to prepare students within one year to enter a professional school. Dr. Jackson pointed out the advantage to this program is the in-depth student coaching and advising built into this program.

Commissioner Adam stated for the Master of Science in Health Sciences at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, the APC Committee is forwarding the proposal without a recommendation to the full Commission for consideration.

Commissioner Adam made a motion to approve the University of Nebraska at Kearney Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Health Sciences, MS. Commissioner Lauritzen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioners Daniels, Lauritzen, Wilson, Adam, and Aspen voted yes. Commissioners Bernthal, Frison, Garman, and Von Behren voted no. Chair Frison noted simple majority rules. The motion carried.

Chadron State College – Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Unmanned Aircraft Systems for Remote Sensing, Undergraduate Certificate

Dr. Fimple and Commissioner Adam presented the proposal. Dr. Fimple reported that small unmanned aircraft are commonly known as drones, and the Federal Aviation Administration states you do not need certification to fly a recreational drone. Demand is high for commercial pilots and it was noted that within a five-year period, 350,000 non-recreational pilots will be needed. Dr. Fimple stated the program would be housed in the Rangeland Management program, requiring students to complete 12 semester hours and complete a certification test. Certified pilots will be prepared to assist farmers in spotting livestock, checking weather damage, monitoring irrigation and surveying pastures as well as opportunities in other sectors such as research, utility and energy, and the entertainment industry. Dr. Kupper and Dr. James Powell, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Chadron State College, answered Commissioners' questions regarding a state college offering a certificate.

APC recommendation

Commissioner Adam stated the APC Committee recommendation is to approve the Undergraduate Certificate in Unmanned Aircraft Systems for Remote Sensing at Chadron State College.

Chadron State College Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Unmanned Aircraft Systems for Remote Sensing, Undergraduate Certificate approved

Commissioner Adam, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the Chadron State College’s Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Unmanned Aircraft Systems for Remote Sensing, Undergraduate Certificate. A roll call vote was taken. All nine Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

University of Nebraska at Omaha

Dr. Fimple and Commissioner Adam presented the in-depth review

University of Nebraska at Omaha – In-Depth Review – Art History, BAH

Dr. Fimple and Commissioner Adam presented the in-depth review. Dr. Fimple provided a summary of the program review and UNO’s 2020 report indicating strategies referenced in 2018. Some of those have been implemented showing results and others have not had time to produce results. Dr. Jackson and Dr. Jack Zerbe, Director, School of the Arts at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, discussed the program, noting it is headed in the right direction but will take time.

Dr. David Jackson, University of Nebraska

Dr. Jack Zerbe, University of Nebraska at Omaha

APC recommendation

Commissioner Adam stated the APC Committee recommendation is to continue the Art History program at UNO with a report on number of majors and degrees awarded, due September 30, 2023.

University of Nebraska at Omaha In-Depth Review – Art History, BAH approved

Commissioner Adam, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska at Omaha In-Depth Review – Art History, BAH. A roll call vote was taken. All nine Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

2019-2020 Existing Program Review

2019-2020 Existing Program Review

The following programs were approved by the Executive Director for continuation:

Central Community College

- Academic Transfer (AA, AS)
- Library and Information Services (Certificate)

Metropolitan Community College

- Liberal Arts (AA, AS)
- Creative Writing (AA, Certificate)
- Theatre (AA, Certificate)
- Art (AA, Certificate)
- General Studies (AAS)

Mid-Plains Community College

- Academic Transfer (AA, AS, AGS)
- Fine Arts (AFA)

Northeast Community College

- Academic Transfer (AA, AS)

Southeast Community College

- Academic Transfer (AA, AS)

Western Nebraska Community College

- Associate of Arts (AA)
- Associate of Science (AS)

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- Communication Studies (BA, BS, MA, PhD)
- Advertising and Public Relations (BJ)
- Journalism (BJ)
- Journalism and Mass Communications (MA)
- Public Relations and Social Media (Graduate Certificate)
- Financial Communications (Graduate Certificate)
- Sports Media and Communication (BJ)
- Broadcasting (BJ)

