

## MINUTES

### HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY COMMISSION

May 18, 2012

#### 1. Call to Order

Chairman David Hendrickson convened a meeting of the Higher Education Policy Commission at 9:00 AM in the Building 740 Auditorium at the West Virginia Regional Technology Park in South Charleston, West Virginia. The following Commission members were present: Jenny Allen, Bruce Berry, John Estep, Kay Goodwin, David Hendrickson, John Leon, and David Tyson. Absent: Bob Brown, Kathy Eddy, and Jorea Marple. Also in attendance were institutional presidents, higher education staff, and others.

#### 2. Possible Executive Session under the Authority of West Virginia Code §6-9A-4 to Discuss Personnel Issues

Dr. Berry moved to go into Executive Session under the authority of West Virginia Code §6-9A-4 to discuss personnel issues. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyson. Motion passed.

Dr. Berry moved to rise from Executive Session. Mr. Tyson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Chairman Hendrickson reported that the Commission discussed the items noted on the agenda during Executive Session, but no action was taken.

##### A. Approval of Chancellor Appointment and Compensation

Mr. Tyson moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the employment of Dr. Paul L. Hill as Chancellor and delegates to the Chairman the authority to enter into a contract with Dr. Hill consistent with the terms and conditions communicated to the Commission.

Dr. Berry seconded the motion. Motion passed.

##### B. Approval of Presidential Compensation at West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine

Dr. Berry moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the increase in presidential compensation for Dr. Michael Adelman as requested by the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine Board of

Governors consistent with the percentage increase provided to all employees.

Mr. Tyson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**C. Approval of Presidential Appointment and Compensation at West Virginia State University**

Mr. Tyson moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the presidential selection of Dr. Brian Hemphill by the West Virginia State University Board of Governors under the terms and conditions of the proposed contract and delegates to the Chancellor the authority to approve the final contract as to form on behalf of the Commission.

Dr. Berry seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**D. Approval of Presidential Contract Modification at West Virginia University**

Dr. Berry moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the presidential contract modification for Dr. James Clements as requested by the West Virginia University Board of Governors.

Mr. Tyson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Berry moved approval of the minutes of the meetings held on February 9, 2012, February 17, 2012, March 1, 2012, and May 3, 2012, as provided in the agenda materials. Mr. Tyson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**4. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Hendrickson announced that retention will be a major focus of the Commission in the coming months. Chairman Hendrickson commended Dr. Hazo Carter, President of West Virginia State University, for his longstanding commitment to the institution and the state's higher education system.

**A. Formation of Nominating Committee**

Chairman Hendrickson announced the formation of the Nominating Committee consisting of Commissioners Estep and Leon, with Secretary Goodwin as Chair. Chairman Hendrickson requested that the Nominating Committee meet and recommend a slate of officers to be considered by the full Commission during a special meeting in June.

Dr. Berry moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission elects a Nominating Committee for the selection of officers.

Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**B. 2013 Meeting Schedule**

Chairman Hendrickson announced the tentative meeting schedule for 2013: February 1, 2013, April 26, 2013, August 9, 2013, and December 6, 2013. Chairman Hendrickson noted that Ashley Schumaker, Senior Director of Board and Public Relations, will distribute the final schedule in the coming weeks to members of the Commission, institutional representatives, and the general public. The schedule will also be posted on the Commission's website.

**C. Interim Reports from Constituent Groups**

**1. Advisory Council of Classified Employees**

Ms. Amy Pitzer, Interim Chair of the Advisory Council of Classified Employees (ACCE), provided a report regarding the implementation and progress of Senate Bill 330. Ms. Pitzer noted the need to form committees to assist with further implementation of the legislation and requested an increase in clear, concise communication between Commission staff and the ACCE. Ms. Pitzer also advocated for full funding of the salary schedule for all classified employees.

**2. Advisory Council of Faculty**

Dr. Sylvia Shurbutt, member of the Advisory Council of Faculty (ACF), discussed the option of tuition waivers for faculty members who are interested in obtaining additional credits or furthering their education. Dr. Shurbutt led a discussion regarding the faculty's interest in the institutional textbook policies and practices among the campuses. Dr. Shurbutt also referenced the Great Teacher's Seminar and invited members of the Commission to attend the ACF Annual Retreat to be held in July.

