

MINUTES

HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY COMMISSION

August 10, 2012

1. Call to Order

Chairman David Hendrickson convened a meeting of the Higher Education Policy Commission at 10:00 AM in the Building 740 Auditorium at the West Virginia Regional Technology Park in South Charleston, West Virginia. The following Commission members were present: Bruce Berry, Kathy Eddy, John Estep, David Hendrickson, John Leon, and David Tyson. Absent: Jenny Allen, Bob Brown, Kay Goodwin, and Jorea Marple. Also in attendance were institutional presidents, higher education staff, and others.

2. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Berry moved approval of the minutes of the meetings held on May 9, 2012, May 17, 2012, May 18, 2012, May 30, 2012, June 28, 2012, and July 19, 2012 as provided in the agenda materials. Ms. Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

3. Chairman's Report

A. Update on West Virginia University Institute of Technology Revitalization Committee

Chairman Hendrickson provided an overview of the West Virginia University Institute of Technology (WVU Tech) Revitalization Committee which was formed in early 2012 to review and implement the WVU Tech Revitalization Study mandated by Senate Bill 486. The purpose of the Committee is to provide guidance and support in strengthening the institution's mission by creating new opportunities to "recruit, retain, and rebuild," a major focus of Carolyn Long, WVU Tech's Campus Executive Officer. Chairman Hendrickson reported that the next Committee meeting will be held on September 20, 2012. He also noted that, at the last meeting, a third Subcommittee was established, the Efficiencies Subcommittee. Chairman Hendrickson indicated that a report regarding the work of the Committee and the Subcommittees will be drafted by December 1, 2012 and presented to the Commission as part of the December 7, 2012 regular meeting.

B. Report on Board of Governors Summit

Chairman Hendrickson provided an overview of the Board of Governors Summit, which was held on July 20 and 21, 2012. The event was attended

by a total of 95 institutional governing board members, presidents, and board staff. Chairman Hendrickson noted that the Summit's focus was completion with a keynote address from Stan Jones, President of Complete College America; a plenary panel on the final report of the West Virginia College Completion Task Force, "Educating West Virginia is Everyone's Business;" and roundtable discussions on retention and graduation initiatives and adult learner best practices.

C. Interim Reports from Constituent Groups

1. Advisory Council of Faculty

Dr. Sylvia Shurbutt, Chair of the Advisory Council of Faculty (ACF), reported that new officers were selected during the group's annual retreat, which was held in July. Dr. Shurbutt reviewed the ACF's three main goals for the upcoming academic year, which includes the following: the 120 hour/60 hour curriculum review, the Smarter Balance Consortium, and requesting additional funding from the Legislature for faculty salaries.

2. Advisory Council of Classified Employees

Ms. Amy Pitzer, Chair of the Advisory Council of Classified Employees (ACCE), provided an overview of the group's annual retreat which was held in July. She encouraged the Commission to ensure timely and full implementation of Senate Bill 330.

D. Special Recognition

Chairman Hendrickson and Chancellor Hill presented a framed copy of the Summer 2012 edition of *The Neuron* to Dr. Joe Allen. Dr. Allen is Professor of Geology and Division Chair of Natural Sciences at Concord University. He appears on the cover and is featured in the publication.

Chairman Hendrickson and Chancellor Hill presented a Blenko vase to Shelli Dronsfield, Chief of Staff at Shepherd University, in honor of President Suzanne Shipley's service as Chair of the Council of Presidents from January 2010 through June 2012.

4. Chancellor's Report

Chancellor Hill provided an overview of his first 90 days as Chancellor. During his presentation, he introduced new staff members including Chris Davies and Dr. Neal Holly and noted that Dr. Angela Bell has been named as Vice Chancellor of Policy and Planning. Chancellor Hill also introduced Dr. Maria Rose as the 14th President of Fairmont State University and Dr. Brian Hemphill as the 10th President of West

Virginia State University. Chancellor Hill noted that Kanawha Valley Community and Technical College has relocated to the West Virginia Regional Technology Park and will be open for the Fall 2012 semester. In addition, the Commission has assumed responsibility of the Erma Byrd Higher Education Center in Beckley, which is a shared facility between Bluefield State College, Concord University, and Marshall University.

Chancellor Hill reviewed early admission data for Fall 2012 and mentioned that approximately 60,000 students are slated for admission into the state's four-year public colleges and universities, an increase of approximately 1,000 students from Fall 2011 projected data.