University of Nebraska at Omaha

- Communication Studies (BA, BS)
- Journalism and Media Communication (BA, BS)
- Communication (MA)
- Human Resources and Training (Graduate Certificate)
- Technical Communication (Graduate Certificate)
- Interdisciplinary Studies (BA, BS)

Wayne State College

- Mass Communication (BA, BS)

University of Nebraska at Kearney

- General Studies (BGS)

University of Nebraska at Omaha

Dr. Fimple presented the program requiring additional review

Dr. David Jackson, University of Nebraska

APC recommendation

University of Nebraska at Omaha – Existing Program Requiring Additional Review – Black Studies, BA, BS approved

University of Nebraska at Omaha – Existing Program Requiring Additional Review – Black Studies, BA, BS

Dr. Fimple reported that this program is below threshold as far as total degrees awarded, and the Black Studies, BA, BS program does not meet the requirements for an interdisciplinary program. The University will conduct an in-depth review. Dr. Jackson mentioned that it may be a possibility to combine ethnic studies programs.

Commissioner Adam stated the APC Committee recommendation is to continue the UNO Black Studies, BA, BS with an in-depth review due September 30, 2021.

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

Existing Program Requiring Additional Review – Black Studies, BA, BS. A roll call vote was taken. All nine Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

Report on Institutional Activities Related to Existing Programs

Reasonable and Moderate Extension

Reasonable and Moderate Extensions

- PSC – Public History, Undergraduate Certificate
- SCC – Automotive Technology, Diploma

Name Changes

Name Changes

- MCC – Professional Health Studies – Dental Assisting to *Dental Assisting – Professional Health Studies AAS*
- MCC – Professional Health Studies – Medical Assisting to *Medical Assisting – Professional Health Studies AAS*
- MCC – Professional Health Studies – Paramedicine to *Paramedicine – Professional Health Studies AAS*

Department Merger

Department Merger

- UNK – Department of Family Studies and Department of Counseling and School Psychology to *Department of Counseling, School Psychology and Family Science*

Chair Frison called for a break at 10:20 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:30 a.m.

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

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

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

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

Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee

BUDGET, CONSTRUCTION, AND FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE

Commissioner Aspen, Committee Chair, acknowledged Committee members that were on the recent committee call.

Commissioner Aspen spoke

Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship AY 2019-20 Year-End Report

Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship AY 2019-20 Year-End Report

J. Ritchie Morrow presented the ACE report stating the ACE scholarships pay tuition and mandatory fees for qualified, low-income high school students to enroll in college courses from Nebraska universities or colleges. For 2019-2020, the ACE program was funded with \$1.1 million dollars appropriated by the Legislature. There were 2,473 students from 231 high schools that received 4,420 scholarships. The average award per scholarship was \$248.42. Mr. Morrow reviewed graphs on scholarships awarded, credit hours taken, eligibility, and gender and

J. Ritchie Morrow presented the ACE report

ACE report continued

race of recipients. He spoke on college continuation rates noting ACE students are doing very well going on to college. The ACE report includes each college, the amount awarded, number of students, scholarships, and average amount of each scholarship per college. Mr. Morrow also noted the report includes the number of scholarships awarded by high school.

BCFA recommendation

Commissioner Aspen stated the BCFA Committee amended the original recommendation to approve the 2020 Access College Early (ACE) Report to state that the Commission further explore disparities that face our state and how to overcome those in ACE utilization at a future Commission workshop.

Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship AY 2019-20 Year End Report approved

Commissioner Aspen, on behalf of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee, moved to approve the Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship AY 2019-20 Year-End Report. A roll call vote was taken. All nine Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

Nebraska Opportunity Grant (NOG) AY 2019-20 Year-End Report

Nebraska Opportunity Grant (NOG) AY 2019-20 Year-End Report

J. Ritchie Morrow presented the NOG report

Mr. Morrow presented the report, commenting that every year the CCPE is appropriated grant funds from the legislature for the Nebraska Opportunity Grant, and those funds are combined with the Nebraska Lottery Funds that we receive to award each year. The NOG program uses information from the federal Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine eligibility. Mr. Morrow noted that Nebraska ranked 35th in the country for need-based undergraduate grant dollars per undergraduate enrollment. For the 2019-20 award year, \$18,740,356 was awarded to 12,956 students with the average award being \$1,446.46. He gave an overview of the NOG funding by source, sector, and family income over the past 10 years. Mr. Morrow reviewed allocation funds listed in the report for each participating institution from 2009-10 through 2019-20.