**5. Chancellor's Report**

Chancellor Hill welcomed members of the Commission to the West Virginia Regional Technology Park and invited those present to visit Building 2000, the future home of Kanawha Valley Community and Technical College. Chancellor Hill also provided an update regarding the West Virginia University Institute of Technology (WVU Tech) Revitalization Committee and congratulated Carolyn Long, Campus Executive Officer, and her staff for the progress made to date on the

campus and for the overall efforts to “recruit, retain, and rebuild.”

Chancellor Hill discussed the creation of a new master plan upon the completion of the current master plan, *Charting the Future 2007-2012: A Master Plan for West Virginia Higher Education*, and reviewed the series of Regional Public Forums held in late 2011 to receive feedback from community members, higher education officials, and policymakers. Chancellor Hill noted that staff has been working to analyze the information for discussion by the Commission and the institutions.

Chancellor Hill reviewed several upcoming events of the Commission including the release of “*Educating West Virginia is Everyone’s Business*,” a report of the West Virginia College Completion Task Force; the third annual GEAR UP U! summer academy to be held at Glenville State College; the annual Board of Governors Summit; and the Student Success Summit, an event held in conjunction with the West Virginia Department of Education.

In closing, Chancellor Hill highlighted the PROMISE Scholarship Program, which has reached its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Chancellor Hill noted that during the life of the program, nearly \$315 million has been provided to 32,792 students to cover the cost of tuition and fees at eligible West Virginia institutions. According to an independent study from Columbia University, receiving the PROMISE Scholarship increased a student’s likelihood of completing college by seven percentage points.

## **6. Cost and Affordability**

### **A. Approval of Allocations of Fiscal Year 2013 State Appropriations to Institutions and Other Entities**

Dr. Ed Magee, Vice Chancellor for Finance, provided an overview of the allocations of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 state appropriations, which includes funding to institutions, financial aid, capital improvements, and health outreach programs. Dr. Magee reviewed institutional appropriations and noted that approximately \$5 million in new funds was appropriated to the Commission’s member institutions and programs for FY 2013.

Dr. Berry moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission accepts the Fiscal Year 2013 state appropriation report and approves allocations as shown in Table 2 and Table 3.

Mr. Tyson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **B. Approval of Tuition and Fees for 2012-2013 Academic Year**

Dr. Magee provided an overview of tuition and fees from state, regional, and national perspectives. Dr. Magee stated that institutions were asked to align costs with institutional and state goals regarding affordability, quality of

instruction, retention, and financial strength.

Dr. Magee noted that, with the exception of West Liberty University and West Virginia State University, institutions did not exceed a five-percent tuition increase. Dr. Magee indicated that officials from both institutions participated in budget hearings before the Commission and staff to provide a detailed overview of their proposed increases.

Vice Chairman Berry requested that dollar amounts be presented rather than percentages in order to make it easier for students and parents to understand the level of increase. Dr. Berry also commended Fairmont State University for not requiring any increases for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Dr. Berry moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves tuition and fees for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Mr. Tyson seconded the motion. Motion passed with Secretary Goodwin voting no.

### **C. Approval of Fiscal Year 2013 Institutional Capital Assessments**

Dr. Magee presented the proposed institutional assessments for debt services and facilities planning administration payments. Dr. Magee stated that Commission staff will transfer the funds from institutional accounts on September 1 and March 1 in order to make the debt service payments.

Mr. Tyson moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the institutional capital assessments for Fiscal Year 2013 as shown in Table 2.

Dr. Berry seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **D. Approval of Fiscal Year 2013 Higher Education Resource Assessment**

Dr. Magee presented the proposed Higher Education Resource Assessment (HERA) for FY 2013. Dr. Magee noted that HERA funds are utilized by the Commission to support statewide initiatives and projects as well as for the West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program. Dr. Magee stated that the HERA assessment is calculated based on fall enrollment in the current year to determine each institution's assessment for the subsequent fiscal year. Dr. Magee noted that a project listing will be presented for the Commission's review and approval at the August 10, 2012 Commission meeting.

