

MINUTES

WEST VIRGINIA HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY COMMISSION

June 23, 2017

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, 2000 Union Carbide Drive, South Charleston, West Virginia. The following Commission members were present: Jenny Allen, Bruce Berry, Robert Brown, Kathy Eddy, Michael Farrell, Steven Paine, and Andrew Payne. Also in attendance were Chancellor Paul Hill, institutional presidents, higher education staff, and others.

II. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Farrell moved to approve the minutes of the meetings held on January 25, February 3, and April 4, 2017. Commissioner Payne seconded the motion. Motion passed.

III. Chairman's Report

Chairman Berry welcomed Commission members and the audience to the meeting. He announced the retirement of Fairmont State University President Maria Bennett Rose and Glenville State College President Peter Barr. He praised both presidents for their conscientious dedication to their institutions. He read resolutions for President Rose and President Barr and presented Dr. Rose with a memento from the Policy Commission.

Thereafter, Commissioner Farrell read a resolution for Chairman Berry whose term as member of the Policy Commission is expiring. He presented Dr. Berry with a memento from the Policy Commission.

In his farewell to the Policy Commission, Dr. Berry reminisced about his beginning and trajectory as chairman. He praised the Policy Commission members and staff for their hard work and commitment. Addressing the presidents, he commended their diligence, positive outlook, and advocacy for their students to succeed at all levels. Recognizing Commissioner Farrell in his new post as chairman, Dr. Berry acknowledged his great grasp of education and willingness to serve the State of West Virginia. He then proceeded with the agenda.

A. Nominating Committee Report and Election of Officers

Commissioner Allen, Nominating Committee Chair, reported that the committee recommends Michael Farrell to serve as Chairman, John Leon as Vice Chairman, and Kathy Eddy as Secretary. The recommended individuals

are willing to serve if approved by the Commission.

Commissioner Payne moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission elects the slate of officers for Fiscal Year 2017 as proposed by the Nominating Committee.

Commissioner Payne seconded the motion. Motion passed.

B. Oath of Office

Chairman Berry administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Robert Brown, the newly elected chairman of the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education.

C. 2018 Meeting Schedule

Chairman Berry announced the Commission's schedule of meetings for year 2018.

IV. Chancellor's Report

Dr. Paul Hill, Chancellor, reported on recent activities organized by the Policy Commission's Division of Student Affairs which included the GEAR UP Career Academy, College Decision Day, Student Leadership Conference, and Gear Up U. The Gear Up U summit was held at Concord University and attended by 150 high school sophomores. The University awarded each participating student a \$4,000 scholarship to attend Concord.

Chancellor Hill further reported on the increase in the college-going rate for Policy Commission institutions; the PROMISE Scholarships awarded to more than 3,500 students, with more awards being made as additional ACT/SAT scores are received; the Health Sciences Service Program awards to 12 students for more than \$285,000; and the budget reductions that higher education will experience for Fiscal Year 2017-18 as a result of action taken during the special session of the Legislature.

To end, Chancellor Hill bid farewell to Chairman Berry expressing great gratitude for his service, mentorship and friendship. He thanked retiring Presidents Barr and Rose for their hard work on behalf of their institutions and education in West Virginia.

V. Council of Presidents' Report

Dr. Kendra Boggess, President of Concord University and Council of Presidents' Chair, thanked Chairman Berry, Chancellor Hill and the Commission staff for their

support and advocacy on behalf of the institutions at the recent special session of the Legislature. She reported that the presidents are united in their efforts to work with the Legislature. She shared their concerns with House Bill 2815 and its impact on the campuses. Dr. Boggess stated that most institutions have resolved their tuition changes at this point and added that the campuses are experiencing good graduation rates. She thanked retiring Presidents Barr and Rose for their contributions to the Council and looks forward to working with the new presidents.

VI. Updates from Constituent Groups

A. Advisory Council of Classified Employees

Ms. Amy Pitzer, Chair of the Advisory Council of Classified Employees, expressed appreciation for the work being done for staff at the system level. She reported that new Council members are being trained so they can serve their institutions and constituents well. She urged the Policy Commission to guide the presidents in the interpretation of recently passed personnel legislation adding that the Council expects fairness, accountability, transparency and credibility through its implementation process. She invited the Commissioners and Chancellor to participate in the Council's annual meeting in July.

