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# MINUTES

Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education  
Central Community College  
Administrative Office Board Room  
3134 W US Highway 34, Grand Island, Nebraska  
Friday, May 19, 2023  
10:00 a.m. (CT)

*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. A current copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted beside the table containing the documents for the meeting.

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION WILL HOLD A MEETING ON MAY 19, 2023. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 10:00 A.M. AND ADJOURN AT APPROXIMATELY 12:00 P.M.

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

DR. PAUL VON BEHREN, VICE CHAIR

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

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

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

**Commissioners Present**

Tim Daniels  
Dr. Deborah Frison  
Dr. Dennis Headrick  
Mary Lauritzen

Molly O'Holleran  
Dr. Paul Von Behren  
Tami Weber (non-voting)  
W. Scott Wilson

**Commission Staff Present**

Dr. Michael Baumgartner  
Jill Heese  
Helen Pope

Matthew Roque  
Gary Timm

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*Dr. Matt Gotschall, Central Community College*

**WELCOME**

Dr. Matt Gotschall, President of Central Community College, welcomed the Commissioners to the Grand Island campus. He noted his appreciation and the importance of the relationship with the Coordinating Commission. Dr. Gotschall, along with Dr. Marcie Kemnitz, Grand Island Campus President, provided a tour of the health sciences and career program facilities before the Commission meeting.

*Minutes of March 10, 2023, approved*

**MINUTES OF MARCH 10, 2023, COMMISSION MEETING**

**Commissioner Frison made a motion to approve the March 10, 2023, minutes as written. Commissioner O’Holleran seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Headrick, Lauritzen, O’Holleran, Von Behren. Commissioner Wilson abstained. The motion carried.**

*Chair’s Report*

*Commissioner Aspen’s resignation*

**CHAIR’S REPORT**

Vice Chair Von Behren reported that Commissioner Gwenn Aspen has resigned from the Commission effective May 9, 2023, and as Vice Chair he has taken over in her absence. She will be receiving a plaque commemorating her six-year tenure with the Commission. Vice Chair Von Behren read Resolution 23-1 in appreciation of Commissioner Aspen’s service on the Commission.

*Executive Director’s evaluations due*

Vice Chair Von Behren stated that executive director evaluation forms will be sent to Commissioners and are due back by June 16 to be compiled. He requested that past chair Aspen be included in the evaluation process.

*Nominating Committee*

*Commissioner Lauritzen presented slate of officers*

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Lauritzen reported that she, along with Commissioners Daniels, Frison, and Headrick, made up the nominating committee for Commission officers for 2023-2024. She presented the Committee’s slate of nominations for Commission Chair, Vice Chair, and two other members of the 2023-2024 Executive Committee.

*Committee recommendation*

The Nominating Committee proposed approval of Commissioner Von Behren to serve as Commission Chair from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

*New Chair Commissioner Von Behren approved*

**Commissioner Lauritzen, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, moved to approve Commissioner Von Behren to serve as Commission Chair from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Headrick, Lauritzen, O’Holleran, and Wilson. Abstain: Von Behren. The motion carried.**

*Committee recommendation*

The Nominating Committee proposed approval of Commissioner Daniels to serve as Vice Chair from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

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*New Vice Chair Commissioner Daniels approved*

**Commissioner Lauritzen, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, moved to approve Commissioner Daniels to serve as Commission Vice Chair from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Frison, Headrick, Lauritzen, O’Holleran, Von Behren, and Wilson. Abstain: Daniels. The motion carried.**

*Committee recommendation*

The Nominating Committee proposed approval of Commissioners Frison and O’Holleran to serve on the Executive Committee along with the Chair and Vice Chair from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

*New Executive Committee members Commissioner’s Frison and O’Holleran approved*

**Commissioner Lauritzen, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, moved to approve Commissioners Frison and O’Holleran to serve on the Executive Committee, along with the Chair and Vice Chair, from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Headrick, Lauritzen, O’Holleran, Von Behren, and Wilson. The motion carried.**

*Executive Director’s Report*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Dr. Baumgartner congratulated and thanked Commissioners for their commitment to serve on the Executive Committee.

