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# MINUTES

## COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

The Apothecary/Ridnour Building  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, North Loft, 140 North 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
Thursday, December 2, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

### *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 2, 2021. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 10:00 A.M. AND ADJOURN AT APPROXIMATELY 1:30 P.M.

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

GWENN ASPEN, CHAIR

### *Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.*

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

Chair Aspen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked for introductions.

### **Commissioners Present**

Colleen Adam  
Gwenn Aspen  
Tim Daniels  
Dr. Deborah Frison

Gene Kelly  
Mary Lauritzen  
W. Scott Wilson

### **Commissioners Absent**

Charles Garman  
Molly O'Holleran

Dr. Paul Von Behren

### **Commission Staff Present**

Dr. Michael Baumgartner  
Jeremy Chancellor  
Dr. Kathleen Fimple  
Jill Heese  
Kadi Lukesh

J. Ritchie Morrow  
Helen Pope  
Gary Timm  
Mike Wemhoff

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*Nebraska Math Readiness Project  
presented by Dr. Neal Grandgenett,  
UNO, Mike Flesch, MCC, and Cory Hatt,  
CCC*

*Minutes of September 22, 2021, Work  
Session approved*

*Minutes of September 23, 2021,  
Commission Meeting approved*

*Chair's Report*

*Executive Director's Report*

*First Quarter Budget Report given by  
Kadi Lukesh, Budget Coordinator*

## **PRESENTATION**

Dr. Baumgartner introduced Dr. Neal Grandgenett, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Corey Hatt, Central Community College, and Mike Flesch, Metropolitan Community College, who gave a presentation on the Nebraska Math Readiness Project. The project is in its third year and is a collaboration between the six community colleges, many Nebraska high schools, and the University system. PowerPoint slides showed three-year results highlighting the successes and challenges of the project. Dr. Grandgenett indicated that math education and readiness for college is a massive challenge nationwide. Across Nebraska, the Math Readiness Project is a strategic effort to provide a pathway for students who struggle with math and prepare them for college.

## **MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2021, WORK SESSION**

**Commissioner Frison made a motion to approve the September 22, 2021, minutes of the Work Session as written. Commissioner Daniels seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioner Wilson abstained. The remaining six Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

## **MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2021, COMMISSION MEETING**

**Commissioner Daniels made a motion to approve the September 23, 2021, minutes of the Commission meeting as written. Commissioner Lauritzen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Aspen stated the joint breakfast meeting with the Nebraska Department of Education members and staff this morning was lovely and thanked Kadi Lukesh, CCPE Office Manager, Andrea Boring, NDE Assistant to the Commissioner, and Helen Pope, CCPE Executive Assistant, for making arrangements for the meeting, room and food.

After the Commission meeting, there will be a luncheon recognizing Commissioner Colleen Adam, who has resigned as a member of the Commission effective December 31. Chair Aspen stated that Commissioner Adam has contributed a wealth of knowledge for many years and will be greatly missed.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. Baumgartner called on Kadi Lukesh to present the First Quarter Budget Report. Ms. Lukesh noted this quarter ended September 30 and explained why the report looks as though we overspent. At the beginning of July, the Midwest Higher Education Compact dues were paid along with one-time annual payments for accounting and auditing services and purchasing. Ms. Lukesh gave brief overviews of the Nebraska Opportunity

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*Dr. Baumgartner thanked Mike Wemhoff who is retiring*

Grant Program (NOG), the Community College Gap Assistance Program, and the Access College Early Scholarship (ACE).

Dr. Baumgartner thanked Mike Wemhoff, Facilities Officer, for 30 years of service to the Commission, documenting over 300 capital construction projects. He welcomed new Facilities Officer Jeremy Chancellor and asked him to introduce himself. Mr. Chancellor comes from the National Guard and is originally from McCook, Nebraska.

