
MINUTES

**COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
Central Community College - 4500 63rd Street, Columbus Campus
Student Center, Lower Level, Rooms 176-177, Columbus, Nebraska
Friday, May 17, 2024
9:45 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 17, 2024. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 9:45 A.M. AND ADJOURN AT APPROXIMATELY 1:00 P.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 9:45 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Von Behren called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. and asked for introductions.

Commissioners Present

Tim Daniels	Molly O'Holleran
Dr. Deborah Frison	Dannika Nelson
Dr. LeDonna Griffin	Dr. Paul Von Behren
Dr. Dennis Headrick	Tami Weber
Mary Lauritzen	W. Scott Wilson

Commission Staff Present

Dr. Michael Baumgartner	Helen Pope
Dr. Kathleen Fimple	Matthew Roque
Jill Heese	Gary Timm
J. Ritchie Morrow	

Dr. Kathy Fuchser, Central Community College

WELCOME

Dr. Kathy Fuchser, Central Community College, Columbus Campus President, welcomed the Commissioners and thanked them for the work they do for the community colleges.

*Minutes of March 15, 2024,
Commission Meeting approved*

MINUTES OF MARCH 15, 2024, COMMISSION MEETING

Commissioner Frison made a motion to approve the March 15, 2024, minutes as written. Commissioner Headrick seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Griffin, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. Abstain: O’Holleran. The motion carried.

Chair’s Report

CHAIR’S REPORT

Chair Von Behren thanked Dr. Fuchser for an informative tour of the CCC campus before the meeting.

Chair Von Behren noted that the *2024 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report* caught the attention of the media, and he was interviewed by Channel 7 in Omaha.

Nominating Committee

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Commissioner Frison reported that she, along with Commissioners Daniels, Headrick, O’Holleran, and Wilson, made up the nominating committee for Commission officers for 2024-2025. She presented the Committee’s slate of nominations for Commission Chair, Vice Chair, and two other members of the 2024-2025 Executive Committee.

The Nominating Committee proposed approval of Commissioner Von Behren to continue to serve as Commission Chair from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

Commissioner Von Behren approved to continue as Chair July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025

Commissioner Frison, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, moved to approve Commissioner Von Behren to continue to serve as Commission Chair from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Griffin, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, O’Holleran, Weber, and Wilson. Abstain: Von Behren. The motion carried.

The Nominating Committee proposed approval of Commissioner Daniels to continue to serve as Vice Chair from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

Commissioner Daniels approved to continue as Vice Chair July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025

Commissioner Frison, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, moved to approve Commissioner Daniels to serve as Commission Vice Chair from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Frison, Griffin, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, O’Holleran, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. Abstain: Daniels. The motion carried.

The Nominating Committee proposed approval of Commissioners Frison and Headrick to serve on the Executive Committee along with the Chair and Vice Chair from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.



Commissioners Frison and Headrick approved to serve on the Executive Committee from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025

Commissioner Frison, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, moved to approve Commissioners Frison and Headrick to serve on the Executive Committee, along with the Chair and Vice Chair, from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Griffin, Lauritzen, Nelson, O’Holleran, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. Abstain: Headrick. The motion carried.

Executive Director’s Report

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

The following out-of-service area application requests were approved by the executive director:

Out-of-service area applications approved by the Executive Director

- Offered by University of Nebraska at Kearney
In-person – adjunct faculty in area, from the University of Nebraska at Kearney to Crete High School, Crete, NE
 - SPAN 200 – Intermediate Spanish I – 3 credits
August 15, 2024 – May 16, 2025
- Offered by University of Nebraska at Kearney
In-person – adjunct faculty in area, from the University of Nebraska at Kearney to Crete High School, Crete, NE
 - SPAN 201 – Intermediate Spanish II – 3 credits
August 15, 2024 – May 16, 2025
- Offered by University of Nebraska at Kearney
In-person – adjunct faculty in area, from the University of Nebraska at Kearney to Crete High School, Crete, NE
 - SPAN 215 – Introduction to Spanish Studies for Heritage Speakers – 3 credits
August 15, 2024 – May 16, 2025
- Offered by University of Nebraska at Kearney
In-person – adjunct faculty in area, from the University of Nebraska at Kearney to Crete High School, Crete, NE
 - HIST 231 – World History Since 1600 – 3 credits
August 15, 2024 – May 16, 2025

Gary Timm presented the Third Quarter Budget Report

Dr. Baumgartner introduced Gary Timm, Chief Finance Officer, to present the Third Quarter Budget Report as of March 31, 2024. Mr. Timm gave updates on the status of Administrative Funds, the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Program (NOG), Community College Gap Assistance Program, Access College Early Scholarship (ACE), Guaranty Recovery Program, and the Community College American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grants.



