

MINUTES

WEST VIRGINIA HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY COMMISSION

November 18, 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 Commissioners were present: Jenny Allen, Bruce Berry, Kathy Eddy, Michael Farrell, Kay Goodwin, and Andrew Payne. Absent were: Commissioners John Leon, Michael Martirano, and Clarence Pennington. Also in attendance were institutional presidents, higher education staff, and others.

II. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Goodwin moved to approve the minutes of the meetings held on July 12, July 18, and October 31, 2016. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

III. Chairman's Report

Chairman Berry welcomed Commission members and the audience to the meeting. He paid tribute to Commissioner Kay Goodwin, who is retiring as Cabinet Secretary of Education and the Arts. Dr. Berry praised Secretary Goodwin for her indefatigable commitment to students, and her many endeavors on behalf of all West Virginians. He presented her with a resolution and memento from the Commission.

IV. Chancellor's Report

Dr. Paul Hill, Chancellor, echoed the words of Chairman Berry and thanked Secretary Goodwin for her service to education, saying that she was instrumental in the creation of the EPSCoR initiative and the PROMISE Scholarship. Chancellor Hill reported on recent activities hosted by the Commission office including the GEAR UP Student Leadership Academy, College Application and Exploration Week, Compact Con, Co-Requisite Developmental Education Academy, and the Erma Byrd Higher Education Center Job Fair. Chancellor Hill stated that since October 1, the FAFSA and state-level scholarships are available for filing. He briefed the Commissioners on the status of Commission initiatives 15 to Finish Campaign and the 5 Star Challenge, and proceeded to highlight the findings of the Higher Education to Work report, the Economic Impact of Higher Education in West Virginia Study, and the Annual Open Doors Report. Dr. Hill commented that higher education faces a tough budget during the coming fiscal year.

V. Council of Presidents' Report

Dr. Kendra Boggess, President of Concord University and Chair of the Council of Presidents, reported on the strong commitment of the presidents to diversity in their institutions; the challenges campuses face with the implementation of OASIS, which continues to demand extra staff time and effort; and the effects the budgetary cuts will have on areas such as admissions and housing. President Boggess stated that all presidents are determined to work together in the upcoming legislative session, striving to educate new legislators regarding their institutions and issues affecting the higher education community. Dr. Boggess reiterated that closing institutions is not the answer to alleviate budgetary constraints.

VI. Annual Reports from Constituent Groups

A. Advisory Council of Classified Employees

Ms. Amy Pitzer, Chair of the Advisory Council of Classified Employees, briefed the Commission on issues of concern to classified employees statewide. She urged the Commissioners to offer support and advocate for the staff at the legislative level regarding the devastating effect that proposed changes to PEIA will have on employees and retirees. Ms. Pitzer asked the Commission to work on a policy to guide the institutional boards of governors with drafting policies in regards to furloughs. She further asked that furloughs not be directed solely to classified staff.

B. Advisory Council of Faculty

Dr. Marybeth Beller, Vice Chair of the Advisory Council of Faculty, briefed the Commission on statewide faculty matters. She reported on the substantial contributions of faculty over the last decade. Dr. Beller asked the Commission to assist with the coordination of training for institutional administrators in the rights and ethical treatment of faculty. She stated that it is essential to include faculty in the decision-making process of drafting policies and initiatives. Dr. Beller emphasized the need to graduate students with diversified skills and to look for sources of funding as state appropriations for higher education continue to dwindle. She thanked the Commission for promoting collaboration among all institutions and for encouraging all constituencies to be a part of the process.

C. Advisory Council of Students

Mr. William Bell, Chair of the Advisory Council of Students, gave a briefing on the Council's history and mission. He update the Commissioners on issues of concern to students statewide including the possible closure of institutions, elimination of particular programs of study, cuts to financial aid, the quality and variety of courses offered, and the lack of student engagement. Mr. Bell suggested working together with the Governor and Legislature to find additional funding for higher education.

VII. Access

- A. Approval of Revisions to Series 7, Legislative Rule, West Virginia Providing Real Opportunities for Maximizing In-State Excellence (Promise) Scholarship Program

Mr. Brian Weingart, Senior Director of Financial Aid, proceeded to highlight the revisions to Series 7.

Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the proposed revisions to Series 7, Legislative Rule, West Virginia Providing Real Opportunities for Maximizing In-State Excellence (PROMISE) Scholarship Program, to be filed with the Secretary of State for the thirty-day public comment period.

Further Resolved, That staff is instructed to forward the legislative rule to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability for approval and further legislative action at the conclusion of the comment period if no substantive comments are received.

Commissioner Payne seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- B. Approval of Revisions to Series 42, Legislative Rule, West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program

Mr. Weingart gave an overview of the proposed revisions to Series 42.

Commissioner Eddy moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the proposed revisions to Series 42, Legislative Rule, West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program, to be filed with the Secretary of State for the thirty-day public comment period.

Further Resolved, That staff is instructed to forward the legislative rule to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability for approval and further legislative action at the conclusion of the comment period if no substantive comments are received.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- C. Approval of Series 11, Procedural Rule, Submission of Proposals for New Academic Programs at Public Regional Institutions and the Monitoring and Discontinuance of Existing Programs

Dr. Corley Dennison, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, gave an overview of Series 11.

Commissioner Eddy moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves Series 11, Procedural Rule, Submission of Proposals for Academic Programs at Public Regional Institutions and the Monitoring and Discontinuance of Existing Programs for final filing with the Secretary of State.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

D. Approval of Revisions to Series 13, Procedural Rule, Change in the Organization of Colleges or Schools

Mr. Bruce Walker, General Counsel, gave an overview of the proposed revisions to Series 13.

Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the proposed revisions to Series 13, Procedural Rule, Change in the Organization of Colleges or Schools, to be filed with the Secretary of State for the 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.

E. Approval of Revisions to Series 25, Procedural Rule, Residency Classification for Admission and Fee Purposes

Vice Chancellor Dennison gave an overview of the proposed revisions to Series 25.

Commissioner Payne moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the proposed revisions to Series 25, Procedural Rule, Residency Classification for Admission and Fee Purposes, to be filed with the Secretary of State for the thirty-day public comment period and if no substantive comments are received, that the Commission extends its final approval.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

VIII. Success

A. Approval of Master of Science in Dental Hygiene Program

At the request of West Liberty University, action on the proposed Master of Science in Dental Hygiene Program has been delayed to a future Commission meeting.

B. Approval of Revisions to Series 52, Legislative Rule, Annual Reauthorization of Degree-Granting Institutions

Vice Chancellor Dennison gave an overview of the proposed revisions to Series 52.

Commissioner Eddy moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the proposed revisions to Series 52, Legislative Rule, Annual Reauthorization of Degree Granting Institutions, to be filed with the Secretary of State for the thirty-day public comment period.

Further Resolved, That staff is instructed to forward the legislative rule to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability for approval and further legislative action at the conclusion of the comment period if no substantive comments are received.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

C. Report on Program Review

Vice Chancellor Dennison reported that in accordance with West Virginia Code §18B-1B-4 and §18B-2A-4 and Series 10, Procedural Rule, Policy Regarding Program Review, the institutions through their respective governing boards conducted reviews of academic programs for the 2015-2016 academic year and submitted summary reports that indicated actions taken. A total of 98 programs were reviewed during this program review cycle. Dr. Dennison explained in detail the results of the review.

IX. Impact

A. Approval of West Virginia State University Campus Development Plan

Action on the proposed campus development plan has been delayed to a future Commission meeting.

B. Report on Fall 2016 Enrollment

Dr. Neal Holly, Vice Chancellor for Policy and Planning, gave an overview of expected trend enrollment through fall 2016 for the state's public four-year institutions. He stated that the number of students aged 25 or older has decreased by 9.6 percent from the past year and 33.7 percent since 2011, as students who returned to school after the recession in 2008 have since

graduated or left their programs. The number of younger students enrolled in the state's public colleges has stayed steady for the past few years, but roughly 500 more were enrolled this year compared to last year. Final enrollment data is still in the process of being collected from the institutions and reviewed for accuracy. A report summary will be made available to the Commissioners as soon as it becomes available.

C. Master Plan and Compact Update

Vice Chancellor Holly gave a progress update on the system's master plan *Leading the Way: Access. Success. Impact*. The master plan is in its third year of implementation and has reached an important phase, as institutions will report progress concerning their ongoing strategies and plans this fall. In addition, Dr. Holly discussed the recent *Compact-Con* event the Commission hosted in Charleston which focused on increasing student success among adult learners.