*Dr. Baumgartner reported on meetings he attended*

Dr. Baumgartner recently attended the Midwestern Higher Education Compact meeting in Grand Rapids, MI, while Commissioner Frison participated via Zoom. The meeting included updates on MHEC's purchasing and insurance programs, strategic planning, and how Wisconsin, Iowa, and Kansas are working with Credential Engine as part of the Midwest Credential Transparency Alliance.

In November Dr. Baumgartner attended the Higher Learning Commission State Agencies Annual Meeting in Chicago. The main topic was accreditation processes. The HLC has changed its bylaws so it can accredit institutions anywhere in the U.S.

Dr. Baumgartner noted he will be meeting virtually with the presidents of Nebraska's independent colleges and universities next week to present the case for a state educational attainment goal and ask for their support.

*Dr. Baumgartner spoke on recent staff meetings and activities*

Recent staff happenings included Dr. Kathleen Fimple, Academic Programs Officer, traveling to Washington DC for SHEEO's Higher Education Policy Conference. J. Ritchie Morrow, Financial Aid Officer, participated in the Metropolitan Omaha Education Consortium's committee on dual credit, and Ritchie also has been attending the Federal Student Aid virtual training this week.

Dr. Baumgartner reminded Commissioners that there is a virtual Lottery briefing on December 7, and a link is available if they would like to attend.

*Public Hearing on Matters of General Concern*

#### **PUBLIC HEARING ON MATTERS OF GENERAL CONCERN**

There was no testimony on Matters of General Concern.

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

*Public Hearing on Academic Programs Committee Items*

#### **PUBLIC HEARING ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE ITEMS**

There was no testimony on Academic Programs Committee Items.

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

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*Academic Programs Committee  
Committee Chair Gene Kelly*

*University of Nebraska Medical Center  
- Proposal for a New Instructional  
Program - Medical Physiology, MS*

*Dr. Fimple presented the proposal*

*Dr. Matt Zimmerman, UNMC*

*APC recommendation*

*University of Nebraska Medical Center  
- Proposal for a New Instructional  
Program - Medical Physiology, MS,  
approved*

*University of Nebraska Medical Center  
- Proposal for a New Instructional  
Program - Perioperative Nursing,  
Undergraduate Certificate*

*Dr. Fimple presented the proposal*

*Dr. Lynette Leeseberg Stamler, UNMC*

*APC recommendation*

## **ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Kelly, Committee Chair, opened the Academic Programs Committee portion and introduced the first agenda item.

### **University of Nebraska Medical Center - Proposal for a New Instructional Program - Medical Physiology, MS**

Dr. Fimple asked Dr. Matt Zimmerman, Associate Professor, Department of Cellular and Integrative Physiology and Director, Integrative Physiology and Molecular Medicine Doctoral Program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, to come forward to discuss the proposal. The proposed program is on-line and designed for a student population that is seeking physiology teaching positions in the community colleges or at a four-year institution as an adjunct teacher as well as those intending to apply to a health profession school. Dr. Fimple noted several letters of support were received in favor of this program. Dr. Zimmerman answered Commissioner's questions.

Commissioner Kelly stated the AP Committee recommendation is to approve the Master of Science degree in Medical Physiology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

**Commissioner Kelly, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska Medical Center's proposal for New Instructional Program - Medical Physiology, MS. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

### **University of Nebraska Medical Center - Proposal for a New Instructional Program - Perioperative Nursing, Undergraduate Certificate**

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal, stating this program would be a hybrid, delivered on-line, and have in-person labs and clinicals in the student's own hometown. Perioperative nursing includes everything from pre-operative care, operating room time, post-operative and recovery time. Dr. Fimple noted this program would reduce the cost of on-the-job training at hospitals and the need and demand is high. UNMC would like to offer this program in January 2022, and then the 15-week program would be offered in the summer only. There are no programs like this offered in Nebraska. Dr. Lynnette Leeseberg Stamler, Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Programs, College of Nursing at UNMC, stated that UNMC has qualified staff willing to teach the program and a recent survey had a large response reflecting demand for this program. Dr. Leeseberg Stamler answered questions from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Kelly stated the Committee recommendation is to approve the Undergraduate Certificate in Perioperative Nursing at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