Dr. Baumgartner discussed legislative bills that are of interest to the Commission, noting most of those bills have been marked “indefinitely postponed.” Bills that did not pass will need to be reintroduced as new bills next year. Overall, very few bills that affect postsecondary education were passed. Dr. Baumgartner noted any sales tax proposals that include taxing lottery sales will affect the amount available to the CCPE financial aid programs.

Staff happenings

Dr. Baumgartner reported that he and other staff members continue to attend meetings and work on the implementation of the new Excellence in Teaching program, Career Readiness and Dual Credit Education program, and the Door to College Scholarship program. Dr. Baumgartner stated he will attend the Education Commission of the States National Forum and the SHEEO annual meetings in DC in July. He has been appointed to a Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) ad hoc committee on program development and will attend their Executive Committee meeting in St. Louis in June, along with Commissioner Frison.

Dr. Baumgartner along with Dr. Kathleen Fimple, Academic Programs Officer, continue to attend the Nebraska Postsecondary Education Consortium meetings, which are related to requirements for prison education programs that can serve Pell-eligible students. Dr. Fimple will attend the Midwest SARA meeting in Chicago in June.

Dr. Baumgartner stated that Jill Heese, Research Director, and J. Ritchie Morrow, Financial Aid Officer, will present the *2024 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report* to several Doane University graduate classes in June.

Dr. Baumgartner introduced Mr. Morrow to provide current information on the new Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application. He stated that Mr. Morrow continues to work with the Nebraska FAFSA Task Force, which includes EducationQuest, Nebraska Department of Education, several high school counselors and administrators, and foundation representatives.

Mr. Morrow presented a handout on current FAFSA information and noted we have a system that can track FAFSA results for currently enrolled 12th grade students. The report displays graphs of the number of completed vs submitted FAFSAs and the percentage of submitted FAFSA’s by gender. Mr. Morrow answered questions from the Commissioners.

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.

*Public Hearing on Academic Programs
Committee Items*

*Dr. David Jackson, University of
Nebraska*

Academic Programs Committee

Commissioner Headrick

*University of Nebraska at Kearney –
Proposal for a New Instructional
Program – Media Studies, BS*

*Dr. Kathleen Fimple Presented the
proposal*

*Dr. Nanette Hogg and Dr. Julie Lanz,
University of Nebraska at Kearney*

Committee recommendation

*University of Nebraska at Kearney –
Proposal for a New Instructional
Program – Media Studies, BS approved*

*Fee Schedule for Private, Out-of-State,
and SARA Institutions*

Dr. Fimple presented the fee schedule

Committee recommendation

*Fee Schedule for Private, Out-of-State
and SARA Institutions approved*

PUBLIC HEARING ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE ITEMS

Dr. David Jackson, Vice Provost from the University of Nebraska, came before the Commission to provide context on the list of discontinued programs at University of Nebraska locations. He stated that representatives from the University were present to answer any questions regarding the Bachelor of Science in Media Studies new program proposal.

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

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Commissioner Headrick, Committee Chair, introduced Dr. Fimple to present the agenda items for the Academic Programs Committee.

University of Nebraska at Kearney - Proposal for a New Instructional Program - Media Studies, BS

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal, noting the proposed Bachelor of Science degree in Media Studies is a revision of four existing related BA/BS degrees. Those four degrees would become areas of emphasis. Dr. Fimple stated there is a high demand for the program and that all physical facilities and faculty are currently in place.

Dr. Nanette Hogg, Chair for the Department of Communication, and Dr. Julie Lanz, Associate Dean, of the UNK College of Arts & Sciences, discussed the program proposal and answered questions from the Commissioners.

Committee recommendation: That the Commission approve the Bachelor of Science in Media Studies at UNK.

Commissioner Headrick, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska at Kearney’s Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Media Studies, BS. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Griffin, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, O’Holleran, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. The motion carried.

Fee Schedule for Private, Out-of-State, and SARA Institutions

Dr. Fimple presented the fee schedule noting that fees are charged based on administrative costs and reviewed every two years by the Commission.