Chancellor Hill noted that approximately 11,500 students are eligible to receive an award from the PROMISE Scholarship Program for the upcoming academic year, including approximately 3,700 new students. Approximately 35,000 students have been offered an award from the Higher Education Grant Program for the 2012-13 academic year.

Due to scheduling issues, Chairman Hendrickson noted that the "Update on Mountain State University" under the "Learning and Accountability" Section, Item E, would be presented to the Commission at this time. Chairman Hendrickson and Chancellor Hill jointly welcomed Dr. Ed Welch, President of the University of Charleston.

Chancellor Hill and President Welch provided an update regarding Mountain State University's loss of accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). Chancellor Hill discussed the HLC's appeal process and statewide and campus informational sessions and other student outreach efforts. President Welch provided a detailed overview of the proposed teach-out plan and the University of Charleston's plans to establish and operate a Beckley campus. Chairman Hendrickson and Chancellor Hill thanked President Welch for his willingness to attend the meeting and provide a briefing to the Commission.

5. Presentation from Glenville State College President Peter Barr

Chancellor Hill introduced Glenville State College President Peter Barr, who provided a presentation regarding the 2012 Summer Summit, Overcoming Obstacles: "How Do We Get There From Here." The three-day event was held from June 11-13, 2012 on the campus of Glenville State College. The purpose of the event was to engage K-12 and higher education faculty to better align goals for public education. President Barr also discussed the institution's Hidden Promise Consortium and JASON Project, which encourages students to become involved in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

6. Access

A. Report on Services for Student Veterans

Mr. Skip Gebhart, Administrator of the Office of Veterans' Education Programs for the Commission, discussed the Veterans Initiatives Task Force, which was created to examine and address statewide concerns regarding student veterans. The Task Force is comprised of college and university presidents, chief academic officers, veterans coordinators, Commission staff, and VA officials. As part of his presentation, Mr. Gebhart recognized President Barr as a recipient of the GI Bill. He also noted that many veterans have begun attending proprietary institutions rather than public institutions.

B. Update on Statewide Online Course Delivery Initiative

Dr. Kathy Butler, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, provided an overview of the West Virginia Remote Online Campus Knowledge System (WVROCKS) web portal, which has been designed to make college courses more available to all West Virginians. Dr. Butler noted that WVROCKS was created as a collaborative effort among higher education institutions that offer the Regents Bachelor of Arts (RBA) degree.

7. Cost and Affordability

A. Approval of Expansion of the Clinical Evaluation Center at West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine

Dr. Ed Magee, Vice Chancellor of Finance, provided an overview of the proposed expansion of the Clinical Evaluation Center (CEC) at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. The institution has been working with Woolpert, Inc., on the programming of the space for the expansion which will include renovation to the existing space and the addition of 17,800 square feet of floor space.

Dr. Berry moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the expansion of the Clinical Evaluation Center at West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine.

Mr. Tyson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

B. Approval of Fiscal Year 2013 Division Operating Budgets and Higher Education Resource Assessment Projects

Dr. Magee provided an overview of funding from state appropriations and the Higher Education Resource Assessment (HERA) charged to all in-state and out-of-state students for operation of the Commission office and statewide projects and initiatives. Dr. Magee also reviewed the proposed Commission and divisional budgets for Fiscal Year (FY) 2013, which total approximately \$9.9 million, of which, personal services, employee benefits, and Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) equate to 62 percent of the operating budget.

Ms. Eddy moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Fiscal Year 2013 division operating budgets and Higher Education Resource Assessment projects.

Dr. Berry seconded the motion. Motion passed.

C. Approval of Fiscal Year 2013 Division of Science and Research Spending Plans

Dr. Magee presented the proposed FY 2013 spending plans for the Research Challenge Fund, the Research Trust Fund, and the National Science Foundation (NSF) infrastructure programs and described components of the program budget.

Dr. Berry moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Fiscal Year 2013 spending plans as recommended by the Science and Research Council.

Ms. Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

D. Approval of Fiscal Year 2013 Budget for West Virginia Network for Educational Telecomputing

Ms. Donna Meadowcroft, Chief Financial Officer for West Virginia Network for Educational Telecomputing (WVNET), presented the proposed FY 2013 budget. Ms. Meadowcroft provided background on expenditures and revenues, noting that WVNET operating revenues are generated from the following sources: state appropriations, contracts, services, interest income, and an allocated portion of HERA funding. Ms. Meadowcroft stated that the budget includes an operation budget and pass-through budget.

