

DRAFT MINUTES

WEST VIRGINIA HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY COMMISSION

April 1, 2016

I. Call to Order

Chairman Bruce Berry convened a meeting of the Higher Education Policy Commission at 9:00 a.m. in the David K. Hendrickson Conference Center of the West Virginia Regional Technology Park, 2000 Union Carbide Drive, South Charleston, West Virginia. The following Commission members were present: Jenny Allen, Bruce Berry, Kathy Eddy, Michael Farrell, Kay Goodwin, Andrew Payne, and Butch Pennington. Absent were: John Leon and Michael Martirano. Also in attendance were institutional presidents, higher education staff, and others.

II. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the minutes of the meetings held on November 12 and November 20, 2015, and January 14, 2016. Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

III. Chairman's Report

Chairman Berry welcomed Commission members and the audience to the meeting. He remarked that the Commission's purpose to serve as a shield is not taken lightly by its members, and institutions can depend on the Commission for the services they need. He pointed out that the Commission will continue to support the mission of the state colleges and universities and in turn expects the institutions' collaboration.

A. Formation of Nominating Committee

Chairman Berry announced the members of the Nominating Committee charged with recommending a slate of officers for the July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017 term. The Committee consists of Secretary Goodwin as Chair and Commissioners Farrell and Leon.

IV. Chancellor's Report

Dr. Paul Hill, Chancellor, reported on the recent activities of the Commission's Students Services and Financial Aid Divisions to promote access to higher education. Chancellor Hill then provided an overview of the 2016 legislative activity related to higher education and stated that Commission staff is monitoring the status of the state budget as the legislature continues to work to pass the Fiscal Year 2017 budget bill. Several Commissioners remarked on the budget deficit.

V. Council of Presidents' Report

Dr. Kendra Boggess, President of Concord University, reported on behalf of the Council. She stated that the presidents are looking at institutional operations to deal with the current state budget deficit. She further stated that the presidents were concerned over the possible decrease in state funding for the PROMISE Scholarship as many students depend on it to finance their education. President Boggess remarked that the institutions continue to grapple with the implementation of OASIS which is extremely taxing, demanding a great amount of staff time. She relayed the presidents' concern over legislation recently passed allowing the use of concealed weapons and the effect it will have on their campuses.

VI. Annual Reports from Constituent Groups

A. Advisory Council of Classified Employees

The Council did not present a report.

B. Advisory Council of Faculty

Dr. Roy Nutter, Chair of the Advisory Council of Faculty, briefed the Commission on issues of concern to the faculty, particularly possible budget reductions to their institutions and to the Public Employees Insurance Agency. Dr. Nutter stated that raises to the insurance premiums may prompt faculty to choose a different health care plan under the Affordable Care Act.

C. Advisory Council of Students

The Council did not present a report.

VII. Presentation of Classified Employee Compensation Market Study

Ms. Patricia Clay, Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, gave an update on the development of the Classified Employee Compensation Market Study. Ms. Clay explained that with the assistance of Mercer, the external consultant hired to assist with the completion of the study, the Commission and Council completed the classified compensation market study in compliance with the established deadline. The results of the study were presented to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability on February 5, 2016. Lyn Harper, principal consultant from Mercer, provided additional information on the work that has been completed including a timeline and overview of important next steps.

VIII. Presentation of Resolution

Chairman Berry read and presented a resolution to Dr. Brian Hemphill who has resigned the presidency of West Virginia State University effective June 30, 2016, to become the president of Radford University. Chairman Berry commended the President on his distinguished and productive service to the

University and its community and wished him great success on his next endeavor. He presented Dr. Hemphill with a memento from West Virginia.

IX. Access

A. Approval of Fiscal Year 2017 Distribution Plan for the West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program

Mr. Brian Weingart, Senior Director of Financial Aid, gave an overview of the proposed distribution plan.

Commissioner Goodwin moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Distribution Plan for the West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

B. Approval of Eligibility Requirements, Annual Award Amount, and Summer Awards for the PROMISE Scholarship Program

Director Weingart gave an overview of the proposed action.

Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves proposed eligibility requirements, the annual award amount, and summer awards for the PROMISE Scholarship Program.

Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

C. Approval of the Bachelor of Science in Data Analytics

Dr. Corley Dennison, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, gave an overview of the proposed degree.

Commissioner Goodwin moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Bachelor of Science in Data Analytics for Shepherd University, effective August 2016. This approval expires in two years from the date of Commission approval if the program is not fully implemented at that time.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

D. Approval of the Bachelor of Arts in Global Studies

Vice Chancellor Dennison gave an overview of the proposed degree offering.

Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Bachelor of Arts in Global Studies for Shepherd University, effective August 2016. This approval expires in two years from the date of Commission approval if the program is not fully implemented at that time.

Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

E. Approval of the Major in Early Intervention Education within the Elementary Education Program

Vice Chancellor Dennison gave an overview of the proposed degree offering.

Commissioner Goodwin moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the major in Early Intervention Education leading to a Pre-K Special Education Certification at West Liberty University, effective August 2016. This approval expires in two years from the date of Commission approval if the certification is not fully implemented at that time.

Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

F. Approval of Reading Specialist Certification

Vice Chancellor Dennison gave an overview of the proposed certification.

Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Reading Specialist Certification, within the Master of Arts in Education at West Liberty University, effective August 2016. This approval expires in two years from the date of Commission approval if the certification is not fully implemented at that time.

Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

G. Approval of Master of Education in Instructional Leadership Program

Vice Chancellor Dennison gave an overview of the proposed master degree.

Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission

approves the Master of Education in Instructional Leadership (MEIL) at West Virginia State University, effective August 2016. This approval expires in two years from the date of Commission approval if the program is not fully implemented at that time.

Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- H. Approval of Reauthorization of Lindsey Wilson College to Offer Baccalaureate and Master's Degree Programs at Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College

Dr. Mark Stotler, Director of Academic Programming, gave an overview of the proposed reauthorization.

Commissioner Pennington moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the request of Lindsey Wilson College to continue to offer a Bachelor of Arts in Human Services and Counseling and a Master of Education in Counseling and Human Development at Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College extending through June 30, 2017.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

X. Success

- A. Approval of Revisions of the Core Coursework Transfer Agreement (CCTA)

Vice Chancellor Dennison gave an overview of the proposed revisions.

Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the revisions to the Core Coursework Transfer Agreement requiring a transcript brand on approved courses.

Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- B. Update on Transfer Software

Vice Chancellor Dennison gave an update on DegreeWorks Transfer Equivalency, the new course transfer software package. Dr. Dennison explained that by utilizing this software, institutions will be able to offer clear and specific detail for each course they offer, are able to provide a uniform method across the state system, and will be able to determine if the course aligns at the seventy percent level. These initiatives will aid institutions in their response to the mandate of West Virginia Code §18B-14-2.

C. National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements

Dr. Stotler gave an update on the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA), the voluntary, nationwide initiative among member states that establishes comparable national standards for interstate offerings of postsecondary distance education courses and programs.

D. Follow-up Report on Program Review Graduation Hours

Dr. Stotler explained that as part of the Commission's goal to reduce graduation hours for baccalaureate programs, it has requested that institutions submit follow-up reports for baccalaureate programs that exceeded 120 hours. He proceeded to identify programs at Marshall University, West Liberty University, West Virginia State University, West Virginia University, and West Virginia University Institute of Technology.

XI. Impact

A. Presentation of 2015 Higher Education Report Card

Dr. Neal Holly, Vice Chancellor for Policy and Planning, gave an overview of the 2015 Higher Education Report Card with particular focus on 2014-15 academic year undergraduate and graduate enrollment; undergraduate tuition and fees for in-state and out-of-state students; retention rates; graduation rates; degrees awarded by level; and degrees, by level, in Health, STEM, and STEM education.

B. Presentation of 2015 Health Sciences and Rural Health Report Card

Ms. Laura Boone, Director of Health Sciences Programs, gave an overview of the 2015 Health Sciences and Rural Health Report Card. She highlighted various components of the Report Card such as admissions data, licensure exam data, and student debt data from the state's three medical schools; retention data from select allied health training programs; Health Sciences Service Program and Medical Student Loan Program data; and, Rural Health Initiative program profiles.

XII. Approval of 2015 Institutional Compact Updates

Vice Chancellor Holly gave an overview of the 2015 Institutional Compact updates which have been reviewed by a team of internal and external evaluators and are now brought before the Commission for approval.

Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the 2015 Institutional Compact updates.

Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XIII. Approval of System Facilities Capital Development Plan

Dr. Edward Magee, Vice Chancellor for Finance, gave an overview of the proposed action.

Commissioner Eddy moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the System Facilities Capital Development Plan.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XIV. Approval of West Virginia State University Master Plan

Action on this item was tabled until such time as the newly elected president takes office and has reviewed and approved the university's master plan.

XV. Approval of Shepherd University's New Dormitory Construction through Public Private Partnership

Vice Chancellor Magee gave an overview of the proposed plans for the new dormitory.

Commissioner Pennington moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission delegates to the Chancellor final approval of the plan for the construction of a new housing facility at Shepherd University and any relevant documents associated with the financing and construction of the project.

Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XVI. Approval of Fiscal Year 2015 Consolidated Audit

Vice Chancellor Magee gave an overview of the 2015 consolidated audit.

Commissioner Eddy, Chair of the Commission's Finance Audit Committee, stated that some institutions were delayed in submitting their audit results. She asked that institutions inform the Chancellor when their boards of governors have met with their auditors and submit their audit results in writing.

Commissioner Farrell expressed concern over some institutions lack of cash-on-hand and asked that Commissioner Eddy along with Chancellor Hill and Vice Chancellor Magee develop a series of pertinent questions for the institutions to respond with their current financial position. Chairman Berry suggested that the institutions routinely update their boards of governors regarding their financial status.

There being no further questions or remarks, the Commissioners proceeded to take action.

Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission accepts the audited financial report for the Higher Education Fund for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2015.

Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XVII. Approval of Fiscal Year 2017 Higher Education Resource Assessment

Vice Chancellor Magee gave an overview of the proposed Higher Education Resource Assessment.

Commissioner Eddy moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Fiscal Year 2017 Higher Education Resource Assessment.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XVIII. Institutional Capital Assessments for Fiscal Year 2017

Vice Chancellor Magee gave an overview of the proposed assessments.

Commissioner Eddy moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the institutional capital assessments for Fiscal Year 2017 as shown in Table 2 of the agenda.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XIX. Additional Board Action and Comment

No additional items were presented or comments offered.

XX. Adjournment

There being no further business, Commissioner Farrell moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Bruce L. Berry, Chairman

Kathy Eddy, Secretary