Committee recommendation: That the Commission approve the fees for private postsecondary institution and SARA applications to become effective July 1, 2024.

Commissioner Headrick, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the Fee Schedule for Private, Out-of-

State and SARA Institutions. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Griffin, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, O'Holleran, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. The motion carried.

Annual Reports from Private or Out-of-State Institutions

Dr. Fimple presented the report

Annual Reports from Private or Out-of-State Institutions

Dr. Fimple presented the annual report on the following institutions holding a recurrent authorization to operate in Nebraska:

- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- North Park Theological Seminary
- Life Chiropractic College West
- Osiri University

Report on Institutional Activities Relating to Existing Programs

Report on Institutional Activities Relating to Existing Programs

Dr. Fimple provided information on the following program changes:

Reasonable and Moderate Extensions

Reasonable and Moderate Extensions

- MCC - Food Studies, Certificate of Achievement
- MCC - Foodservice Fundamentals, Career Certificate
- MCC - Sustainable Baking Management, AAS
- MCC - Bakeshop Operations, Career Certificate
- MCC - Sustainable Culinary Management, AAS
- MCC - Basic Gastronomy, Career Certificate
- MCC - Sustainable Food Systems, Career Certificate
- MCC - Restaurant Operation, Career Certificate
- MCC - Hospitality Leadership, Certificate of Achievement
- MCC – Horticulture, AAS
- MCC - Horticulture Science, Certificate of Achievement
- MCC - Market Farming, Career Certificate
- MCC - Plant ID, Career Certificate
- MCC - Landscape Design, AAS
- MCC - Landscape Design, Certificate of Achievement
- MCC - Landscape Maintenance and Management, Career Certificate
- MCC - Floral Design, Career Certificate
- MCC - Mopar Career Automotive Program, AAS
- MCC - Subaru Career Automotive Program, AAS
- MCC - Introductory Welding Pathway, Career Certificate
- MCC - Software Testing and Automation, Career Certificate
- MCC - Computer Technology Transfer - Cybersecurity, AS
- MCC - Criminal Justice Transfer, AS

Program Name Changes

- MCC - Commercial Refrigeration Technology, Career Certificate, to *Commercial HVAC/R Technology, Career Certificate*
- MCC - Refrigeration Technology, Certificate of Achievement, to *Commercial HVAC/R Technology, Certificate of Achievement*
- MCC - General Studies, AAS, to *Focus Area Exploration, AAS*
- SCC - Electronic System Technician, Certificate, to *Electronic Systems Technology, Electronic System Technician, Certificate*
- SCC - Robotics and Automation, Certificate, to *Automation and Robotics, Certificate*
- SCC - Horticulture & Turfgrass Management AAS, Horticulture Focus to *Landscape Production Focus.*
- SCC - Polysomnographic Technology Certificate to *Polysomnographic (Sleep) Technology Certificate.*
- UNO - Center for Afghanistan Studies to *the Center for Afghanistan and Regional Studies*
- UNMC - Genetics, Cell Biology, and Anatomy, MS, to *Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology, MS*
- UNMC - Pathology and Microbiology, MS, to *Immunology, Pathology, and Infectious Diseases, MS*

Discontinued Programs

- MCC - Diesel Technology - Power Generation, AAS
- MCC - Culinary Arts & Management - Baking and Pastry Option, AAS
- MCC - Culinary Arts & Management - Culinary Arts Option, AAS
- MCC - Hospitality and Restaurant Leadership - Food and Event Management, AAS
- MCC - Hospitality and Restaurant Leadership – Hospitality Entrepreneurship, AAS
- MCC - Baking and Pastry, Certificate of Achievement
- MCC - Culinary Arts and Management, Certificate of Achievement
- MCC - Culinary Arts Foundations, Career Certificate
- MCC - Manage First, Career Certificate
- MCC - Horticulture Management, AAS
- MCC - Floriculture, AAS
- MCC - Grounds Management, AAS
- MCC - Landscape Design, AAS
- MCC - Small Market Farming, AAS
- MCC - Horticulture, Certificate of Achievement
- MCC - Arboriculture, Career Certificate