B. Advisory Council of Faculty

Dr. Mary Beth Beller, Chair of the Advisory Council of Faculty, reported on issues of concern to faculty statewide such as the continued development for faculty and curriculum and the need to appropriate HERA funds to continue funding of the following programs: FACDIS, the West Virginia Consortium for Faculty and Course Development in International Studies; the John A. Maxwell Scholars Diplomat Program, which sends faculty to Washington D.C. to meet with policy makers and experts in world affairs; and the Great Teachers Seminar, which is held every summer and has helped approximately 625 faculty in West Virginia to become better professors. Chair Beller expressed appreciation to the Policy Commission for its support of international education projects, particularly with the J-1 Visa requirements for professors; the initiation of the Global West Virginia initiative; the operation of the www.StudyWV.org; the transfer and articulation initiative; and the student completion initiative. Chancellor Hill stated that his office is advocating with legislators and the Governor to restore the needed funding for the programs.

C. Advisory Council of Students

Mr. William Bell, student at West Virginia University at Parkersburg and Chair of the Advisory Council of Students, reported on the Student Leadership Conference, held in the spring with focus on student advocacy of their constituents and institutions. He expressed appreciation to the Policy Commission for supporting and promoting initiatives that benefit the students

statewide. Mr. Bell shared personal testimony regarding the high quality and diversity of programs that students can find at colleges and universities in West Virginia.

VII. Access

A. Approval of Appointment to the Higher Education Student Financial Aid Advisory Board

Mr. Brian Weingart, Senior Director of Financial Aid, requested that the item be withdrawn from the agenda.

B. Approval of Annual Reauthorization of Four-Year Degree-Granting Institutions

Dr. Mark Stotler, Director of Academic Programming, presented information regarding the proposed reauthorization.

Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Annual Reauthorization for Bluefield State College, Concord University, Fairmont State University, Glenville State College, Shepherd University, West Liberty University, West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, and West Virginia State University; Alderson Broaddus University, Appalachian Bible College, Bethany College, Catholic Distance University, Davis and Elkins College, Future Generations Graduate School, Ohio Valley University, University of Charleston, West Virginia Wesleyan College, Wheeling Jesuit University; American Public University System, Salem International University, and Strayer University.

Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

C. Approval of Reciprocity Agreement between West Virginia and Ohio

Dr. Stotler presented information regarding the proposed reciprocity agreement.

Commissioner Payne moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the tuition reciprocity agreement between West Virginia and Ohio involving West Virginia University, West Virginia University at Parkersburg, West Virginia Northern Community College, Belmont Technical College, Eastern Gateway Community College, and Washington State Community College until June 30, 2019.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

D. Approval of Master of Science in Data Analytics and Information Systems

Dr. Corley Dennison, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, presented information regarding the proposed program.

Commissioner Eddy moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Master of Science in Data Analytics and Information Systems program at Shepherd University for implementation in fall 2017. This approval expires 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.

E. Approval of Bachelor of Arts in Contemporary Theater Studies

Vice Chancellor Dennison presented information regarding the proposed program.

Commissioner Payne moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Bachelor of Arts in Contemporary Theater Studies at Shepherd University for implementation in the fall of 2017. This approval expires 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.

F. Approval for Marshall University to Offer Courses at a New Location

Vice Chancellor Dennison presented information regarding the proposed approval.

Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves Marshall University's request to physically offer courses on the Montgomery campus of BridgeValley Community and Technical College to facilitate the completion of the Regents Bachelor of Arts degree, effective fall 2017.

Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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

Dr. Stotler provided an overview of the proposed approval.

Commissioner Payne 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, 2019.

Further Resolved, that this extension is intended to allow for the admission of one final cohort with an anticipated completion in spring 2019.

Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

VIII. Success

A. Presentation from Chancellor's Scholars

Chancellor Hill reported that West Virginia University requested to postpone the presentation by the Chancellor's Scholars to a later meeting of the Policy Commission.