X. Approval to Repeal Legislative and Procedural Rules

Chancellor Hill gave a summary of the proposed action.

Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the repeal of Title 133, Legislative Rules, Series 1 and Series 35.

Further Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the repeal of Title 133, Procedural Rules, Series 24, Series 36, Series 37, Series 44, and Series 45.

Commissioner Payne seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XI. Report on 2015 Human Resources Report Card

Ms. Patricia Clay, Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, reported that West Virginia Code §18B-7-8(a)(2) requires the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education to prepare an annual *West Virginia Higher Education Human Resources Report Card*. The report card summarizes higher education human resources metrics, expenses, and compensation data by each college and university. It is designed to compare overall staffing, HR expenses and compensation data among each of the 19 public institutions. Ms. Clay highlighted particular areas of the report card.

XII. Approval of TIAA Retirement Plan Modifications

Vice Chancellor Clay gave an overview of the proposed modifications to the TIAA Retirement Plan.

Commissioner Eddy moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves modifications to the TIAA retirement plan as described and delegates to the Chancellor, in consultation with the Finance Committee, the authority to approve final changes.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XIII. Approval of 2016 Research Trust Fund Annual Report

Dr. Jan Taylor, Director of Science and Research, highlighted key areas of the report and gave an overview of the proposed action.

Commissioner Payne moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the 2016 Research Trust Fund Annual Report and recommends submission to the Governor and the Legislature.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XIV. Approval of Revisions to Series 48, Legislative Rule, Research Trust Fund Program

Dr. Taylor gave an overview of the proposed revisions to Series 48.

Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the proposed revisions to Series 48, Legislative Rule, Research Trust Fund, to be filed with the Secretary of State for the thirty-day public comment period.

Further Resolved, That staff is instructed to forward the legislative rule to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability for approval and further legislative action at the conclusion of the comment period if no substantive comments are received.

Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XV. Approval of Fiscal Year 2017 WVNET Budget

Mr. Matthew Turner, Vice Chancellor for Administration, gave an overview of WVNET's proposed budget for 2017.

Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Fiscal Year 2017 West Virginia Network for Educational Telecomputing budget.

Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XVI. Approval of Fiscal Year 2017 Capital Project Priorities

Mr. Jim King gave an overview of the proposed capital project priorities.

Commissioner Payne moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the prioritized capital project list for Fiscal Year 2017.

Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XVII. Approval to Reallocate Series 2012 Bond Proceeds

Dr. Edward Magee, Vice Chancellor for Finance, gave an overview of the proposed reallocation of West Liberty University's Series 2012 bond proceeds.

Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the reallocation of West Liberty University's Series 2012 bond proceeds from the Health Sciences building to a project to upgrade the IT network infrastructure.

Commissioner Payne seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XVIII. Executive Session under the Authority of West Virginia Code §6-9A-4

Commissioner Eddy moved 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, Commissioner Goodwin moved to raise from Executive Session. Commissioner Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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

XIX. Additional Board Action and Comment

A. Approval of Presidential Contract at Concord University

Chancellor Hill gave an overview of the proposed action.

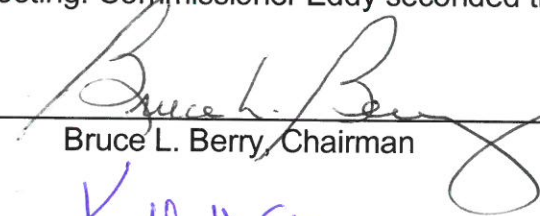
Commissioner Farrell moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Presidential Contract of Dr. Kendra Boggess as requested by the Concord University Board of Governors.

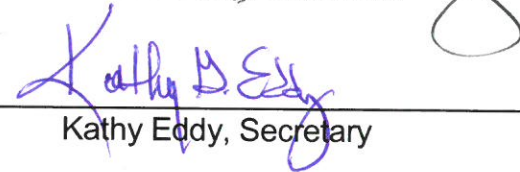
Commissioner Goodwin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XX. Adjournment

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



Bruce L. Berry, Chairman



Kathy Eddy, Secretary