
MINUTES

COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
Apothecary/Ridnour Building, 5th Floor, North Loft
140 North 8th Street, Lincoln, NE
Friday, December 1, 2023
9:30 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 DECEMBER 1, 2023. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 9:30 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. PAUL VON BEHREN, CHAIR

Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Von Behren called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and asked for introductions.

Commissioners Present

Tim Daniels
Dr. Dennis Headrick
Mary Lauritzen
Dannika Nelson

Molly O'Holleran
Tami Weber
Dr. Paul Von Behren
W. Scott Wilson

Commissioners Absent

Dr. Deborah Frison

Commission Staff Present

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

Helen Pope
Matthew Roque
Gary Timm

Dr. Paul Turman, NSCS

Dr. Matt Hastings, NSWERS

SPEAKER

Dr. Paul Turman, Chancellor of the Nebraska State College System, introduced Dr. Matt Hastings, Executive Director at the Nebraska Statewide Workforce & Education Reporting System (NSWERS). Dr. Hastings gave a PowerPoint presentation demonstrating the data reporting system that promotes jobs, a strong economy, and a thriving community. NSWERS works with partnerships to support educational and workforce outcomes. Dr. Hastings thanked Dr. Baumgartner and the CCPE staff for being partners in the work that NSWERS does and answered Commissioners' questions.

*Minutes of September 22, 2023,
Commission Meeting approved*

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2023, COMMISSION MEETING

Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve the September 22, 2023, minutes as written. Commissioner O'Holleran seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Headrick, Nelson, O'Holleran, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. Commissioner Lauritzen abstained. The motion carried.

Chair's Report

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Von Behren stated Dr. Kathleen Fimple, Academic Programs Officer, recently was presented the Outstanding Service Award by the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) on November 14, during the commission's Annual Commission Meeting. Dr. Fimple was nominated for her leadership on MHEC's Regional Steering Committee for the Midwestern State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (M-SARA) since 2014.

Chair Von Behren noted that the Executive Committee will be meeting this month to discuss changes in duties due to legislation and new programs being introduced. The CCPE is anticipating the addition of one or two new staff members and some budget modifications coming in 2024.

Executive Director's Report

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Baumgartner introduced Kadi Lukesh, Budget Coordinator, to present the First Quarter Budget Report.

*First Quarter Budget Report - Kadi
Lukesh*

Ms. Lukesh briefly discussed the Administrative Funds, noting during the first quarter large one-time payments. MHEC dues were paid, as well as a one-time payment to Worker's Compensation. Ms. Lukesh also reviewed the staff and Commissioner travel area of the report. Ms. Lukesh gave brief overviews of the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Program (NOG), the Community College Gap Assistance Program, the Access College Early Scholarship (ACE), the Guaranty Recovery Program, the Community College American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grants, and the Community College ARPA Funds (Agency 83) - Dual Enrollment report. Ms. Lukesh answered questions from the Commissioners.

ARPA update

Dr. Baumgartner stated that all ARPA funds have been obligated at the colleges except for \$250,000 for Western Nebraska Community College.

AETP and EETP Programs update

Dr. Baumgartner gave an update on the implementation of LB 705. The CCPE and Nebraska Department of Education will meet regularly on the transition of the Attract Excellence to Teaching Program (AETP) and Enhancing Excellence in Teaching Program (EETP).

Dr. Baumgartner meetings recently attended

Other meetings Dr. Baumgartner recently attended included the Higher Education Policy Meeting on October 5, the Midwestern Higher Education Compact's annual meeting in November in St. Paul, and the Higher Learning Commission's annual meeting for state agencies the same week.

Recent staff activities

Staff members have been busy as well. Dr. Fimple represented Dr. Baumgartner at the Education Commission of the States winter meeting in Denver and is participating in an ECS policy academy on aligning career and technical education with work-based learning with a team from the NDE. Dr. Fimple was invited to the grand opening of Life Chiropractic College West, which received authorization at our March meeting.

J. Ritchie Morrow, our Financial Aid Officer, concluded the annual audits and has been helping our institutions and students prepare for the release of the new FAFSA. He also attended the annual meeting of the National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs.

Gary Timm, Chief Finance Officer, along with Dr. Baumgartner attended the Nebraska Lottery Beneficiaries meeting in November, and Mr. Timm and Matthew Roque, Capital Project Analyst, recently made campus visits to Peru State and Wayne State Colleges to familiarize Matthew with the campuses.

Public Hearing on Matters of General Concern

PUBLIC HEARING ON MATTERS OF GENERAL CONCERN

There was no testimony on Matters of General Concern.

Chair Von Behren closed the public hearing on Matters of General Concern.

Chair Von Behren called for a break at 10:59 a.m. The meeting resumed at 11:09 a.m.

Public Hearing on Academic Programs Committee Items

PUBLIC HEARING ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE ITEMS

There was no testimony on Academic Programs Committee Items.

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

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Commissioner Headrick, Committee Chair, opened the Academic Programs Committee report and discussed the Commission's minimum performance standard for existing programs.