**Commissioner Kelly, on behalf of the Academic Programs**

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*University of Nebraska Medical Center  
- Proposal for a New Instructional  
Program - Perioperative Nursing,  
Undergraduate Certificate*

*Commissioner Adam stepped in for  
Chair Aspen while Chair Aspen  
participated from another room*

*In-Depth Review of a Program  
Previously Reviewed - University of  
Nebraska at Omaha - Black Studies,  
BA, BS, BMS*

*Dr. Fimple presented the in-depth  
review*

*Dr. David Booker, UNO*

*Dr. David Jackson, University of  
Nebraska*

*APC recommendation*

*In-Depth Review of a Program  
Previously Reviewed - University of  
Nebraska at Omaha - Black Studies,  
BA, BS, BMS, approved*

*In-Depth Review of a Program  
Previously Reviewed - University of  
Nebraska at Kearney - Interior Design,  
BS*

*Dr. Fimple presented the in-depth  
review*

*Dr. David Jackson, University of  
Nebraska*

*APC recommendation*

*In-Depth Review of a Program  
Previously Reviewed - University of  
Nebraska at Kearney - Interior Design,  
BS. Approved*

*In-Depth Review of a Program  
Previously Reviewed - Mid-Plains  
Community College - Building  
Construction Technology, AAS,  
Diploma, Certificate*

**Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska Medical Center's proposal for New Instructional Program - Perioperative Nursing, Undergraduate Certificate. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

**In-Depth Review of a Program Previously Reviewed - University of Nebraska at Omaha - Black Studies, BA, BS, BMS**

Dr. Fimple presented the in-depth review report, noting that UNO has listed a plan of action. Dr. David Booker, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences and Professor of English at UNO, discussed the growth of the program and where graduates of the program could be employed. Dr. David Jackson, University of Nebraska Vice Provost, spoke about the in-depth review process.

Commissioner Kelly stated the Committee recommendation is to continue the Black Studies program at UNO with a report on the Board of Regents' monitoring due December 13, 2024.

**Commissioner Kelly, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska at Omaha's In-Depth Review of a Program Previously Reviewed - Black Studies, BA, BS, BMS, with a report on the Board of Regents' monitoring due December 13, 2024. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioner Kelly voted no. The remaining six Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.**

**In-Depth Review of a Program Previously Reviewed - University of Nebraska at Kearney - Interior Design, BS**

Dr. Fimple presented the in-depth review report, stating that UNK implemented strategies for retention and recruiting. At this point the number of graduates has exceeded the standards and the program is continuing to be successful. Dr. Jackson mentioned he is pleased to see the program turn around and with the results of the recent review.

Commissioner Kelly stated the Committee recommendation is to continue the BS in Interior Design at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

**Commissioner Kelly, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska at Kearney's In-Depth Review of a Program Previously Reviewed - Interior Design, BS. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

**In-Depth Review of a Program Previously Reviewed - Mid-Plains Community College - Building Construction Technology, AAS, Diploma, Certificate**

Dr. Fimple presented the in-depth review, noting that Mid-Plains successfully implemented several strategies to increase enrollment.

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*Dr. Fimple presented the in-depth review*

*APC recommendation*

*In-Depth Review of a Program  
Previously Reviewed - Mid-Plains  
Community College - Building  
Construction Technology, AAS,  
Diploma, Certificate approved*

*2019-2020 Existing Program Review*

Commissioner Kelly stated the Committee recommendation is to continue the Building Construction Technology program at Mid-Plains Community College.