Dr. Berry moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Fiscal Year 2013 Higher Education Resource Assessment.

Mr. Estep seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**E. Approval of Additional Funding for West Virginia State University**

Dr. Berry moved to table discussion regarding this item to a future meeting. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**F. Approval of Additional Funding for West Virginia University Institute of Technology**

Chancellor Hill introduced Ms. Carolyn Long, Campus Executive Officer, who provided a presentation regarding the institution's funding request. Chancellor Hill noted that the one-time allocation is intended to fund projects that will increase the financial stability of the institution through increased enrollment and efficiencies. Ms. Long reviewed the institution's Year 1 Recruitment and Retention Initiatives, which includes a Student Success Center, the installation of wi-fi, and a campus-wide retention plan.

Mr. Tyson moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the allocation of additional funding for various projects to West Virginia University Institute of Technology as presented.

Dr. Berry seconded the motion. Motion passed with Commissioner Allen voting no.

**G. Approval of Fiscal Year 2013 Distribution Plan for the West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program**

Mr. Brian Weingart, Senior Director of Financial Aid, stated that Series 42, the rule that regulates the West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program, allows staff to make adjustments to the award structure for the program. He noted that, during the 2011 regular session, the Legislature demonstrated a continued commitment to needy students by providing an increase of \$4 million in state appropriations for the program in FY 2012, which allowed for the maximum award to increase from \$2,100 to \$2,400. Mr. Weingart also reviewed the award process for the program.

Commissioner Leon inquired regarding any unused funds. Mr. Weingart explained that any unused funds are carried over into the next year.

Chairman Hendrickson asked if non-traditional students were also eligible for the grant. Mr. Weingart responded that adults attending college full-time are eligible and provided an overview of a separate need-based program, the Higher Education Adult Part-Time Student (HEAPS) Grant Program, which is geared toward adult learners.

Vice Chairman Berry asked how many adult students utilize [www.cfwv.com](http://www.cfwv.com). Dr. Adam Green, Senior Director of Student Success and P-20 Initiatives, indicated that 9 percent, or approximately 10,000 CFVW users are adults.

Dr. Berry moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the proposed Fiscal Year 2013 Distribution Plan for the West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program.

Dr. Leon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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

Mr. Weingart provided a detailed overview of summer awards, eligibility requirements, and the annual award amount for the PROMISE Scholarship Program. Mr. Weingart noted that \$400,000 has been allocated for summer awards and indicated that no changes have been made to the eligibility requirements. He also indicated that staff recommends a study be undertaken by the Higher Education Student Financial Aid Advisory Board to assess options for utilizing the balances that will begin accruing during the 2013-2014 academic year.

Dr. Berry moved approval of the following resolution:

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

Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

#### **I. Overview of Proposed Changes to the Health Sciences Scholarship Program**

Dr. Robert Walker, Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences, and Laura Boone, Director of Health Science Programs, provided an overview of the Health Sciences Scholarship Program. The scholarship program was created with state funding in 1995 as a recruitment initiative. The program provides awards to students enrolled in health professions at a public or private West Virginia institution in a variety of disciplines. During the 2011-2012 academic year, a total of \$200,000 was disbursed to 15 students.

Dr. Walker noted that the Division of Health Sciences, in conjunction with the statutorily-mandated Recruitment and Retention Committee of the Rural Health Advisory Panel, has evaluated the Health Sciences Scholarship Program and recommends several changes including changing the name of the program to the Health Sciences Service Program. The group also advocated for formally adding all participating professions to the statute; establishing a half-time schedule for fulfilling the service obligation; and adding language to provide the Vice Chancellor with the discretion to increase award amounts.

## **7. Learning and Accountability**

### **A. Approval of Bachelor of Science in Digital Media Design at West Liberty University**

Dr. Kathy Butler, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, presented a proposal from West Liberty University to implement a Bachelor of Science in Digital Media Design. The degree program is a 120 credit hour course of study. Dr. Butler noted that no local options exist for students in the Northern Panhandle to pursue a bachelor degree in Digital Media Design.