Mr. Tyson moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Fiscal Year 2013 West Virginia Network for Educational Telecomputing budget.

Dr. Berry seconded the motion. Motion passed.

E. Discussion of Fiscal Year 2014 Appropriation Request

Chancellor Hill and Dr. Magee facilitated a discussion regarding the FY 2014 appropriation request and provided an overview of the budget forecast for higher education, including projected needs. Dr. Magee noted that state agencies were advised of a tentative 7.5 percent budget reduction.

Chairman Hendrickson indicated it would be difficult for the Commission and the institutions to continue to best serve students with the proposed budget cuts. Mr. Tyson requested a letter requesting a full exemption be sent to the Governor. Dr. Berry seconded the motion. Motion passed.

8. Learning and Accountability

A. Report on Master's Degree Programs

Dr. Mark Stotler, Director of Academic Programming, provided a report on accomplishments and developments in the offering of graduate programs at Concord University, Fairmont State University, Shepherd University, West Liberty University, and West Virginia State University. Dr. Stotler reported that the first master's level degree programs were approved for initial offering during the 2003-04 academic year. Dr. Stotler stated that the number of graduate programs across the institutions has increased from five to twenty over the eight-year period, and noted that two programs are scheduled for implementation in 2012 and one in 2013. Dr. Stotler also noted the implementation dates for two programs at West Virginia State University are yet to be determined.

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

Dr. Butler provided an update on Series 20, Initial Authorization of Degree Granting Institutions, 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 request approval to offer programs or credit-bearing academic courses of postsecondary education in West Virginia. Dr. Butler noted that staff received comments from five sources during the comment period and provided an overview of those comments. Dr. Butler

recommended that minor changes be made and the final rule be approved.

Ms. Eddy 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 final filing with the Secretary of State.

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.

Dr. Berry seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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

Dr. Butler provided an overview of Series 52, Annual Reauthorization of Degree-Granting Institutions. Dr. Butler noted that staff received comments from four sources during the comment period and provided an overview of those comments. Dr. Butler recommended that minor changes be made and the final rule be approved.

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 final filing with the Secretary of State.

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.

Mr. Tyson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

D. Update on Senate Bill 330 Progress

Ms. Laura Nauman, Human Resources Project Specialist, provided an update regarding the progress made toward Senate Bill 330. Ms. Nauman was joined by Eileen Edmunds from ModernThink who provided an overview of the Human Resources Reviews and the Human Resources Report Card. Ms. Nauman discussed the work of Fox Lawson and Associates regarding a review of compensation and classification analysis as required by the legislation. Ms. Nauman also provided an overview of the progress toward promulgating the required emergency rule.

E. Update on Mountain State University

Chairman Hendrickson noted that, due to scheduling issues, this item was presented to the Commission earlier in the meeting.

F. Update on Master Planning Process

Chancellor Hill and Dr. Angela Bell, Vice Chancellor for Policy and Planning, reviewed the process for developing the proposed Master Plan. Dr. Bell noted the plan will have three focal areas (access, success, and impact) and will build upon the current master planning cycle (2007-2012). The new master plan will be in effect from 2013 through 2018.

Mr. Estep moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission directs staff to work with institutional representatives and other constituent groups to fully develop the master plan for presentation to and formal consideration by the Commission at the December 7, 2012 meeting.

Mr. Tyson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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

Mr. Tyson 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 Ms. Eddy. Motion passed.

Mr. Tyson moved to rise from Executive Session. Dr. Leon 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 Presidential Appointment and Compensation at Bluefield State College

Dr. Berry moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the presidential selection of Dr. Marsha Krotseng by the Bluefield State College 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.

Ms. Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

B. Approval of Presidential Salary Increase for Shepherd University

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. Suzanne Shipley as requested by the Shepherd University Board of Governors consistent with the percentage increase provided to all employees.

Mr. Tyson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

C. Delegation of Authority to the Chancellor on Personnel Issues

Mr. Tyson moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission hereby delegates to its current Chancellor the authority to make necessary personnel decisions on its behalf.

Ms. Eddy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

10. Additional Board Action and Comment

There was no additional board action and comment.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.

David K. Hendrickson

Chairman

Kathy Eddy

Secretary