B. Report on Implementation of Co-requisite Math and English in the Four-Year Institutions

Vice Chancellor Dennison reported on the three-year effort initiated by the Commission and embraced by the institutions that has led to a dramatic improvement in pass rates for gateway Math and English courses. Institutions are well on their way of meeting the goal of 80 percent of all students needing remediation to be in co-requisite courses by the fall of 2018 and 100 percent of all students to be in co-requisite delivery by 2019. Dr. Dennison stated that as the institutions fully implement co-requisite, he expects to see continued increases in pass rates across the board with subsequent increases in retention and graduation rates.

C. Presentation of New Program Post-Approval Audits

Dr. Stotler reported that in response to Series 11, Procedural Rule, Submission of Proposals for Academic Programs and the Monitoring and Discontinuance of Existing Programs, which provides that "all proposals approved by the Higher Education Policy Commission shall be reviewed via a post-approval audit three years after the initial approval was received,"

programs were reviewed at Fairmont State University, West Liberty University, and West Virginia University at Parkersburg. He provided summaries of the programs up for review.

IX. Impact

A. Biennial Productivity Review of 2013 Probationary Programs

Dr. Stotler presented a summary of the programs reviewed and recommended action.

Commissioner Payne moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission recommends the termination of three programs that fail to meet the productivity standards as provided in Series 10, Policy Regarding Program Review.

Further Resolved, That this recommendation be forwarded to the appropriate institutional governing boards for final action and that the action taken be reported to the Chancellor.

Commissioner Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

B. Program Productivity Review

Dr. Stotler summarized the programs identified through the productivity audit and the recommended action.

Commissioner Payne moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission recommends to the respective institutional governing boards that the designated low-productivity programs be placed on probationary status in accordance with Series 10, Procedural Rule, Policy Regarding Program Review.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

C. Approval of Revisions to Series 41, Procedural Rule, Health Sciences Service Program

Mr. Dakota Morris, Coordinator of Grants and Research Evaluation for the Division of Health Sciences, provided a summary of the proposed changes to the rule.

Commissioner Eddy moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the revisions to Series 41, Procedural Rule, Health Sciences Service Program, to be filed with the Secretary of State for a thirty-day public comment period, and if no substantive comments are received, that the Commission extends its final approval.

Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

X. Fiscal Year 2016 Consolidated Audit Presentation

Dr. Edward Magee, Vice Chancellor for Finance, presented a summary of the audit process and financial results.

Commissioner Payne 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, 2016.

Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XI. Approval of Institution Capital Assessments for Fiscal Year 2018

Vice Chancellor Magee presented information regarding the requested approval.

Commissioner Payne moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the institution capital assessments for Fiscal Year 2018.

Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XII. Approval of Fiscal Year 2018 Higher Education Resource Assessment

Vice Chancellor Magee presented information regarding the requested approval.

Commissioner Eddy moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Fiscal Year 2018 Higher Education Resource Assessment.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XIII. Approval of Campus Development Plan Amendment

Vice Chancellor Magee presented information regarding the proposed approval.

Commissioner Eddy moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, that the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Glenville State College Campus Development Plan amendment as submitted.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XIV. Approval of Glenville State College Debt Refunding

Vice Chancellor Magee presented information regarding the proposed approval.

Commissioner Eddy moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves and confirms the 2017 Glenville State College bond refunding and redemption as submitted. If the final agreement requires additional conditions, they must be presented to the Chancellor who is hereby delegated the authority to approve the final documents.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XV. Executive Session under Authority of West Virginia Code §6-9A-4 to Discuss Personnel Issues

Commissioner Payne offered a motion to convene in Executive Session under the authority of West Virginia Code §6-9A-4 to discuss personnel issues. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

After deliberations, the Commission reconvened in open session. Commissioner Payne moved to rise from Executive Session. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Chairman Berry explained that no decisions were made or actions taken during Executive Session.

XVI. Additional Board Action Items and Comment

A. Approval of Interim President at Fairmont State University

Chancellor Hill presented information regarding the requested approval.

Commissioner Eddy moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Employment Letter Agreement for Stephen B. Jones, as Interim President, as requested by the Fairmont State University Board of Governors.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

B. Approval of Presidential Contract at Bluefield State College

Chancellor Hill presented information regarding the requested approval.

Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Presidential Contract of Marsha V. Krotseng, as requested by the Bluefield State College Board of Governors.

Commissioner Payne seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XVII. Adjournment

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


Michael J. Farrell, Chairman