*Out-of-Service Area request*

The following out-of-service area application request was approved by the executive director:

- Offered by Wayne State College
  - Face-to-face at ESU 6 (Milford) and ESU 9 (Hastings) schools
    - EDU 150 - Introduction to Professional Education - 3 credits  
Fall 2023
    - EDU 250 - Human Development & Cognition - 3 credits  
Spring 2024
    - EDU 275 - PK-12 Instructional Design - 3 credits  
Fall 2024

*Gary Timm presented the Third Quarter Budget Report*

Gary Timm, Chief Finance Officer, presented the Third Quarter Budget Report, stating that seventy-five percent of the fiscal year has passed, and sixty-five percent of the budgeted funds have been spent. Mr. Timm gave an overview on the status of the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Program (NOG), the Community College Gap Assistance Program, the Access College Early Scholarship (ACE), Guaranty Recovery Program, and the Community College ARPA Grants.

*Legislative Update*

Dr. Baumgartner gave a legislative update highlighting bills of interest to the Commission. With nine days left in the session, the Commission is following LB814, LB705, and LB243. Dr. Baumgartner provided a handout and discussed Higher Education Appropriations for 2023-25. Most noteworthy for the Commission is an increase of \$500,000 for the Nebraska Opportunity Grant (NOG).

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*Dr. Baumgartner reported on ARPA funds*

Dr. Baumgartner stated the community colleges have returned grant agreements for the \$15 million of ARPA funds appropriated by the Legislature for reduced dual credit tuition. All funds have been obligated to all colleges except Central Community College and Western Nebraska Community College.

*Dr. Baumgartner spoke on recent staff activities*

Gary Timm joined Dr. Baumgartner and several Nebraska Statewide Workforce & Educational Reporting System (NSWERS) staff in Denver for a SHEEO Communities of Practice meeting. Dr. Baumgartner also participated in the NSWERS Advisory Committee meeting recently.

J. Ritchie Morrow, Financial Aid Officer, will be participating in the upcoming National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs (NASSGAP) executive committee meetings. Mr. Morrow along with Jill Heese, Research Director, will be presenting the *2023 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report* to Doane University graduate students in June and July. Dr. Kathleen Fimple, Academic Programs Officer, will represent Nebraska at the Midwestern State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (M-SARA) conference in July.

Commissioner Frison and Dr. Baumgartner will attend the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) Executive Committee meeting in Madison, Wisconsin, June 12-13. Dr. Baumgartner will be attending the Education Commission of the States (ECS) national forum and the State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO) annual meeting in July.

*Public Hearing on Matters of General Concern*

**PUBLIC HEARING ON MATTERS OF GENERAL CONCERN**

There was no testimony on Matters of General Concern.

**Vice Chair Von Behren 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.

**Vice Chair Von Behren closed the public hearing on Academic Programs Committee Items.**

*Academic Programs Committee*

**ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

*Commissioner Dennis Headrick*

Commissioner Headrick, Committee Chair, opened the Academic Programs segment, noting Dr. Baumgartner will fill in for Dr. Kathleen Fimple in her absence.

*Andrews University - Application to Renew a Recurrent Authorization to Operate*

**Andrews University - Application to Renew a Recurrent Authorization to Operate**

*Commissioner Headrick and Dr. Baumgartner presented the proposal*

Commissioner Headrick and Dr. Baumgartner presented the proposal. The recurrent authorization allows Andrews University to offer seminars to

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working pastors at Union College in Lincoln. Union College is one of Andrews University's affiliated institutions where graduate coursework leading to a Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry is offered.

*Committee recommendation*

Commissioner Headrick stated the Committee recommendation: That the Commission approve the renewal of the recurrent authorization to operate for Andrews University:

**Institution:** Andrews University  
**Owner:** Seventh-day Adventist Church  
**Level of authorization:** Authorized to offer the Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry  
**Length of authorization:** Five years (valid through June 15, 2028)

*Andrews University - Application to Renew a Recurrent Authorization to Operate approved*

**Commissioner Headrick, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve Andrews University's Application to Renew a Recurrent Authorization to Operate. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Headrick, Lauritzen, O'Holleran, Von Behren, and Wilson. The motion carried.**

*Institutional Activities*

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

Dr. Baumgartner presented recent changes to existing programs.