Discontinued Programs continued

MCC - Floriculture, Career Certificate
MCC - Greenhouse Production and Propagation, Career Certificate
MCC - Grounds Management, Career Certificate
MCC - Landscape Design, Career Certificate
MCC - Nursery and Retail Management, Career Certificate
MCC - Small Market Farming, Career Certificate
UNK - Journalism, BA, BS *
UNK - Advertising and Public Relations, BA, BS *
UNK - Sports Communications, BA, BS *
UNK - Multimedia, BA, BS *
UNL - Space Law, JSD
UNL - Applied Climate Science, BS *
UNL - Water Science, BS *
UNL - Veterinary Science, MS *
UNMC - Community Oriented Primary Care, Certificate
UNMC - Medicine, BS
UNMC - Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, PhD *
UNMC - Cancer Research, PhD *
UNMC - Cellular and Integrative Physiology, PhD *
UNMC - Genetics, Cell Biology, and Anatomy, PhD *
UNMC - Pathology and Microbiology, PhD *
UNMC - Pharmacology and Experimental Neuroscience, PhD *
UNL/UNMC - Master of Public Health, Joint Juris Doctorate (JD)

*Institution Withdrawing from
Nebraska Authorization*

Institution Withdrawing from Nebraska Authorization

Mission University, authorized for an administrative office in Omaha, will not seek reauthorization when the current authorization expires August 1, 2024

Eliminated Center

Eliminated Center

UNL - National Center for Research in Economic Education

* will become an emphasis, option, specialization, or focus area in a related program

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

Chair Von Behren called for a break at 11:25 a.m. The meeting resumed at 11:35 a.m.

Commissioner Wilson

Jill Heese presented the 2024 Factual
Look at Higher Education in Nebraska
– Degrees and Other Awards
Conferred

Executive Committee

Proposed Agency Budget FYE
6/30/2025

Mr. Timm presented the proposed
agency budget

Committee recommendation

Proposed Agency Budget FYE
6/30/2025 approved

Approval of the 2024-2025 Salary of
the Executive Director

Motion, second, and approval made to
enter into closed session

PLANNING AND CONSUMER INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Commissioner Wilson, Committee Chair, introduced Jill Heese, Research Director, to present the *2024 Factual Look at Higher Education in Nebraska – Degrees and Other Awards Conferred*.

Ms. Heese delivered a PowerPoint presentation on the *2024 Factual Look at Higher Education in Nebraska: Degrees and Other Awards Conferred*. The report provides a statewide statistical analysis that focuses 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 up 1.7% over the last year. A Key Takeaways summary was added to the 2024 report. 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>.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Proposed Agency Budget FYE 6/30/2025

Mr. Timm presented the Proposed Agency Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, noting that the state appropriates funding for agencies on a two-year basis. He stated if we don't spend the appropriated funds in the first year of the biennium the dollars are carried over.

Committee Recommendation: That the Commission approve the *Agency Budget for July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025*, as presented in the report.

Vice Chair Von Behren, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to approve the Proposed Agency Budget Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Griffin, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, O'Holleran, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. The motion carried.

Approval of the 2024-2025 Salary of the Executive Director

Chair Von Behren made a motion 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 Dr. Michael Baumgartner, who has not requested a public hearing, for the purpose of discussing the executive director's salary. Commissioner O'Holleran seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Griffin, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, O'Holleran, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. The motion carried.

Chair Von Behren called for a break to pick up lunch boxes from 12:25 p.m. to 12:33 p.m.

Commissioners enter into closed session at 12:34 p.m.

Chair Von Behren requested that staff and guests leave the room while the Commission goes into closed session to discuss the salary of the executive director recommended by the Executive Committee.

The Commission entered into closed session at 12:34 p.m.

Closed session ended by unanimous vote at 12:50 p.m.

The Commission ended the closed session at 12:50 p.m. by a unanimous vote.

Chair Von Behren stated that formal action must be taken in open session on the executive director's salary recommendation, which is a 5.5 percent increase.

Executive Director salary increase for 2024-2025 approved

Commissioner Headrick made a motion to approve the proposed 5.5 percent salary increase for 2024-2025 for Executive Director Baumgartner. Commissioner Daniels seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Griffin, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, O'Holleran, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. The motion carried.

Next Commission meeting is July 26, 2024

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Commission meeting will be Friday, July 26, 2024, 8:30 a.m. at Chadron State College, Chadron, Nebraska.

Commissioner Comments

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Daniels stated it is nice to have Commissioner Lauritzen present at the meeting. Commissioner Lauritzen has been with the Commission for 24 years.

Chair Von Behren adjourned the meeting at 12:56 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Von Behren adjourned the meeting at 12:56 p.m.