Existing Program Review

Information Items:

Central Community College

- Drafting and Design Technology, AAS, Diploma, Certificate

Metropolitan Community College

- Civil Engineering Technology, AAS, Certificate
- Architectural Design Technology, AAS, Certificate
- Mechanical Design Technology, AAS, Certificate

Northeast Community College

- Drafting, AAS, Diploma, Certificate

Southeast Community College

- Design and Drafting Technology, AAS, Diploma, Certificate
- Land Surveying/Civil Engineering Technology, AAS
- Geographic Information Systems Technician, Certificate

Chadron State College

- Mathematics, BS, BSE

Peru State College

- Mathematics, BA/BS
- Mathematics Teaching, BA/BS

Wayne State College

- Mathematics, BA/BS

University of Nebraska at Kearney

- Software Quality Assurance, UG Certificate
- Mathematics, 6-12 Teaching Field Endorsement, BSE
- Mathematics Comprehensive, BS
- Mathematics, BS/BA

University of Nebraska at Omaha

- Management Information Systems, BS, BMS, MS
- Data Management, UG Certificate, Graduate Certificate
- Information Technology Administration, UG Certificate
- System Development, UG Certificate
- Data Analytics, Graduate Certificate
- Information Assurance, Graduate Certificate
- Project Management, Graduate Certificate
- Systems Analysis and Design, Graduate Certificate

- Information Technology, PhD
- Mathematics, BA/BS, BMS, MA/MS, MAT
- Secondary Math Specialist, Graduate Certificate

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- Architectural Engineering, BS, MS, MAE, PhD
- Construction Engineering, BS
- Construction Management, BSCM
- Construction Engineering and Management, MS, Graduate Certificate
- Mechanical Engineering, BSME
- Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics, MS, PhD
- Mathematics, BS, BA, MA, MS, MAT, MSCT, PhD
- Mathematics Education, Graduate Certificate
- Additive Manufacturing, Graduate Certificate
- Civil Engineering, BSCE, MS, PhD
- Environmental Engineering, BS, MS
- Electrical Engineering, BSEE, MS, PhD
- Telecommunications Engineering, MS
- Chemical Engineering, BSCH
- Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, PhD
- Engineering Interdisciplinary Studies, BS
- Engineering Management, MEM, Graduate Certificate
- Engineering, PhD
- Biomedical Engineering, PhD
- Grassland Systems, BS
- Natural Resource Sciences, MS, PhD
- Fisheries and Wildlife, BSFW
- Water Science, BSWS
- Agricultural Engineering, BSAE
- Biological Systems Engineering, BSBS
- Agricultural Systems Technology, BS
- Agricultural and Biological Systems, MS
- Mechanized Systems Management, MS
- Biological Engineering, PhD

*2021-2022 Existing Program Review
Requiring Additional Review –
University of Nebraska-Lincoln –
Chemical Engineering, MS*

*2021-2022 Existing Program Review
Requiring Additional Review –
University of Nebraska-Lincoln –
Chemical Engineering, MS approved*

**2021-2022 Existing Program Review Requiring Additional Review
- University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Chemical Engineering, MS**

Commissioner Headrick gave an overview of the program requiring additional review. Dr. David Jackson, Provost from the University of Nebraska, commented he has nothing specific to the MS in Chemical Engineering program to offer, but observed that in certain programs in the STEM fields the master's degree is not an employable degree path for students.

Commissioner Headrick, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the additional review of the MS in Chemical Engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with

Annual Report for Institutions Holding a Recurrent Authorization to Operate in Nebraska

an in-depth review by the Board of Regents, due July 15, 2024. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, O'Holleran, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. The motion carried.

Annual Report for Institutions Holding a Recurrent Authorization to Operate in Nebraska

Commissioner Headrick presented information on the reports from the two institutions holding recurrent authorization to operate in Nebraska:

- North Park Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL
- Mission University, Omaha, NE

Report on Institutional Activities Related to Existing Programs

Report on Institutional Activities Related to Existing Programs

Commissioner Headrick noted there were two reasonable and moderate extensions:

- Western Nebraska Community College - IT Technical Support, certificate
- Northeast Community College – System Administration, certificate

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 Von Behren 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 Lauritzen, Committee Chair, recognized the members of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee. She introduced Ritchie Morrow to present the year-end ACE report.

Commissioner Lauritzen

Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship 2022-23 Year-end Report

Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship 2022-23 Year-end Report

Mr. Morrow presented the report stating that ACE scholarships pay tuition and mandatory fees of eligible low-income Nebraska high school students taking dual-enrollment and early-admit college courses at participating Nebraska colleges and universities. For 2022-2023, the ACE program was funded with \$1.5 million dollars appropriated by the Legislature. There were 2,635 students from 214 high schools that received 5,950 scholarships. The total awarded was \$1,082,448.97 with the average award per scholarship equaling \$182.00.

J. Ritchie Morrow

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 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. Mr. Morrow answered questions from the Commissioners.

BCF Committee recommendation

Commissioner Lauritzen stated the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee recommends approval of the 2022-23 Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship Year-end Report.

Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship 2022-23 Year-end Report approved

Commissioner Lauritzen, on behalf of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee, moved to approve the 2022-23 Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship Year-end Report. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, O'Holleran, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. The motion carried.

Next Commission meeting is Friday, January 26, 2024

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Commission meeting will be a virtual meeting via Zoom on Friday, January 26, 2024, at 8:30 a.m.

Commissioner Lauritzen comments

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Lauritzen stated she has been on the Commission since May of 2000 and noted the progress and accomplishments made by the Commission for education since then has been amazing.

Commissioner Nelson comments

Commissioner Nelson noted that as a former high school teacher with college-aged children, she sees in the numbers of these reports that these are real people, and the positive changes to Nebraska families for generations to come is wonderful.

Chair Von Behren comments

Chair Von Behren wished everyone a very Merry Christmas.

Chair Von Behren adjourned the meeting at 11:42 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Von Behren adjourned the meeting at 11:42 a.m.