*Reasonable and Moderate Extensions*

**Reasonable and Moderate Extensions**

- UNO – Business, Executive Graduate Certificate
- UNO – Business Leadership, Executive Graduate Certificate
- UNO – Business Analytics, Executive Graduate Certificate
- PSC – Economic Development, Certificate of Advanced Studies
- PSC – Healthcare Administration, Certificate of Advanced Studies
- PSC – Strategic Leadership and Communication, Certificate of Advanced Studies

*Name Change*

**Name Change**

- UNMC – Ph.D. in Health Services Research, Administration, and Policy to Ph.D. in *Health Services and Policy Research*

*Discontinued Programs*

**Discontinued Programs**

- WSC – Geography, BA, BS (will become an option/concentration under the Social Science major)
- WSC – History, BA, BS (will become an option/concentration under the Social Science major)
- WSC – Political Science, BA, BS (will become an option/concentration under the Social Science major)

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*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.

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

*Budget, Construction, and Financial  
Aid Committee*

*Commissioner W. Scott Wilson*

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

Commissioner Wilson, Committee Chair, stated the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee met recently to discuss the projects that are listed on today's agenda.

*Mid-Plains Community College, North  
Platte Campus - North Campus  
Electrical Technology Building*

*Matthew Roque presented the project  
proposal*

**Mid-Plains Community College, North Platte Campus - North Campus  
Electrical Technology Building**

Matthew Roque, Capital Project & Financial Analyst, presented the project proposal, noting the new Electrical Technology Building will be 18,862 square feet, located on the North Campus and will replace the existing Electrical Technology Building. The new building project will increase space for Electrical Technology, Electrical Automation, and continuing education training and open career opportunities for local high school students. The cost of this project is approximately \$5 million dollars, with \$3 million from Capital Improvement Funds and the remaining \$2 million from fundraising through the MPCC foundation.

*Mr. Jake Elmshaeuser, and President  
Ryan Purdy, Mid-Plains Community  
College*

Mr. Jake Elmshaeuser, Electrical Instructor at Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte, along with MPCC President Ryan Purdy, came forward with additional information on the proposed project and answered Commissioners' questions.

*Committee recommendation*

Committee recommendation: Pursuant to the Nebr. Rev. Stat. § 85-1414, the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education recommends approval of Mid-Plains Community College's proposal to utilize Capital Improvement funds to construct and equip the Electrical Technology Building project as outlined in the governing board's program statement approved on March 15, 2023, along with supplemental information provided.

*Mid-Plains Community College, North  
Platte Campus - North Campus  
Electrical Technology Building  
approved*

**Commissioner Wilson, on behalf of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee, moved to approve the Mid-Plains Community College, North Platte Campus - North Campus Electrical Technology Building. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Headrick, Lauritzen, O'Holleran, Von Behren, and Wilson. The motion carried.**

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln -  
Architecture Hall Renovation Phase  
Two*

*Matthew Roque presented the project  
proposal*

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Architecture Hall Renovation Phase  
Two**

Mr. Roque presented the project proposal, stating the University of Nebraska will demolish the existing 1955 Law School Library Stacks

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building that is located on the north end of Architecture Hall West and replace it with a new addition. The new 21,900 square-foot addition will house architecture, interior design, landscape architecture, and community and regional planning programs. The total cost of the project is \$19.3 million with funds from state appropriations and facility fees totaling approximately \$17.7 million.

*Brooke Hay and Dr. Kevin Van Den Wymelenberg, University of Nebraska*

Brooke Hay, Assistant Vice President of Facilities, Planning, and Capital Programs was present and spoke briefly on the project, and Dr. Kevin Van Den Wymelenberg, Dean of the College of Architecture at UNL (via Zoom), answered Commissioners' inquiries regarding the project.

*Committee recommendation*

Committee recommendation: Pursuant to the Nebr. Rev. Stat. § 85-1414, the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education recommends approval of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's proposal to utilize State appropriations to construct and equip the Architecture Hall Renovation Phase Two project as outlined in the governing board's program statement approved on April 8, 2022, along with supplemental information provided.