Community College Gap Assistance Program 2019-20 Annual Report

Community College Gap Assistance Program 2019-20 Annual Report

Gary Timm presented the Gap Report

Gary Timm, Chief Finance and Administrative Officer, presented the Community College Gap Assistance Program report, noting this report has been submitted to the Nebraska Community College Student Performance and Occupational Education Grant Committee. The committee requires community colleges to report basic demographic, program, and employment data for each participant to gauge effectiveness of the Gap Assistance program. The committee is made up of representatives from Nebraska's Department of Education, Department of Economic Development, Department of Labor, and three of the six community colleges, as well as the CCPE. The program is designed to provide financial aid to low-income community college students enrolled in credit or non-credit programs that do not qualify for federal Pell grants. Mr. Timm pointed out the number of applicants and approved participants. The report lists all of the programs of study at each of the community colleges.

*Public Hearing on Planning and
Consumer Information Committee
Items*

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

There was no testimony on Planning and Consumer Information Items.

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

*Planning and Consumer Information
Committee Items*

PLANNING AND CONSUMER INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Commissioner Garman, new Committee Chair, acknowledged the Committee members that met at the recent Committee meeting.

Commissioner Garman spoke

**2020 Measuring Accomplishments, companion piece to Chapter One
of the Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education**

*2020 Measuring Accomplishments,
companion piece to Chapter One of the
Comprehensive Statewide Plan for
Postsecondary Education*

Jill Heese, Research Coordinator, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the 2020 Measuring Accomplishments Report, noting that this is the fifth edition and is a companion piece to Chapter One of the *Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education*. The report includes national and peer comparisons as well as non-comparative measures and is updated on an annual basis. Our goal is to be in the top 10 states for the national comparisons and the top five institutions for peer group comparisons. Nebraska ranked in the top 10 for ACT college readiness. Nebraska ranked in the top 25 for its high school graduation rate, college continuation rate, and six-year college completion rates. Ms. Heese noted the Data Dictionary describes each of the measures in detail.

Jill Heese presented the report

Executive Committee

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair Frison noted the Executive Committee met in November to review the 2020 Biennial Report and asked Dr. Baumgartner to present the report.

Chair Frison spoke

2020 Biennial Report

2020 Biennial Report

Dr. Baumgartner presented an overview of the 2020 Biennial Report, stating the report is required every two years by statute and is due on December 1 to the Governor. The 2020 Biennial Report includes a summary of Commission activities, responsibilities, programs, and reports during the 2019-2020 year. The CCPE is governed by *Nebraska's Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education*. The "Comp" Plan guides the higher education system in Nebraska.

Dr. Baumgartner presented the report

Chair Frison stated the Executive Committee recommendation is to approve the 2020 Biennial Report.

Executive Committee recommendation

Chair Frison, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to approve the 2020 Biennial Report. A roll call vote was taken. All nine Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.

2020 Biennial Report approved

*Next Commission meeting will be held
virtually on January 21, 2021*

FUTURE MEETINGS

Chair Frison and Dr. Baumgartner stated that the next Commission meeting will be held virtually via Zoom on Thursday, January 21, 2021.

Chair Daniels comments

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Daniels expressed his appreciation for having the Commission meeting held remotely as it was convenient for him at a time when he could not travel.

Chair Frison comments

Chair Frison stated her appreciation for the Commissioners' hard work and diligence in preparation for the meeting and wished everyone a happy holiday season.

Meeting adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Frison adjourned the meeting at 11:42 a.m.