**Commissioner Kelly, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to continue Mid-Plains Community College's - Building Construction Technology, AAS, Diploma, Certificate program. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

### **2019-2020 Existing Program Review**

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

#### **Information Items:**

##### **Central Community College**

- Agricultural Sciences (AAS, Diploma, Certificate)

##### **Metropolitan Community College**

- Manufacturing, Power & Process Operations Technology (AAS, Certificate)
- Workforce Innovation Prototype Design (AAS, Certificate)
- Horticulture & Land Systems Management (AAS, Certificate)

##### **Northeast Community College**

- Wind Energy (AAS, Diploma)
- Agriculture:
  - Agribusiness (AAS)
  - Agronomy (AAS)
  - Animal Science (AAS)
    - Dairy Certification (Diploma)
  - Diversified Agriculture (AAS)
  - Precision Agriculture (AAS)
  - Mechanized Agriculture (AAS)
  - Agriculture Transfer (AA, AAS)
- Horticulture Golf Course Management (AAS)
- Veterinary Technology (AAS)

##### **Southeast Community College**

- Energy Generation Operations (AAS)
- Agriculture Management & Production, Livestock & Precision Agriculture (AAS, Certificate)
- Horticulture & Turfgrass Management (AAS)

##### **Chadron State College**

- Rangeland Management, (BS)



Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture

- Agribusiness Management Systems (AAS, AS, Certificate)
- Agricultural Production Systems (AAS, AS)
  - Beef Production (Certificate)
  - Crop Production (Certificate)
  - Diversified Agriculture (Certificate)
  - Agricultural Chemical Application (Certificate)
  - Agricultural Welding (Certificate)
  - Irrigation Technology (Certificate)
  - Agriculture (Certificate)
  - Equine Training Management (Certificate)
- Veterinary Technology Systems (AAS)

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- Animal Science (BSAS, MS, PhD)
- Agricultural & Environmental Sciences Communication (BS)
- Veterinary Technology (BSVT)
- Veterinary Science (BSVS)
- Integrative Biomedical Sciences (PhD)

**2019-2020 Existing Program Review - Program Requiring Additional Review - University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Veterinary Science, MS**

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal, noting the University has a process in place to collect information from the department and develop a strategy with them. Then the Board of Regents decides either to continue or discontinue programs such as these that need additional review.

2019-2020 Existing Program Review -  
Program Requiring Additional Review -  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln -  
Veterinary Science, MS

*Dr. Fimple presented the proposal*

*Dr. David Jackson, University of  
Nebraska*

*Commissioner Kelly amendment  
approved*

Dr. Jackson stated the Board of Regents will meet in June of 2022.

**Commissioner Kelly made a motion to amend the Committee's recommendation for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's MS in Veterinary Science due to not meeting the minimum performance standard with an in-depth review due July 15, 2022. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion to amend. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners voted yes. The motion carried.**

Commissioner Adam called for a break at 12:05 p.m. The meeting resumed at 12:14 p.m.

Commissioner Kelly withdrew the amended motion.

*Commissioner Kelly withdrew previous  
amended motion*

*Vote on 2019-2020 Existing Program  
Review - Program Requiring Additional  
Review - University of Nebraska-  
Lincoln - Veterinary Science, MS, with  
requested Board of Regents in-depth  
report approved*

**Commissioner Kelly moved that the Commission declare the Master of Science in Veterinary Science at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln does not meet the Commission's minimum performance standard. Therefore, the Commission requests receipt of the required in-depth report conducted by the Board of Regents with the report due to the Commission July 15, 2022. Commissioner Lauritzen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. All seven**

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*Annual Reports from Institutions  
Holding a Recurrent Authorization to  
Operate*

*Dr. Fimple reviewed the three  
institutions approved to operate*

*Reasonable and Moderate Extensions*

*Discontinued Program*

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

*Budget, Construction, and Financial  
Aid Committee*

*Committee Chair Daniels spoke*

*Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship  
AY 2020-2021 Year-end Report*

*J. Ritchie Morrow, Financial Aid Officer,  
presented the report.*

**Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

**Annual Reports from Institutions Holding a Recurrent  
Authorization to Operate**

Dr. Fimple reviewed the following institutions approved by the Commission to operate in Nebraska until a renewal of the authorization is required:

- CHI Health School of Radiologic Technology
- Crown College
- Andrews University

**Report on Institutional Activities Related to Existing Programs**

**Reasonable and Moderate Extensions**

- CSC - Healthcare Management, Graduate Certificate
- CSC - Digital Marketing, Graduate Certificate
- UNK - Spanish for the Helping Professions, Undergraduate Certificate

**Discontinued Program**

- MCC - Dental Assisting, Certificate of Achievement

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

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

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

**BUDGET, CONSTRUCTION, AND FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Daniels, Committee Chair, opened the Committee report, noting the Budget Committee met recently to review the following three reports.

**Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship AY 2020-2021 Year-end  
Report**

Mr. Morrow presented the 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 2020-2021, the ACE program was funded with \$1.1 million dollars appropriated by the Legislature. There were 2,433 students from 231 high schools that received 4,518 scholarships. The average award per scholarship was \$218.97. Mr. Morrow reviewed graphs on scholarships awarded, credit hours taken, eligibility, and gender and race/ethnicity of recipients. He spoke on college continuation rates, noting ACE students are doing very well going on to



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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.

Commissioner Daniels stated the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee recommends approval of the 2020-2021 Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship Year-end Report.

*BCF Committee recommendation*

*Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship  
AY 2020-2021 Year-end Report,  
approved*

**Commissioner Daniels, on behalf of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee, moved to approve the Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship AY 2020-2021 Year-End Report. A roll call vote was taken. All seven Commissioners present voted yes. The motion carried.**

**Nebraska Opportunity Grant (NOG) AY 2020-2021 Year-end Report**

*Nebraska Opportunity Grant (NOG) AY  
2020-2021 Year-end Report*

*Mr. Morrow presented the report*

Mr. Morrow presented the report, commenting that every year the CCPE is appropriated general 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 34<sup>th</sup> in the country for need-based undergraduate grant dollars per undergraduate enrollment. For the 2020-2021 award year, \$21,087,141 was awarded to 13,109 students with the average award being \$1,608.60. 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 2010-2011 through 2020-2021.

**Community College Gap Assistance Program 2020-2021 Annual Report**

*Community College Gap Assistance  
Program 2020-2021 Annual Report*

*Gary Timm, Chief Finance and  
Administrative Officer, presented the  
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 the programs of study at each of the community colleges.

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*Public Hearing on Planning and  
Consumer Information Committee  
Items*

*Planning and Consumer Information  
Committee*

*Commissioner Lauritzen chaired the  
committee*

*2021 Measuring Accomplishments,  
companion piece to Chapter One of the  
Comprehensive Statewide Plan for  
Postsecondary Education*

*Jill Heese, Research Director, presented  
the report*

*Chair Aspen comments*

*Commissioner Adam comments*

*Commissioner Lauritzen comments*

*Next Commission meeting is January  
20, 2022*

*Meeting adjourned at 1:27 p.m.*

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

There was no testimony on Planning and Consumer Information Items.

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

## **PLANNING AND CONSUMER INFORMATION COMMITTEE**

In Commissioner Garman's absence, Commissioner Lauritzen chaired the Planning Committee. She introduced Jill Heese, Research Director, to present her report.

### **2021 Measuring Accomplishments, companion piece to Chapter One of the Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education**

Ms. Heese gave a PowerPoint presentation on the 2021 Measuring Accomplishments Report, noting that this is the sixth 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. Ms. Heese stated the goal is to be in the ten best states for the national comparisons and the top five institutions for their respective 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.

## **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Chair Aspen read and presented Commissioner Adam with Resolution 21-1, thanking her for more than 17 years of service on the Commission. Commissioner Adam expressed her gratitude, not only to the Commissioners, but to the staff, stating it had been an honor and pleasure to work with everyone on the Commission. Commissioner Lauritzen presented each Commissioner with a Declaration of Independence and Constitution booklet in honor of Commissioner Adam's departure.

## **FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next Commission meeting will be a virtual meeting via Zoom on Thursday, January 20, 2022, 8:30 a.m.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Aspen adjourned the meeting at 1:27 p.m.