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Architecture Hall Renovation Phase Two approved*

**Commissioner Wilson, on behalf of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Architecture Hall Renovation Phase Two. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Headrick, Lauritzen, O'Holleran, Von Behren, and Wilson. The motion carried.**

*Public Hearing on Planning and Consumer Information Items*

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

There was no testimony on Planning and Consumer Information Items.

**Vice Chair Von Behren closed the public hearing on Planning and Consumer Information Committee Items.**

*Planning and Consumer Information Committee*

**PLANNING AND CONSUMER INFORMATION COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Lauritzen, Committee Chair, introduced Jill Heese, Research Director, to present the *2023 Factual Look at Higher Education in Nebraska - Degrees and Other Awards Conferred*.

*Commissioner Mary Lauritzen*

*2023 Factual Look at Higher Education in Nebraska - Degrees and Other Awards Conferred*

**2023 Factual Look at Higher Education in Nebraska - Degrees and Other Awards Conferred**

Ms. Heese delivered a PowerPoint presentation on the *2023 Factual Look at Higher Education in Nebraska: Degrees and Other Awards Conferred*. The report focused on the latest 10-year trends by sector, award level, gender, race/ethnicity, discipline cluster, and age group. Ms. Heese stated total degrees and awards were down 1.3% over the last year. Ms. Heese provided a demonstration on how to use the Dashboard on the CCPE website. The full report and dashboards are available online at <https://ccpe.nebraska.gov/reports>

*Jill Heese presented the report*



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*Executive Committee*

*Approving moving the Friday, December 8, 2023, Commission meeting to Friday, December 1, 2023*

*Dr. Baumgartner*

*Moving the Friday, December 8, 2023, Commission meeting to Friday, December 1, 2023, approved*

*Approve Salary Range Adjustments for July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025*

*Gary Timm*

*Committee recommendation*

*Approve Salary Range Adjustments for July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025, approved*

*Proposed Agency Budget FYE 6/30/2024*

*Gary Timm*

*Committee recommendation*

*Proposed Agency Budget FYE 6/30/2024*

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Approve moving the Friday, December 8, 2023, Commission meeting to Friday, December 1, 2023**

Dr. Baumgartner stated the Executive Committee recommends a vote to change the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting date to December 1, 2023, to correspond with the State Board of Education's meeting when a breakfast meeting can be conducted.

**Vice Chair Von Behren, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to approve moving the Friday, December 8, 2023, Commission meeting to Friday, December 1, 2023. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Headrick, Lauritzen, O'Holleran, Von Behren, and Wilson. The motion carried.**

**Approve Salary Range Adjustments for July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025**

Mr. Timm presented the salary range recommendations, noting if LB705 passes, there will be two additional positions to fill. Adjustments were made to several positions to keep in line with peer organizations.

Committee Recommendation: The Executive Committee of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education recommends approval of the Salary Range Adjustments for July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2025.

**Vice Chair Von Behren, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to approve the Salary Range Adjustments for July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Headrick, O'Holleran, Von Behren, and Wilson. Commissioner Lauritzen was absent during the vote. The motion carried.**

**Proposed Agency Budget FYE 6/30/2024**

Mr. Timm presented the Proposed Agency Budget FYE 6/30/2024, giving a brief overview of the state's budgeting process, noting that the state appropriates funding for agencies on a two-year basis.

Committee Recommendation: The Executive Committee of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education recommends approval of the Agency Budget for July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024.

**Vice Chair Von Behren, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to approve the Proposed Agency Budget FYE 6/30/2024. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Headrick, Lauritzen, O'Holleran, Von Behren, and Wilson. The motion carried.**



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*Next meeting will be held Friday, July 28, 2023*

**FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next Commission meeting will be Friday, July 28, 2023, 8:30 a.m. at Western Nebraska Community College, Scottsbluff, Nebraska.

*Commissioner Daniels spoke*

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Daniels, being a former resident of Scottsbluff, highly recommends Commissioners and staff consider taking the scenic route through Ogallala when traveling to the July meeting in Scottsbluff.

*Vice Chair Von Behren adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chair Von Behren adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m.