Dr. Butler indicated that the program will be supported by the current faculty, staff, and facilities of the institution's College of Arts and Communication. Dr. Butler also noted that the program will be subject to a post-audit review conducted by the Commission during the 2015-2016 academic year.

Secretary Goodwin asked how the program related to journalism programs at other institutions. Dr. Bill Baronak, Dean of the College of Arts and Communications, indicated that some cross-curriculum duplication exists, but that the main focus of the proposed program is very different from a traditional journalism program.

Dr. Berry moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Bachelor of Science in Digital Media Design at West Liberty University, effective August 2012.

Mr. Tyson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **B. Approval of Revised Series 20, Initial Authorization of Degree-Granting Institutions**

Dr. Butler provided an overview of Series 20, the legislative rule that outlines the procedures for the Commission to approve any institution, association, agency, or organization external to or within the state that requests approval to offer programs or credit-bearing academic courses of postsecondary education in the State of West Virginia. Dr. Butler noted that changes to the

rule were approved by the Commission in 2010; however, the rule has been revised based on the passage of Senate Bill 375 during the 2011 regular legislative session.

Dr. Butler provided an overview of an extensive informal review and comment process with many constituent groups in higher education including the four-year private colleges and universities. During the process, major revisions were made including the creation of the proposed Series 52, Annual Reauthorization of Degree-Granting Institutions.

Dr. Butler indicated that the proposed revisions strengthen the rule by defining the authority of the Commission and will help protect consumers by ensuring they are offered quality education by postsecondary providers within West Virginia.

Mr. Tyson moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves Series 20, Initial Authorization of Degree-Granting Institutions, as revised, for filing with the Secretary of State for a 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.

Dr. Berry seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **C. Approval of Proposed Series 52, Annual Reauthorization of Degree-Granting Institutions**

Dr. Butler referenced the passage of Senate Bill 375 which delegated to the Commission the responsibility and authority for establishing, monitoring, and maintaining quality standards of education at all institutions, both public and private within West Virginia, with the exception of Marshall University and West Virginia University. Dr. Butler noted that a compliance review committee would be formed with representation from independent colleges and universities in the state.

Chairman Hendrickson suggested contacting television stations to create advertisements or public service announcements and/or utilizing billboards to create awareness of the increased standards in postsecondary education.

Dr. Berry moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves Series 52, Annual Reauthorization of Degree-Granting Institutions,

for filing with the Secretary of State for a 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.

Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

#### **D. DegreeNow Progress Report**

Dr. Sarah Beasley, Director of Statewide Academic Initiatives, provided an overview of DegreeNow, which supports efforts aimed at attracting and educating more adult learners. Dr. Beasley stated that DegreeNow is a joint initiative between the Commission and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education, with support from the Lumina Foundation for Education in the amount of \$800,000 over a multi-year period, which aims to encourage adults aged 25 and older to return to college.

Dr. Beasley referenced several grant highlights over the past year including the launch of a statewide marketing campaign, NASPA Train-the-Trainer Workshops and Regional Student Services Workshops, as well as various community outreach initiatives.

#### **E. Update on Senate Bill 330 Progress**

Ms. Laura Nauman, Human Resources Project Specialist, provided a regular update regarding Senate Bill 330. She discussed the work of ModernThink, and provided information regarding a compensation and classification analysis and the promulgation of an emergency rule.

### **8. Innovation**

#### **A. Approval of Research Challenge Grant Awards**

Dr. Jan Taylor, Interim Program Director, discussed the allocation of the Research Challenge Grants. Dr. Taylor noted that 27 faculty members submitted proposals, which were reviewed by a panel of external experts. Three proposals were recommended for funding by the Science and Research Council. Funding for the projects is renewable for up to four additional years and has an initial award amount of \$400,000.

Dr. Berry moved approval of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves Research Challenge Grants to Marshall University and West Virginia University as recommended by the state Science and Research Council.

Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**9. Additional Board Action and Comment**

There was no additional board action and comment.

**10. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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David K. Hendrickson

Chairman

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Kathy Eddy

Secretary